



EMSAC Members' Update

An update for the members of the Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado.

January 2022

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

EMSAC NEWS



EMS Professionals' Emergency Relief Fund

A special program and fund to assist EMS professionals affected by a disaster.

Do you know of an EMS professional affected by the recent Marshall fire in Boulder county? Would you like to donate or help?

The catastrophic 6200-acre Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) and suburban wildfire in Boulder County, December 30, 2021, has prompted us to create a special program and fund to assist the EMS professionals that have been affected.

Please consider donating to this fund through our Colorado Gives account.

To Adopt an EMS Family

[CLICK HERE](#)

Donate Here!

To Request Aid

[CLICK HERE](#)

Colorado EMS Educators Association



Circle the Date!

Second Annual Colorado EMS Educators Symposium

May 21-22, 2022 in Colorado Springs.
Pre-con May 19-20.

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



Colorado State EMS Conference On-Demand Sessions are available to attendees until January 31.

2021 attendees—there are eight on-demand sessions available for you to watch on EMSAC's Learning Center. These sessions are NOT live - they have been recorded for you to watch at your convenience. **They will be available for you to view until January 31st!**

- Click the 'LOG IN here' button below, to get to the **EMSAC Learning Center**.
- Then click **LOG IN** in the top right corner.
- Your login information is **the same as when you log in to the EMSAC website**.
- Click Details under the On-Demand Package and choose which session you want to watch! You can then take a session evaluation and get a certificate of completion emailed to you.
- Need help? [Watch this quick video](#) that walks you through the process.

Need a password reset? [Click here](#) and enter your email.



EMS Career Center



EMSAC's new [Career Center](#) is free for anyone to view **job listings and to post and edit their resumes.**

Recruiters can browse the resumes in the system to see if there is a good match within the EMSAC membership database.

NEW Job Board feature! When posting a job to the EMSAC Job Board, you can now send an email notification about the post. This feature is only an additional \$50 and can help with visibility to your job posting.

[How to post a job](#) (for Job Recruiters) [Upload a resume](#) (for Job Seekers)

The EMSAC [Career Center](#) is a national job board, linked to EMS jobs posted in other states. **Posting a job is free for EMSAC members.** For-non members there is a fee, but the cost is lower than many job boards.

You can have an impact on EMS in Colorado



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.



Savvik is a non-profit group purchasing organization with one goal: to save you money.

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Vendors Awarded



Starting at \$19.99



Starting at \$69.99

**NEW VENDOR
NEW VENDOR
NEW VENDOR**



Liberty Uniform has been designing uniform apparel right here in the United States for decades. With a focus on the best possible quality, Liberty Uniform is a standard for first responder apparel.



Starting at \$14.99



Starting at \$37.99



Your EMSAC membership makes you eligible to join Savvik and start saving today.

Savvik gives 1/3 of our profits to our Association partners every quarter. The purchases you make for your organization will directly support EMSAC!

COLORADO EMS NEWS

State Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Advisory Council



The State of Colorado is seeking individuals interested in serving on the State Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Advisory Council to apply for one of the following open positions:

- A board-certified neurosurgeon involved in providing trauma care at a Level I or II trauma center.
- A representative of a **government provider of pre-hospital care.**
- An administrative representative of a rural trauma center.
- **An officer or crew member of a volunteer organization who provides pre-hospital care.**
- A county emergency manager.
- A **flight nurse** of an emergency medical service air team or unit.
- A licensed physician who is a pre-hospital medical director.
- A board-certified surgeon providing trauma care at a Level III trauma center.

To apply, go to the [Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions](#) website to complete the online application and attach documents. Once submitted, an email confirmation will be received. Applications are due April 15. Questions contact [Kate Siegel Shimko](#).

2022 EMS Safety Summit



National EMS Safety Summit—sponsored by the Mile-High RETAC Foundation, **will be virtual** April 6-8, 2022 with the 7th EMS Financial Symposium on April 5. The National EMS Safety Summit is a nationally recognized conference totally focused on safety for personnel, patients and the community. EMS staff can learn about trends and techniques to increase safety within their operations, improve patient care, engage in valuable networking and idea-sharing and see the latest industry products and services. Details [here](#).

OTHER NEWS



Responders are routinely called to deal with the worst days of others' lives. And, that work can leave you feeling lonely, frustrated, and often misunderstood. During those times, we all can benefit from having someone who understands and can listen. The All Clear Foundation has many resources, including [these](#) for physical health.

SAMHSA Announces \$5,400,000 for Rural EMS Training Grants



The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) will be awarding 27 grants of up to \$200,000 to support the recruitment and training of EMS clinicians in rural areas, with a particular focus on addressing mental and substance use disorders. The deadline for applications for the Rural EMS Training Grant program is Monday, February 14, 2022. Details about the grant program, eligibility, and how to apply are [here](#).

MC-1 Foundation to Assist Injured First Responders



The MC-1 Foundation's primary purpose is to provide financial support to public service employees in the event that they are injured while on duty providing service for their communities. Learn more [here](#).

