

EMS System Sustainability Task Force



Last year SB22-225 created an EMS System Sustainability Task Force to:

- make statutory, rule, and policy recommendations for how to preserve, promote and expand consumer access to emergency medical services in the state, including
 - the development of standards for state licensing of ground ambulances and the preservation of local county authority to contract with and authorize licensed ground ambulances operating in their jurisdictions.

Purpose

To explore and address the components of the five task force phases including:

- Phase 1 – Regulatory structure for ambulance service oversight and a report on the state of emergency medical services in Colorado.
- Phase 2 – Inequity and disparity in access to EMS in Colorado.
- Phase 3 – EMS workforce recruiting and retention.
- Phase 4 – Financial sustainability of the statewide EMS system.
- Phase 5 – Long-term sustainability of the statewide EMS system

Progress:

- The State EMS and Trauma Advisory Council established the Ground Ambulance Licensing Taskforce (GALT), assigned members, and have been meeting since September 2022.
- CDPHE established the EMS System Sustainability Task Force (SSTF) and appointed members to the task force. **The General Assembly assigned Senator Zenzinger and Representative Baisley to the task force.**
- **Need two new representatives from the General Assembly to serve on the SSTF!**

Ground Ambulance Licensing

- Working on phase 1. GALT Task force members and stakeholders from around the state are actively engaged in collaboratively creating new rules and regulations for consistent ambulance licensing.
- Ground ambulance rules must be adopted by the State Board of Health by January 1, 2024

EMS System Sustainability

- Working on phase 1, creating an environment scan that measures where EMS in Colorado is now regarding access to EMS care, recruitment and retention, and financial sustainability.
- Exploring, reviewing, and creating sources of data to identify current gaps for EMS services, problems with recruitment and retention of EMS providers, and shortfalls in EMS agency funding.
- Drafting and submitting the first report of findings to the General Assembly with results of the environmental scan by September 1, 2023.

Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado

