

Oregon EMS and Trauma Systems Program

Office of the Oregon Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems (EMS/TS) Program
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The Legislature affects EMS and Trauma programs

The Oregon Legislature has funded the Mobile Training Unit positions that had been cut in the last biennium and the Trauma Systems Program positions that had been frozen for months. Additionally Senate Bill 234 passed, which adopts the new national standards for EMS personnel.

Senate Bill 106 (the EMS for the Future Bill) was held in the Senate Health Care Committee and did not pass after a three-year effort and hours of work. The bill proposed to adopt the EMS for the Future national EMS standards, establish the EMS medical director position in statute, require non-transport EMS agencies to be regulated and licensed, and raise fees for agencies. The National EMS Standards portion of the bill was adopted in a revised version of SB234. A stakeholder meeting will be held on Aug. 25 at 9:30 a.m. at the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) Hall of Heroes to continue work on EMS for the Future issues.

Senate Bill 234 (the Emergency Health Care System Task Force bill) also died after task force members' concerted efforts to expand the trauma system to coordination of cardiac, stroke and pediatric patients' care. An effort to review the issues addressed in the Emergency Health Care System bill will be scheduled later this year.

Updating the Oregon Trauma Rules

The State Trauma Advisory Board is reviewing a draft of Trauma Rules (OAR 333.200) that will update the existing rules adopted in February 2001. When the State Trauma Advisory Board has agreed on a draft, the process for adopting the rules will be initiated. To view a current draft of Exhibit 4 of the Rules click [Exhibit Document](#) Draft of Rules can also be download on the EMS and Trauma "Rules and Statutes" page.

Implementing the new national EMS education standards and model

The EMS and Trauma Systems Program will be proposing new rules to implement the new EMS levels adopted in Senate Bill 234. These will be discussed at State EMS Committee meetings.

Many of you have heard that the National Registry will be requiring "Transition Materials" in order to maintain NREMT status. The program intends all Oregon EMS providers to obtain the updated material. However, **the material can be covered as part of regular continuing education and not as a separate requirement.** This means that the new rules will have some very specific requirements for the 2013-2015 renewal period (2012-2014 for Emergency Medical Responders).

The EMS and Trauma Systems Programs is planning to propose the following:

Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) will replace the First Responder level. Starting Jan. 1, 2012, a new test will be used that reflects the new information in the course. Individuals completing the Oregon EMR course can take the Oregon test or the National Registry EMR exam. Next year is renewal of licenses for First Responders. Those renewing individuals will be issued an EMR license. During the 2012 to 2014 license period the continuing education requirement (which will remain 12 hours) will include the new information in the emergency medical responder course.

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) will replace EMT-Basic. Beginning Jan. 1, 2012, the National Registry will no longer offer the EMT-Basic exam. Applicants will have to complete the new course and take the new National Registry exam. In 2013 when current EMT-Basics have to renew, only EMT licenses will be provided. During the 2013 to 2015 renewal cycle all EMTs will have to complete an update as part of the required 24 hours of continuing education.

Advanced EMT is the new level. Oregon will begin offering this license to individuals who complete the course and pass the National Registry examination. It is expected that training agencies will offer the practical skills exam proctored by a National Registry representative as part of this course. The continuing education

requirement for Advanced EMTs will be 36 hours during the two-year licensing period.

Oregon EMT-Intermediate will continue to exist in Oregon. During the 2013 to 2015 renewal period, Oregon Intermediates will be required to take the transition course that nationally registered Intermediates will take as part of their 36 hours of continuing education. This means they will receive training similar to the Advanced EMT curriculum, and they may sit for the national registry Advanced EMT test if they wish to be nationally registered. Future Oregon EMT-Is will have to successfully complete an Advanced EMT course prior to taking the Intermediate course. The new Oregon EMT-I course will be changed to only include the materials beyond the AEMT training.

Paramedic is the new name for Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic. When EMT-Paramedics renew their licenses in Oregon in 2013 they will be issued Paramedic licenses. They will be required to take an update as part of their 48 hours of continuing education during the 2013 to 2015 renewal period.

The details for implementing these changes will be worked out as the rules are developed.

Question

Are unaffiliated EMTs covered by the state EMS medical director?

No, the state EMS medical director is **not** the medical director for unaffiliated EMTs.