COVID NEWS

Crisis Standards of Care invoked for EMS



From Jeff Beckman, MD, FACEP, FAEMS; Associate Division Director, Health Facilities & Emergency Medical Services Division

With the recent surge of cases due to the SARS-CoV-2 Omicron variant and the current critical stress within the healthcare system, the EMS Crisis Standards of Care plan has been activated by CDPHE Chief Medical Officer Dr. Eric France on January 7th, 2022. Information on the [Crisis Standards of Care](#) plan can be accessed through the [Crisis Standards of Care website](#) or the [EMS google drive](#). Activation of the EMS CSC plan is not required, however EMS agencies who choose to implement any of the standards within this plan are required to notify CDPHE with this [form](#).

The CDC has recently revised COVID exposure and return to work guidance recommendations. A summary of these changes with corresponding links to more information can be accessed at the [CDC Health Advisory Network \(HAN\) notice](#).

These recent CDC revisions are substantial changes and now take the place of the COVID exposure guidelines provided in the past on the EMS google drive. The new guidance from the CDC takes into consideration conventional, contingency, and crisis staffing circumstances and the CDC has provided additional guidance on [Strategies to Mitigate Healthcare Personnel Staffing Shortages](#). The state is also currently discussing EMS crisis standards of care activation.

Also, the state will be prioritizing requests for COVID tests by EMS and first response agencies. Agencies can make a request for COVID rapid antigen tests by utilizing the following form: [Rapid Testing for Essential Services](#).

The COVID pandemic continues to test the resilience of our healthcare system in extraordinary ways, and we appreciate, more than words can say, your unwavering dedication to serve our patients and communities on the front lines. Wishing you all a safe and healthy 2022 and please reach out if we help you or your agency in any way.

American College of Emergency Physicians-Colorado asks governor to activate crisis standards for E.D.s



COLORADO CHAPTER
American College of Emergency Physicians
ADVANCING EMERGENCY CARE

"CO ACEP stands ready to help you help us get our arms around our unraveling healthcare crisis."

The Colorado chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians sent to Governor Polis a five-page letter stating that doctors are having to triage which patients will receive the limited hospital beds available, and some people who would be deemed sick enough to admit under normal circumstances are being sent home. Read the letter [here](#).

Medscape Omicron Explosion Spurs Nationwide Breakdown of Services

The current explosion of omicron-fueled coronavirus infections in the U.S. is causing a breakdown in basic functions and services — the latest illustration of how COVID-19 keeps upending life more than two years into the pandemic. Read more [here](#).

Airborne SARS-CoV-2 'Could Lose 90% of Infectiousness After 20 Minutes'

19 January 2022

The capacity of SARS-CoV-2 to infect people from aerosol droplets wanes quickly over time, according to UK researchers. A [study](#), which has yet to be peer-reviewed, found infectivity of the airborne virus fell to around 10%, 20 minutes after being exhaled, with most of the decline taking place in the first 5 minutes.

REMINDERS

CREATE—Colorado Resource for Emergency Education



CREATE offers a live Q&A session on the first Monday of every month from 2:00 to 2:50 PM. Here you can find answers that will help in applying for a CREATE education grant (except November (2:30 pm to 3:20 pm) and January (first Thursday). Attend these interactive sessions to ask questions related to the CREATE grant application.

- To join from your [computer, tablet or smartphone](#): <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/709267797>.
- To join by phone dial (872) 240-321, access code: 709-267-797.
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Report EMS Sentinel Events



In the continued effort to improve EMS provider and patient safety, the SEMTAC Safety Committee asks EMS providers to [report](#) sentinel events using EVENT (EMS Voluntary Event Notification Tool). EVENT is a platform that allows an individual or organization to anonymously report misses and near-miss occurrences, resulting in system improvements.

Order Colorado EMS insignia and rockers online



We have Colorado EMS uniform insignia, rockers and window decals available, you can order [online](#). These are the de facto "state EMS" insignia for Colorado. Insigne rockers: Critical Care Paramedic, Paramedic, EMT, EMT-Advanced, EMT-Basic, EMT-Intermediate, Dispatcher, Instructor, Nurse, Physician,

Student.Window decals: EMT-B, EMT-Intermediate, EMT-P, 3" EMSAC decal for POVs, 5" EMSAC decal for agency vehicles.

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.

Building Warriors

[Building Warriors](#) is a specialty group of private practice professional counselors and peer consultants supporting emergency responders and their families. Even the strongest among us can feel lost, unsure, ambivalent, or unhappy at times. We specialize in working with Emergency Responders and their families. We can help manage whatever life may bring, we will attack issues and focus on finding a healthy balance within your mind, body, and heart. For more information or to schedule a class for your agency, call (720) 504-6207.

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 that 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.



Banner and button advertising are available here to reach key EMS professionals. Contact [communications](#) at [emsac dot org](#)



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Council

The State of Colorado is seeking individuals interested in serving on