



Date: February 13, 2019

DPH Numbered Memo 19-01

To: All Wisconsin EMS Health Care Professionals

From: Department of Health Services
Office of Preparedness and Emergency Health Care
Emergency Medical Services Section

EMS Funding Assistance Program reminders for SFY20

RE: Changes and important reminders for the upcoming EMS Funding Assistance Program grant cycle for SFY20

The upcoming state fiscal year 2020 (SFY20) EMS Funding Assistance Program will open March 31, 2019. This means that the due date for all applications and expense reports will be May 31, 2019. As in the past, in order to be eligible to apply, EMS services need to provide patient transport services with a 911 response, first-in status.

This memo is being distributed well in advance of the program opening, as we have noted that qualifying EMS services may not be aware of all details of the program. Also, there are recent changes based on Wis. Stat. §§ 256.12(5)(a) and 256.12(5)(am) that allow for more flexibility with a wider scope for initial and refresher training.

As with past programs, the SFY20 program will continue to offer two funding components: Aids and Improvements funding and EMT Basic training funding.

DHS will continue to administer the EMS Funding Assistance Program via E-Licensing. The EMS service director now has the ability to appoint a service roster member as "Financial Staff." This allows the appointed member to access and complete the program application and expense report.

Important points to keep in mind when planning your EMS service's application and use of the program funding:

- **NEW LAST YEAR:** EMT Basic training funds can now be shared with your supporting EMR services for dedicated EMR level initial or refresher training.
- **NEW LAST YEAR:** If EMT Basic funds, which are normally dedicated for EMT Basic training only, are escrowed, they can be used for ANY provider license level training in subsequent years.
- Unused EMT Basic training funds can be escrowed.
- EMT Basic training funds can be used for any dedicated EMT Basic level training, refresher, or initial, in keeping with approved curriculum.
- Aids and Improvements funding can be escrowed with a qualifying major purchase in mind.

- Aids and Improvements funding generally can be used for any nonbudgeted, nonconsumable item that aids crew safety or impacts patient care. Emergency unexpected expenses may also qualify.
- Aids and Improvements funding is not just for durable goods. It can be used for training as well, for any provider license level.

Over the past several years, the EMS Funding Assistance Program has distributed \$1.96 million annually to approximately 350 EMS services. Please watch for further information and details about this funding opportunity early this coming spring. The Wisconsin EMS office will mail details and post them to the [Wisconsin EMS webpage](#) as they become available.

Direct your questions regarding the EMS Funding Assistance Program to one of the following:

- **Mail:** Department of Health Services, WI EMS Section, PO Box 2659, Madison, WI 53701-2659
- **Email:** dhsemssmail@dhs.wisconsin.gov
- **Phone:** 608-266-1568.