



EMS Information Bulletin 2021-11

DATE: August 2, 2021

SUBJECT: Rescinding EMSIB 2020-11 Level I Staffing Exceptions

TO: PA EMS Agencies
PA Regional EMS Councils

FROM: Dylan Ferguson, Director
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dylan J. Ferguson', positioned above the typed name in the 'FROM:' field.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, on April 1, 2020 the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (Bureau) issued [EMS Information Bulletin 2020-11 Level I Staffing Exceptions](#)

Due to the termination of the Declaration of Disaster Emergency and the provisions of [Act 21 of 2021](#), EMS Information Bulletin 2020-11 will be rescinded and expire on September 30, 2021.

As of October 1, 2021 at 00:01, all EMS agencies must staff their EMS units in accordance with the staffing standards as outlined in their respective sections of the EMS Act and corresponding regulations, including that all EMS vehicles must be operated by an individual credentialed as an Emergency Medical Services Vehicle Operator (EMSVO) by the Department of Health.

For BLS ambulances the minimum staffing complement is one EMS provider at or above the level of an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and a second EMS provider at or above the level of an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) in accordance with the provisions of 35 Pa.C.S. § 8133. Additionally, the vehicle must be operated by an individual credentialed as an EMSVO. **Any EMS agency who operates BLS ambulances should reference [EMSIB 2021-12 Additional Exception Under Act 17 of 2020](#) for additional information and flexibilities specific to BLS ambulances.**

For iALS ambulances the minimum staffing complement is one EMS provider at or above the level of an Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT) and a second EMS provider at or above the level of an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) in accordance with the provisions of 28 Pa Code §1028.34 (b). Additionally, the vehicle must be operated by an individual credentialed as an EMSVO.

For ALS ambulances the minimum staffing complement is one EMS provider at or above the level of a Paramedic and a second EMS provider at or above the level of an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) in accordance with the provisions of 35 Pa.C.S. § 8130. Additionally, the vehicle must be operated by an individual credentialed as an EMSVO.

Please direct any questions to your Regional EMS Council.