



EMSAC Members' Update

A monthly update for members of the Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado.

February 2024

EMSAC group (agency) members, please forward this to your staff. If you have news for the EMSAC monthly update, send it to communications@emsac.org.

[Facebook](#) [LinkedIn](#) [EMS Job Board](#) [Join EMSAC](#)

This is your association, and we want to hear from you. You can find your region representative and the officers [here](#). If you do not know who to call or have a general question, contact the staff at 303-317-6511 or email emsac@emsac.org.

THIS MONTH'S USEFUL MUSING

To the well-organized mind, death is but the next great adventure. —J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

EMSAC NEWS

EMS Day at the Capitol

Read [here](#) about this year's successful day-long (and evening) event.

Download all the materials we used for EMS Day at the Capitol [here](#).



- [What do your salary, safe ambulance tires, staffing and paid continuing professional education have in common?](#)
- Read about the federal bills affecting EMS that EMSAC [supports](#).
- Overview of recent EMS-funding Congressional [testimony](#).



First Responders Night at the Colorado Avalanche

Colorado Avalanche vs Winnipeg Jets, April 13

Join the Colorado Avalanche for First Responders Night as they take on the Winnipeg Jets on **Saturday April 13th. Gametime is 7:00 PM.** Each ticket includes a First Responders Shirt and Commemorative Coin.

A portion of each ticket will benefit EMSAC.

Seating is limited so [get your tickets today!](#)

The EMSAC Citizen Rescuer Award for Valor

As EMS professionals, we have chosen to train ourselves and stand ready to aid those in distress. Of course, we can not always "be there" in time for everyone.

We recognize that untrained "civilians" frequently step forward, usually without a second thought or a moment's hesitation, committing themselves to saving someone in peril. We wish to recognize these people, civilians, who without training or regard for personal consequence, have shown unselfish personal valor by attempting such a rescue.

Before the incident fades from your memory (as soon as you learn of it!) nominate someone who has shown valor in an attempt (successful or unsuccessful) to rescue another.*

*Not trained in, active in or affiliated with the provision of emergency medical or rescue service.

www.emsac.org/awards



Colorado EMS Educators Association



2024 EMS Educators Symposium
May 17-18, Estes Park

4th Annual!

The Colorado EMS Educators Association is a chartered subsidiary special interest group of EMSAC.



EMSAC at Work
Advocate
Communicate
Educate

Make a Difference in Colorado EMS

You can now easily volunteer with an EMSAC Committee, [online](#). EMSAC committees are the workhorse of all we do. Get involved and make your mark on EMS in Colorado.

COLORADO EMS NEWS



EMSAC Alert!
Critical Information for Colorado EMS

Changes to ground ambulance licensing in Colorado

County governments currently conduct licensing of ground ambulance services. **Effective July 1, 2024, the CDPH&E will license ground ambulance agencies in Colorado.**

For specific county ambulance licensing requirements and verification of a valid license before July 1, 2024, contact the pertinent county commissioner's office. Ground and air ambulance services are required to collect and submit patient care data to the department through the Colorado ImageTrend Elite web portal.

All Colorado county-licensed ambulance services must submit a "Ground Ambulance License - Onboarding" application to the department by May 1, 2024. The Organizational Profile Account Gatekeeper for each county-licensed ambulance service must log into OATH to submit the onboarding application.

For more information click [here](#). Questions or technical assistance, contact the Ground Ambulance Program or call 303-691-4932.

Thank you, Representative Brittany Pettersen, for being the first US Representative from Colorado to join the EMS Caucus

We thank and congratulate US Representative from Colorado [Brittany Petersen](#) for joining the Congressional EMS Caucus! Congressional support for emergency medical and trauma care at the federal level is needed now more than ever. Our seven other representatives should Representative Petersen by joining the EMS Caucus.

A robust Congressional EMS Caucus will bring a more disciplined focus on legislative issues and form a more collective and cohesive bipartisan message on EMS issues to support EMS providers nationwide. The U.S. House of Representatives Congressional

EMS Caucus will help promote, educate, and increase awareness around the federal policy issues impacting EMS and serve as a resource for policy questions.



OTHER NEWS

Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Project



The [PPRP Assessment](#), which will launch in May 2024, gauges an EMS or fire-rescue agency's ability to provide high-quality care for children based on its level of adherence to the latest national recommendations on prehospital pediatric emergency care. EMS and fire-rescue agencies who respond to 911, or are dispatched to similar calls, will be asked to complete the voluntary assessment. The assessment takes approximately 30-45 minutes to complete. Results are confidential. Once the survey opens (early May 2024), you can access the assessment at empedsready.org.

It's a G'Day For America: Unique Approaches to the EMS Staffing Shortage



Could your next work partner be... Australian? If some folks in California have their way, the answer is yes. Working to solve the ongoing staffing shortage, a group of innovative EMS leaders in California and Australia are thinking differently: bringing well-trained EMS clinicians from Australia to join the U.S. ranks. [How do they do it?](#)

FDA approves first treatment for severe frostbite



The US Food and Drug Administration recently approved the first treatment for severe frostbite to reduce the risk of finger or toe amputation in adults. By Mira Cheng, CNN. Read the details [here](#).

Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program Emergency Medical Services Supplement



Apply by Apr. 25. The Health Resource Services Administration's Federal Office of Rural Health Policy will award approximately \$250,000 per year to eight State Offices of Rural Health recipients funded under the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program to establish or expand EMS services and address rural-specific EMS workforce challenges. Throughout the five-year grant, the offices will provide technical assistance and work with **at least five participating EMS agencies within their** state to strengthen financial and operational strategies and improve workforce recruitment and retention. This can pay for:

- Establishing career advancement programs for EMS staff as part of the hiring process;
- Working with local schools and community colleges to recruit students interested in EMS;
- Educating community leaders on the need for volunteers and/or paid staff
- Training on EMS billing;
- Updating billing software;
- Establishing cost-sharing agreements for billing services with other agencies;
- Assisting with travel costs for training/certification;
- Assisting with training/certification costs;
- Addressing fatigue and the mental health toll of EMS work;

For more information click [here](#).

Lead the Way: Become a Chapter Leader!



You have the opportunity to empower women in emergency services and make a lasting impact in your local community with WiES. We are currently seeking dedicated Chapter Leaders in nine states, including Colorado. Learn more and apply [here](#).

SAVVIK GRANTS

WE WILL BE AWARDING FIVE ORGANIZATIONS A \$2,000.00 GRANT ON APRIL 1, 2024.

THE SAVVIK GRANT IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS- DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2024.

Submit your application today!
www.savvik.com/savvik-grant

\$10,000 IN GRANT DOLLARS AVAILABLE!

Click above for information.

TRAINING

11th EMS Financial Symposium
16th Annual National EMS Safety Summit: A Safety Academy

April 2, 2024 EMS Financial Symposium
 April 3-5, 2024 EMS Safety Summit: A Safety Academy

Embassy Suites by Hilton – Downtown Convention Center
 1420 Stout Street – Denver, Colorado 80202
 Discounted Hotel Rates Posted on Website



- EMS Financial Symposium
- NAAC Accreditation Offered
- CEUs for EMS and Fire

EMS, Fire Emergency Managers, Police, Healthcare Providers, Physicians, Nurses, Safety Officers, and interested parties should attend. This is an event you will not want to miss!

Check for updates and register at www.nationalemssafetysummit.org. Questions? Contact Shirley Terry, sterry@nationalemssafetysummit.org or 303.919.0719

REMINDERS



Click for EMS license plates



Click for EMS Insignia



Click to report safety incidents



RESPONDERSAFETY
 On The Highway We've Got Your Back

If you are involved in a roadway incident where you, a fellow responder, or any emergency equipment was struck or nearly struck by an oncoming vehicle, you can now easily report the incident to the national database, ReportStruckBy.com.

Public Safety Officers' Benefit - PSOB



Every emergency service agency should be familiar with the Public Safety Officers' Benefit from the U.S. Department of Justice. The PSOB offers survivor benefits and educational benefits to families of emergency service professionals killed in the line of duty. The PSOB also offers disability benefits to those disabled in their E.S. work. Read more [here](#).

MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES FOR EMERGENCY RESPONDERS

Path4EMS: Colorado's EMS Peer Assistance Program

Any currently certified Colorado EMS provider now has a new avenue of access and support for issues related to stress management, mental health and wellness. These services are confidential, free of charge, and available statewide. Information about the program can be found [here](#). **For immediate assistance, please call 1-800-873-7138. Make the Call to Make Things Better.**

Firefighters and EMS personnel face many unique challenges that can have a significant impact on their behavioral health. To ensure these individuals and their families have access to the help they need, the NVFC teamed up with American Addiction Centers (AAC) to create a free, confidential helpline available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Fire/EMS Helpline: 1-888-731-FIRE (3473) The Code Green Campaign

Code Green is a first responder-oriented mental health advocacy and education organization. It is not a crisis helpline; its mission is to bring awareness to the high rates of mental health problems in first responders and reduce them, eliminate the stigma that prevents people from admitting problems are present and asking for help and educate first responders on self and peer care and to advocate systemic change in how mental health problems are addressed by first responder agencies.

Foundation 1023

Foundation 1023 is committed to supporting the emotional and mental wellness of first responders and their support network who are experiencing illness, loss or stressful life events by providing confidential funding for emotional and mental wellness services, as well as access to peer-supported outdoor activities and events designed for personal wellness and connection. Foundation 1023 offers referral services and financial support to pre-approved Professional Counselors who are experienced in the first response industry.

Safe Call Now - (206) 459-3020

Safe Call Now is an emergency services-based emergency CONFIDENTIAL, comprehensive, 24-hour crisis referral service for all emergency services personnel and their family members nationwide. Speak confidentially with officers, public safety professionals and/or mental health care providers who are familiar with your line of work. MAKE A SAFE CALL NOW: (206) 459-3020. Download a brochure for your colleagues and staff.

Colorado Crisis and Support Line 1-844-493-TALK (8255)

Get connected 24/7/365 with experienced professionals, counselors and peer specialists. **Colorado Crisis Services** has **12 walk-in crisis service centers**: Fort Collins, Greeley, Grand Junction, Pueblo, and Colorado Springs; and in metro Denver: Westminster, Lakewood, Littleton, Aurora (2), Boulder and Denver. **Download** an information card. For your agency offices and quarters download a rack card.

Thank you to our generous sustaining members.



Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado

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