

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**

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**DATE:** December 14, 2020

**TO:** Local Emergency Medical Services Agencies

**FROM:** Dave Duncan MD, Director  
Emergency Medical Services Authority

**SUBJECT:** **Local Emergency Medical Services Plan Extensions – Rescission of Prior Memo of August 18, 2020 and Issuance of New Memo**

On August 18, 2020, the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) issued a memo regarding an extension for the submission of local emergency medical services (EMS) Plans. Due to confusion regarding the scope of the extension covered by that document, that memo is withdrawn, effective immediately, and is replaced by the following:

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the significant response efforts of local emergency medical services agencies (LEMSAs) during this time, EMSA is aware of the difficulty in preparing and submitting the annually required local EMS plans. Therefore, effective immediately, all LEMSAs are granted an extension for the submission of EMS plans as follows:

1. **180-day extension for the submission of local EMS plans.** All LEMSAs are granted a 180-day extension for the submission of their regular annual local EMS plan. The beginning date for this 180-day extension shall be the date of cessation of the State's declared emergency on the coronavirus pandemic.
2. **Local EMS plan requirements contained in statute and regulation are not suspended.** The extension provided in #1 above pertains only to the timing of when local EMS plans are due to EMSA. All other requirements contained in statute and regulation pertaining to what must be included in a local EMS plan must still be met and are not waived. All new plans must be submitted to EMSA for approval prior to implementation, pursuant to Health and Safety Code §1797.105. The plan submission must address all normal requirements, including, but not limited to, trauma centers, system planning, agreements with ALS providers, and prior EMSA review of competitive processes for ambulance zone exclusive operating areas. Plans that do not follow statutory and regulatory requirements will not be approved. Continue to implement your last approved local EMS plan until your new plan is submitted and approved.
3. **Previously submitted plans may be subject to delays in review.** Plans that have already been submitted to EMSA for approval will continue through the

Local Emergency Medical Services Plan Extensions

December 14, 2020

Page 2

review process, but, due to EMSA's COVID-19 response efforts, the plans may require additional time for review and approval.

If you have any questions, please contact Angela Wise, Assistant Chief of the EMS Systems Division, at [angela.wise@emsa.ca.gov](mailto:angela.wise@emsa.ca.gov) or (916) 431-3708.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "DD", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dave Duncan MD  
Director