

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

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DATE: March 22, 2021
TO: Local EMS Agency Administrators and Medical Directors
FROM: Dave Duncan MD
Director, Emergency Medical Services Authority
Subject: Federal EMT COVID-19 Vaccinations Guidance

This memo provides clarification regarding federal guidance for COVID-19 vaccine administration by emergency medical technicians (EMTs).

To increase the availability of COVID-19 vaccinations, the Biden Administration has allowed additional health professions to be eligible for vaccine administration. As such, the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act) was amended to extend liability protection to EMTs and other health professions when administering the COVID-19 vaccine.

EMSA does not anticipate that it is necessary to alter its current program in order to align with these federal changes. EMSA has already approved all 33 LEMSA local optional scope of practice (LOSOP) requests to allow EMTs, Advanced EMTs, and Paramedics to administer the COVID-19 vaccine. California's currently established approach will ensure LEMSA oversight and evaluation of this important effort.

The federal Public Health Emergency website ([PHE.gov](https://www.phe.gov)) directs California volunteers (EMTs and others) to the California Disaster Healthcare Volunteers website. We continue to encourage all volunteers who wish to assist with the California COVID-19 vaccination efforts to be directed to this webpage at the the below link:
<https://www.healthcarevolunteers.ca.gov>

Additional information on the PREP Act and federal efforts to expand the COVID-19 vaccination workforce can be found at the below link:
<https://www.phe.gov/emergency/events/COVID19/Documents/covid19-vaccination-wrkfrc-factsheet-508.pdf>