

January 2024

Emergency Medical & Trauma Services Branch Activity Report

Presented to the
State Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Advisory Council

Report For Period:
October 2023 - December 2023



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This report is submitted as a record of key activities by the Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Branch for the period of October 2023 - December 2023.

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EMTS Branch Chief

Peter Myers, Interim Branch Chief, peter.myers@state.co.us

EMTS Branch Summary

Colorado EMTS Branch Highlights

- Ground Ambulance Licensing Rules - On December 20, 2024 the Board of Health unanimously adopted rules for ground ambulance licensing. The rules included a delayed implementation for Section 14, Administrative and Operative Standards for Governance, Patient Records and Record Retention, Personnel, and Policies and Procedures. This portion of the rules will become effective July 1, 2026. Leading up to that time, the Department will work diligently with ground ambulance services to assist with implementation of this and all other sections of the rules.
- Ground Ambulance Licensing Rollout - The ground ambulance license onboarding application opened on January 8, 2024. The Department encourages ground ambulance services to submit the application as early as possible, but no later than May 1, 2024. The application has been shortened for this initial licensing period and is intended to be agency friendly. All services that complete the application and have a current county license on June 30, 2024 will receive a state license effective July 1, 2024.
- EMS Sustainability Task Force - The sustainability task force met in October, November, and December. The focus of these meetings was to review data presented by the EMTS branch related to inequities in EMS services in Colorado. The task force will not have formal meetings in January, March, or April due to the legislative session. In place of the formal meetings, the task force will meet in workgroups to further discuss and analyze the inequities in EMS services. February's meeting will be at the state capital for EMS day. Further details will be provided through the EMTS blast.
- EMTS Branch Staffing - During the past year, the EMTS branch has had numerous vacancies.
 - Leadership - Peter Myers continues in the interim branch chief role due to a number of other vacancies that have come open during the past few months. Dr. Beckman has issued his notice of resignation and will leave the Department in Spring 2024. The hiring of this position is the branch's top priority. Randy Kuykendall retired from his project manager position on January 5, 2024.
 - Trauma Section - The Trauma Section is fully staffed.

- Data Section - Dale Knochenmus retired on November 1, 2024. Interviews have been concluded and an offer has been made to the preferred candidate. That candidate is scheduled to begin on January 16th.
- Funding Section - With the hiring of Jonathan Bertrand into the Boards and Councils Coordinator position, the Funding Section is fully staffed.
- Enforcement Section - The Enforcement Section is fully staffed.
- Operations Section - The Ground Ambulance Licensing Specialist position has been hired. The candidate is scheduled to begin on January 29th. When the candidate starts, the Operations Section will be fully staffed.

Operations Section

Mike Bateman, Section Manager, michael.bateman@state.co.us

The Operations Section is responsible for certifying and licensing EMS providers, registering Emergency Medical Responders, licensing air ambulance agencies, and recognizing EMS and EMR education programs. Section staff also provide technical assistance to EMS medical directors, agencies, and providers regarding EMS provider scope of practice and provide administrative support for meetings of the Emergency Medical Practice Advisory Council and Regional Medical Directors Committee.

Table: Scope of Practice Waivers (Active)

	2022 Q4	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4
Waivers (BLS)	5	3	4	3	4
Waivers (ALS)	308	278	337	306	307
Waivers (BLS + ALS)	50	67	46	88	86
Total	363	348	387	397	397

EMS Certification & Licensing

Jennyfer Nguyen, Licensing Specialist

The number of EMS personnel with a current Colorado license or certification is stable, with a 2.2% increase in the past year, however the number of personnel actively engaged in the EMS workforce is unknown. Although the EMT-Intermediate level was sunsetted many years ago, individuals with a current EMT-Intermediate certification may maintain the certification level for the duration of their career (if all requirements are fulfilled).

Table: EMS Personnel

Level	2022 Q4	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4
Registered EMR	378	383	415 ▲	402 ▼	427 ▲
EMT	14,170	14,226	14,521 ▲	14,612 ▲	14,687 ▲
Advanced EMT	386	406	432 ▲	446 ▲	440 ▼
EMT-Intermediate	3034	294	287 ▼	280 ▼	275 ▼
Paramedic	5,481	5,543	5,604 ▲	5,748 ▲	5,785 ▲
Total EMS Personnel ²	20,340 ▲	20,469 ▲	20,844 ▲	21,086 ▲	21,187 ▲

1- The EMT-Intermediate level has been sunsetted. Existing personnel may maintain/renew certification; no new certifications are issued.