American Heart Association guidelines and EMS testing

As many of you know, the American Heart Association updated its guidelines at the end of 2010. We have had many questions about when testing will reflect the changes. We require national certification by NREMT for the EMT-Basic and EMT-Paramedic levels while doing Oregon testing for the First Responder and EMT-Intermediate levels. We felt that the testing changes should be concurrent with

national testing. At this time, we are expecting the NREMT to adopt the guidelines in the November testing for the EMT-B level and in January for the new Paramedic level; practical exam testing changes will occur at the same time. We are currently working on a plan for the EMR and Oregon EMT-I initial testing, but expect the new AHA guidelines to be included in those tests starting January 2012.

If you need an overview of the new guidelines, please listen to the Oregon Office of Rural Health/EMS and Trauma Program Webinar from January 2011, presented by Richard Harper, M.D.

Go to www.ohsu.edu/xd/outreach/oregon-rural-health/resources/webinars.cfm

New web pages

Oregon Health Authority's Public Health Division has developed a new internet format. To access the EMS and Trauma Systems Program home page [Click Here](#)

EMS for children

EMSC Program to distribute pediatric equipment

It is imperative that licensed ambulance services and EMTs have the appropriate pediatric equipment and supplies to provide care for critically ill and injured children. Without the necessary pediatric medical equipment and supplies, Oregon's EMS professionals are limited in the quality of care they can provide to children. In response to the pediatric equipment needs of Oregon's rural agencies, the Oregon EMS for Children Program will distribute equipment through the Pediatric Equipment Grant Program. Agencies received notice to complete a grant application online with notice of awards and distribution by August and September.

Awards will be based on information provided on the application including

geographic access, information provided on the patients cared for by the agency and current equipment availability. Participation in future surveys will also be a condition of the award.

If your agency would like to apply for a pediatric equipment award contact Philip Engle, EMSC program manager, at philip.p.Engle@state.or.us.

Training and education

One of the primary functions of EMSC is to provide pediatric education and training opportunities for Oregon's rural prehospital, hospital and community providers of pediatric emergency care. EMSC continues to provide pediatric continuing education opportunities through conference sponsorship and community college-supported continuing education. Supported conference activities have included pediatric sessions at the State of Jefferson Conference and will again provide sponsorship at the Oregon EMS Conference.

Pediatric Rural Simulation Training will continue though out the summer and fall with trainings schedule in Prineville, Astoria, Grants Pass, Ontario, and TBD. The simulation trainings have enhanced the pediatric skills of providers while improving the system of care for pediatric trauma victims from motor vehicle crashes, multiple patient scenarios and other medically related injuries using high-fidelity simulation scenario exercises. Benefits of the trainings include:

To view a summary video of the training project go to www.oregonemsc.org.

EMS agencies and hospitals complete EMSC surveys

The EMSC program performance measures are a set of standards developed to measure the EMSC program's long-term progress at both state and national levels in key areas of pediatric emergency care. The performance measures represent a systematic, uniform process of focusing and measuring program activities and promoting permanence of EMSC programs at the state level. Surveys were sent to all transporting agencies and a sampling of non-

transporting EMS agencies in Oregon. More than 80 percent of agencies asked to complete the survey responded to questions about online and offline medical direction, and pediatric equipment on ambulances. Hospitals responded to questions about inter-facility transport.

The information collected in the surveys will assist the Oregon EMS for Children Program better understand capabilities and equipment needs, and to guide the state in improving overall pediatric emergency care. Agencies will receive a short analysis of the survey results from Oregon's agencies and national results.

For more information about what the survey measured, go to www.childrensnational.org/EMSC/ForGrantees/Performance_Measures.aspx.

American Ambulance Association Stars of Life

A number of Oregonians were recognized at this year's American Ambulance Association Stars of Life Event.

The following Oregonians received awards:

Robert Breifhof, III – Communication Specialist/EMT Basic with Metro West Ambulance in Hillsboro;
Rose Durschmidt – Training Officer with Woodburn Ambulance Service;
Daren Groff – Paramedic with Bay Cities Ambulance in Coos Bay;
Christopher Pfingsten – Paramedic with Metro West in Hillsboro;
Philip Reid – EMT Basic with Metro West Ambulance in Hillsboro;
Tracy Lyn Schroeder – Communication Specialist – Medix Ambulance in Warrenton;
Monica Stephens – Paramedic with Pacific West Ambulance in Newport;
Nicholas Yoder – EMT with American Medical Response in Milwaukie.

