



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Department of  
Health and Social Services**

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
Section of Rural and Community Health Systems  
Office of Emergency Medical Services

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May 19, 2020

TO: All State Certified EMS Agencies and Medical Directors

FROM: Todd McDowell, NRP, Office of EMS Manager

SUBJECT: Emergency Reinstatement of Certifications Lapsed Certifications

AUTHORITY: Governor's order: COVID-19 Disaster Order of Suspension No. 2, Appendix A, issued on March 31, 2020, and as Amended on May 11, 2020.

During the COVID-19 Pandemic, the State Office of EMS recognizes the demands placed on departments, volunteers, staff, and administrations due to issues related to increased risks, limitations in supplies, and preparing for the potential surge in responses caused by this pandemic.

As of May 11, 2020, Governor Mike Dunleavy suspended 7 AAC 26.100(d), 7 AAC 26.110 (a)(2)-(3), 7 AAC 26.110(f)(1)-(2) granted in the COVID-19 Disaster Order of Suspension No. 2, Appendix A - Amendment 6. In an attempt to increase staffing capacity for departments the Office of EMS is exercising its authority under that suspension by offering reinstatement of certifications for individuals who were recently certified EMTs but who are not currently certified.

This suspension allows for reinstatement of lapsed EMT certifications based on the following guidance.

All provider levels (EMT-I, EMT-II and EMT-III) must:

- Be associated with a Certified Service that is under the review of a Licensed EMS Medical Director;
- Complete the online EMT Reinstatement Application and meet barrier crime criteria for certification;
- Have held a certification that expired on or after the following dates for each level:
  - EMT-I: Certification lapsed on or after December 31, 2015;
  - EMT II and EMT-III: Certification lapsed on or after March 31, 2017

- Be reinstated at the level previously certified for, or to a lower level, that is approved by the Medical Director and the EMS Agency.

Reinstated certifications will be issued with the following expiration dates.

- EMT I: December 31, 2021, at which time an individual may reapply for certification.
- EMT II and EMT-III: March 31, 2022, at which time an individual may reapply for certification.

The EMS Office recognizes that proficiency of skills is maintained by concurrent practice within the field and therefore verification of skills will be under the direction of the EMS agency and Medical Director.

As the current situation evolves we will continue to work with providers and agencies to assure adequate accommodations for staffing and recertification. Further guidance will be issued as needed.

Feel free to contact me with any questions at [todd.mcdowell@alaska.gov](mailto:todd.mcdowell@alaska.gov) or (907) 465-8634.

Thank you for your dedication to the Alaska EMS System and the patients we serve.