2- Total EMS Personnel excludes registered EMRs

Table: Subset of EMS Personnel With Endorsements or License

Level	2022 Q4	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2022 Q4
EMT Licensed	1,044	1,103	1,180 ▲	1,238 ▲	1,283 ▲
AEMT Licensed	39	39	45 ▲	46 ▲	49 ▲
Paramedic Licensed	652	684	720 ▲	762 ▲	791 ▲
Paramedic Critical Care Endorsement	538	556	573 ▲	590 ▲	605 ▲
Paramedic Community Paramedic Endorsement	41	42	45 ▲	41 ▼	43 ▲
Paramedic Critical Care + Community Paramedic Endorsements	26	27	30 ▲	34 ▲	33 ▼

*Data presented in this table are a subset of the total EMS personnel presented in the table above.

EMS Education Programs

Eric Lucas, EMS Operations Specialist

Colorado continues to actively engage with EMS education programs, and provide technical support to programs. EMS education recognition is provided by education centers that offer initial education and education groups that offer continuing education and recertification. Year-to-date there has been an increase in the number of education programs to levels observed in Q3 2023. This includes both recognized EMS education centers and education groups.

Table: EMS Education Programs

	2022 Q4	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4
Education Programs	216	214	219	219	226 ▲

Table: NREMT Cognitive Exam Performance

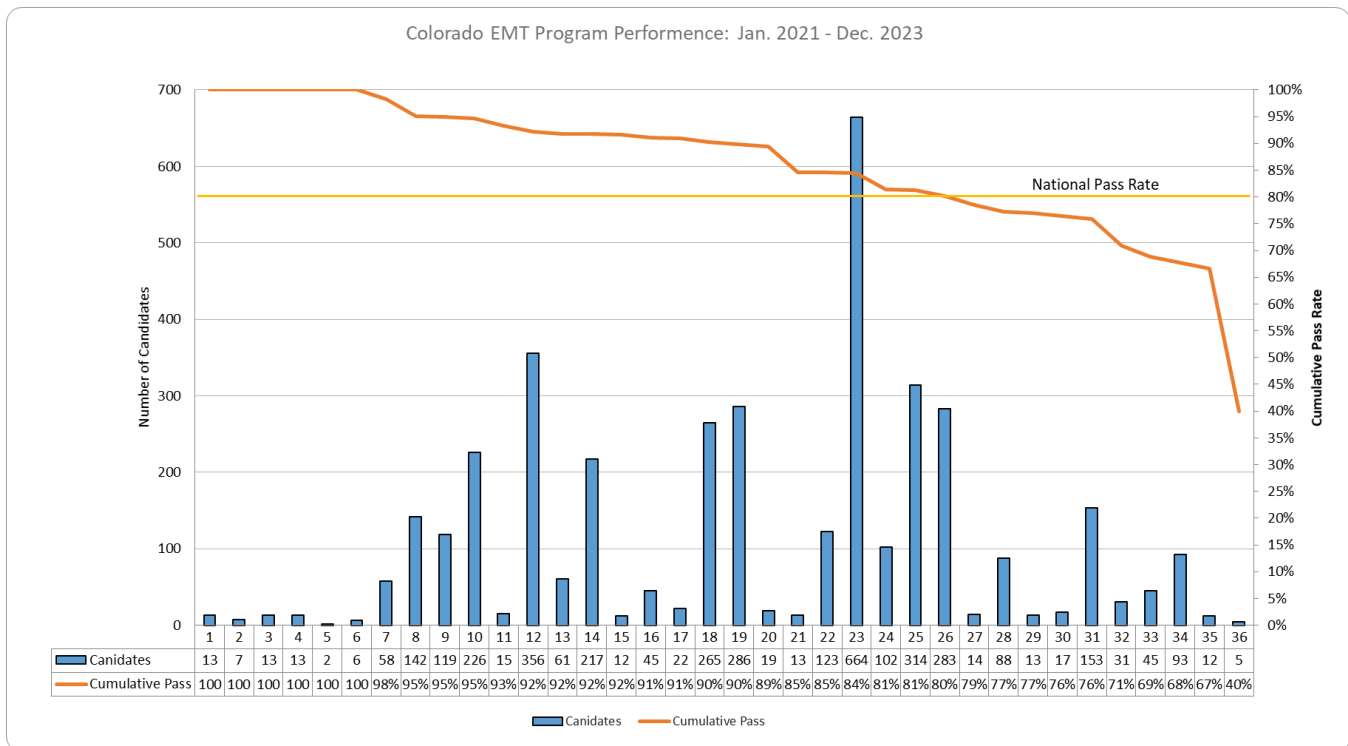
	National First Attempt Pass				Colorado First Attempt Pass		
	2021	2022	2023 YTD		2021	2022	2023 YTD
EMT	67%	67%	70%	EMT	76%	77%	82%
AEMT	58%	56%	59%	AEMT	81%	63%	67%