Shawn Baird of Woodburn Ambulance Service and J.D. Fuiten of Metro West Ambulance serve on the board of directors of the American Ambulance Association.

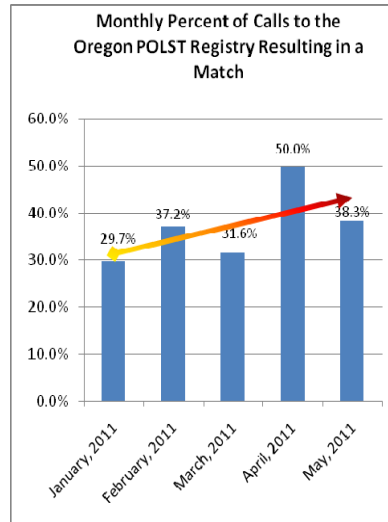
POLST points, July 2011

Here's the latest from the POLST Registry. Our numbers continue to grow, so don't forget to call the POLST Registry Hotline if you think your patient may have a POLST form. And remember it only takes about **80 seconds** to call the registry hotline for the POLST orders you need. Don't know the number? Call 503-494-1230 to request it, or e-mail polstreg@ohsu.edu.

Latest stats (thru May 31, 2011)

Oregonians with registered POLST forms:
50,182.

- Number of calls to the registry in Hotline in May: **47**;
- Number of POLST forms found: **18**;
- Number of Oregonians whose orders you were able to honor from Jan. 1 through -May 31, 2011: **90 people!!**



Comment [D1]: In the figure, the title is repeated. Also downsize title as follows: "Monthly percent of calls to the Oregon POLST Registry resulting in a match"

To View Photos of the 2010 EMS Awards Banquet [click here](#)

Note: The photos can be saved and viewed as larger images by right-clicking on a photo and saving it to your computer.

EMS Awards Banquet:

Please join us for the 2011 EMS Awards Banquet Sept. 23, 2011. You can find more information in the EMS Conference web page: www.oregonemsconference.com

EMT testing stats for January – June 2011

Applications submitted:

EMT-Basic: 1,114
EMT-Intermediate: 99
EMT-Paramedic: 28

Number of practical exams:

EMT-Basic: 30
EMT-Intermediate: 9
EMT-Paramedic: 1

Number of students testing practical:

EMT-Basic: 959
EMT-Intermediate: 98
EMT-Paramedic: 28

EMT recertification – Applications submitted (online)

Level (certified)	March	April	May	June	TOTAL
Basic (5,387)	1,214	2,168	352	290	4,024
Intermediate (1,098)	300	526	73	57	956
Paramedic (3,186)	870	1721	213	113	2917

Live scan fingerprinting:

Live scan fingerprinting will be available Sept. 1, 2011, at the OHA-EMS office. OHA-EMS will provide fingerprinting services for any First Responder or EMT-related application process. In the future OHA-EMS may provide fingerprinting for the general public, but for now it is available for applicants or certificate holders only. Oregon State Police is currently charging \$47.25 to process the prints and OHA-EMS will charge a \$20 fee to take the prints. Fingerprints are done digitally and sent electronically for processing, which results in less wait time for results. Please contact OHA-EMS at 971-673-0520 for more information or if you would like to make an appointment to get your fingerprints processed.

Motor vehicle crashes involving ambulances

Year	Fatal crashes	Nonfatal crashes	Property damage crashes	Total crashes	People killed	People injured
2006	0	6	15	21	0	11
2005	0	6	5	11	0	11
2004	0	4	8	8	0	8
2003	0	9	5	19	0	19
2002	1	7	7	3	1	3

Oregon Department of Transportation, Transportation Development Division, Transportation Data Section

Ambulance service relicensing

The 2011 ambulance service and vehicle renewal season began April 1 and ended June 30. A total of 135 agencies and 630 ambulances are currently providing patient care in Oregon. Only one agency — Weiser, Idaho — did not renew its license; Weiser had previously maintained an Oregon license.

Image trend

In partnership with the Oregon Office of the State Fire Marshal, the Oregon Fire-EMS Bridge is provided at no charge to EMS agencies. Between May 1 and July 13, 39 agencies generated 3,039 patient care reports through the Oregon Fire-EMS Bridge program.

OREGON EMS AND TRAUMA SYSTEMS PROGRAMS

Resources	Staff contacts		
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