Paramedic	69%	70%	72%	Paramedic	85%	87%	86%
	National Cumulative Pass Rate				Colorado Cumulative Pass		
	2021	2022	2023 YTD		2021	2022	2023 YTD
EMT	81%	81%	79%	EMT	85%	86%	87%
AEMT	79%	73%	72%	AEMT	85%	76%	77%
Paramedic	89%	89%	85%	Paramedic	96%	96%	95%

** Data report provided by NREMT.org "Pass/Fail Report"; data for the prior 24 months will change as candidates test. Updated 1/1/2024

Colorado EMT Program Performance

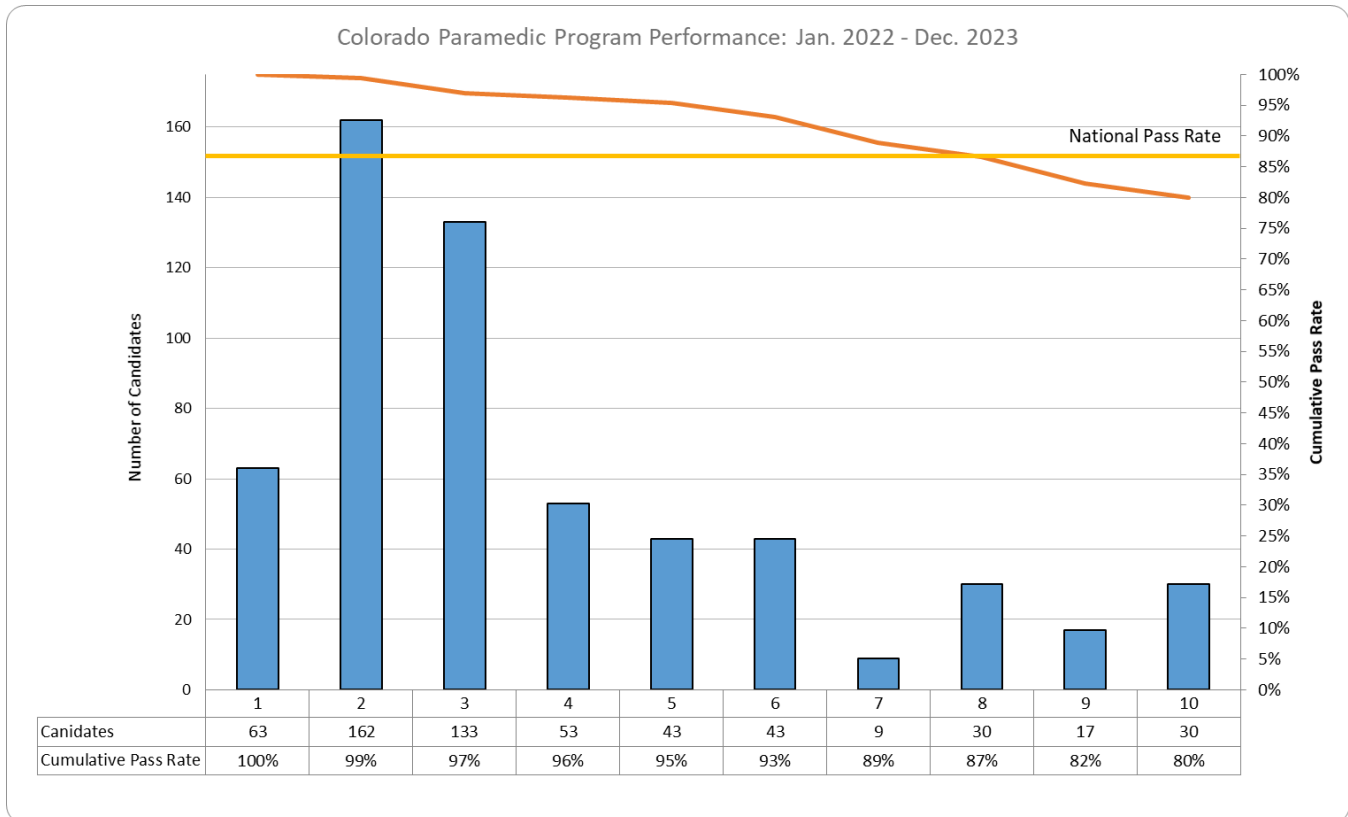
Colorado has one of the highest statewide cumulative pass rates for EMT programs in the United States. Of the 36 EMT programs with candidates taking the NREMT EMT national certification exam between January 2021 and December 2023, 25 programs meet the "High Performing Program" criteria; this is exceptional. (A high performing program is a program with a pass rate greater than the national average for the same time period.)



*Data provided by NREMT.org "Pass/Fail Report"; Jan 2021 - Dec. 2023. Updated 1/1/2024; a "High Performing Program" is defined by the modified Margolis Method, as a program above the national pass rate.

Colorado Paramedic Program Performance

Colorado also has one of the highest statewide cumulative pass rates for Paramedic programs in the United States. Of the 10 Paramedic programs with candidates taking the NREMT Paramedic national certification exam between January 2021 and December 2023, seven programs meet the “High Performing Program” criteria. (A high performing program is a program with a pass rate greater than the national average for the same time period.)



*Data provided by NREMT.org “Pass/Fail Report”; Jan. 2022 - Dec. 2023. Updated 1/1/24; a “High Performing Program” is defined by the modified Margolis Method, as a program above the national pass rate.

Air Ambulance Licensing

Vanessa Brazee, Licensing Specialist

The Air Ambulance Licensing program engages stakeholders to ensure public safety through comprehensive licensure and data reporting of air ambulance transport agencies. The Air Ambulance program also engages with stakeholders to encourage compliance with Colorado statutes and rules and advises the state enforcement unit when those requirements are not met. Further, assistance is available 24 hours a day to agencies that are not licensed in the state but require permission to perform an urgent transport through the Exigent Circumstance program.

Table: Air Ambulance Agencies

	2022 Q4	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4
Licensed	21	21	21	21 →	21 →
Recognized	10	9	9	6 ▼	7 ▲
Total	31	30	30	27 ▼	28 ▲

Table: Exigent Circumstance Air Ambulance Flights

	2022 Q4	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4
Approved	0	0	0	0 →	0 →
Denied	0	0	0	0 →	0 →

Trauma Reviews/Designations

Martin Duffy, Trauma Section Manager, martin.duffy@state.co.us

The trauma section completed one level II, three level III, and one level V, designation reviews in the fourth quarter of 2023. These reviews were completed with a combination of remote and in-person platforms. The remote platform has been used successfully to accommodate combined reviews with the American College of Surgeons and/or out of state reviewers as needed. Remote platforms have resulted in unanimously supported improvements to the pre-review preparations and designation process that supports a more thorough analysis of documents and charts, and allows facilities more opportunity to provide additional information as needed. The trauma section continues to investigate processes that will improve the designation experience.

Table: Colorado Trauma System Facility Designations

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Total Designated	Non-designated
Number	7	12	26	37	5	87 →	38 →

Table: Trauma System Designated Reviews Conducted

Designation Level	2022 Q4	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4
Level 1	0	0	1	0	0
Level 2	0	1	0	0	1
Level 3	1	5	4	1	3
Level 4	7	1	6	7	0
Level 5	1	0	0	2	1
Total	9	7	11	10	5

Trauma Consultations and Outreach Visits

The trauma section provided technical assistance to a wide range of stakeholders in Q4 of 2023. Staff facilitated registry webinars providing education on data submission and the ImageTrend platform as well as an ImageTrend users forum. Trauma section staff hosted a TNC orientation webinar. The trauma section provided guidance to seven facilities currently on a plan of correction. Staff visited one facility and provided technical assistance on trauma program management. In Q4 of 2023 the department accepted 2 plans of correction and 5 were closed. We currently have 20 facilities on an active plan of correction with five set to close at the end of Jan. 2024.

Technical assistance has also been initiated to support the non-designated integration platform. Non-designated facilities have been submitting data and show exemplary compliance. Future work will include data quality reports to the entities involved to improve collaboration and communications with the department, non-designated facilities, and key trauma system stakeholders.

Data Section

Amber Viitanen, EMTS Data Section Manager, amber.viitanen@state.co.us

All licensed ambulance agencies were required to begin submitting the latest version of NEMSIS, Version 3.5.0 on January 1, 2023. As the first state in the nation to make this transition, the data team provided several trainings, technical assistance, and multiple reports to ensure agencies were well equipped to understand and overcome issues. Staff also worked very closely with multiple patient care reporting software companies utilized across the country to ensure adequate communication was provided as well. As of September 30, 2023, 234 agencies have successfully submitted EMS data in the new version.

The team continued to refine its data quality improvement processes by adding several new reports to its communications with EMS and Trauma leaders. This quarter, hundreds of completeness reports were distributed to agencies with waivers to emphasize the importance of submitting complete, timely and accurate data. The team provided guidance across the branch in appropriate data collection, analysis and dissemination of EMS patient care data, trauma registry data, scope of practice waiver data, EMS personnel data, and organizational profile data. Specifically, the team produced several reports for the EMS system sustainability task force, ground ambulance licensing task force, SEMTAC prevention committee, Statewide Trauma Advisory Committee, and other key EMTS stakeholders.

In November 2023, Dale Knochenmus retired from the EMTS Data Section. While his talents and dedication will be greatly missed in the team, the section began a rigorous interview process to find a statistical analyst replacement.

Table: EMS Ground Agency & ePCR Data

	2022 Q4	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3
EMS Agencies Reporting	209	216	210	212 ▲
EMS Records Submitted	226,360	210,679	229,363	232,117 ▲

Office of Cardiac Arrest Management

Beth Penrod, Cardiac Arrest Program Administrator, beth.penrod@state.co.us

On June 1st, 2022, Governor Polis signed HB22-1251, establishing the first statewide office of cardiac arrest management. The bill outlined five primary objectives:

- Coordinate the collection of sudden cardiac arrest data;
- Implement an outreach campaign to raise public awareness regarding sudden cardiac arrest;
- Maintain a list of training and education programs offered in this state to teach life-saving skills;
- Employ a statewide cardiac arrest data coordinator and other personnel as necessary;
- Coordinate the submission of data to an automated external defibrillator registry.

Initial work was focused on the recruitment and hiring of a new program manager, engaging industry leaders, subject matter experts, and key stakeholders to better understand current statewide efforts and resources, and establishing the foundation for information sharing across the state on topics such as education programs, AED locations, cardiac arrest response and outcome data. Beth Penrod was hired in January 2023, bringing over 10 years of public health experience to the Office. She has successfully onboarded with the national CARES (Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival) team to begin managing EMS and hospital data related to cardiac arrests in Colorado. This includes ensuring data is flowing into the system appropriately, agencies have access to necessary information, data is complete and accurate, and reports can be generated to understand cardiac arrest care across the state. Additionally, the team is discussing with the national CARES team the feasibility of directly uploading pre-hospital CARES cases from the state repository to the registry, eliminating the need for manual direct data entry by EMS agencies.

The Office of Cardiac Arrest Management has recently launched a website that highlights the importance of early intervention in cardiac arrest survival, www.SaveaLifeCO.com. The website serves as a vessel for awareness campaigns as well as houses information about education programs that teach life saving skills in Colorado. Here, CPR instructors can complete a registration form to add their program information to a public listing of training programs that are available throughout the state for the layperson.

Investigations & Enforcement

Shelley Sanderman, HFEMSD Enforcement, shelley.sanderman@state.co.us

The EMTS Investigations Team continues to see a steady number of complaints and arrests of EMS providers, though numbers have come down significantly in the last quarter. The enforcement team issued 8 probations on certifications/licenses, 4 suspensions of certifications/licenses, one certification revocation, and 3 Letters of Admonition. No applications or renewals were denied.

There were no air ambulance complaints or air ambulance enforcement actions this quarter. Finally, the team continues to work with the Attorney General’s office on 8 cases involving EMS providers.

Table: EMS Individual Provider Enforcement

EMS Personnel	2022 Q2	2022 Q3	2022 Q4	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4
New Complaints /Investigations & Notifications of Provider Arrests	166	187	144	161	150	155	114 ▼
Initial Application / Renewal Denial	1	0	0	2	2	0	0 ↔
Letters of Admonition	1	0	1	2	0	0	3 ▲
Probation	2	3	7	9	6	5	8 ▲
Suspension/Temp Suspension	1	1	4	1	3	1	4 ▲
Revocation	0	0	0	0	1	0	1 ▲
Relinquishment	0	1	0	0	0	1	0 ▼

(Air Ambulance Enforcement on next page)

Table: Air Ambulance Agency Enforcement

Quarter	2022 Q4	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4
New Complaints/ Investigations	0	1	0	0	0 →
Closed Complaints/ Investigations	0	0	1	0	0 →
Conditional License	0	0	0	0	0 →
License Suspension	0	0	0	0	0 →
License Revocation	0	0	0	0	0 →

EMS For Children

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Colorado Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinators (COPECC)

The COPECC Steering Committee continues to meet monthly to develop strategies to recruit and support prehospital and hospital based Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinators (PECCs). The committee is planning a series of quarterly sessions to take place in 2024 for current and prospective PECCs to provide resources, education, mentorship and best practices.

Fundamental to the work of the COPECC has been providing in person PECC seminars and workshops. The last PECC seminar of 2023 was held at the EMSAC conference on November 2, 2023, with 15 participants from prehospital agencies and hospitals. Planning for a RETAC sponsored PECC seminar has begun. The seminar will be hosted in Gateway, Colorado in March 2024 and jointly sponsored by the Western and Northwestern RETAC, and EMSC Colorado. In the summer and fall of 2023, COPECC committee members began developing the PREPARE program (Pediatric REAdiness for Prehospital CARE). PREPARE is the prehospital counterpart to COPPER and will follow the National Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Project (PPRP) State Partnership Grants • EIC (emscimprovement.center) checklist and toolkit. Committee members will meet during the monthly COPECC meeting. Colorado EMSC is participating in the national Pediatric Readiness Recognition Programs Collaborative through the EMS for Children Innovation and Improvement Center to help develop our PREPARE program here. Colorado Pediatric Preparedness for the Emergency Room (COPPER)

EMSC has continued to conduct monthly COPPER steering committee meetings. EMSC, with the help from the steering committee, has completed its first site visits. In May 2023, the members of the COPPER steering committee completed a hybrid in person and virtual site visit at Grand River Health in Rifle. Upon completion of the site visit and review of the committee's findings, EMSC was pleased to announce Colorado's first official COPPER-Verified Pediatric Ready Emergency Department. Grand River Health has been designated as Pediatric Advanced. Since October 2023 Grand River health was featured in a series of articles in the Wall Street Journal, discussing the state of pediatric readiness in emergency rooms across the county

and how Grand River Health prioritized caring for children in emergencies.

COPPER Verified Hospitals:

- Grand River Health (Rifle) - COPPER verified Pediatric Advanced - May 3, 2023
- Swedish Medical Center (Englewood) - COPPER verified Pediatric Advanced - October 30, 2023
- Rose Medical Center (Denver) - COPPER verified Pediatric Prepared - November 30, 2023
- Delta County Memorial Hospital (Delta) - COPPER verified Pediatric Advanced - December 19, 2023

Work continues with the original pilot sites and 12 more facilities who have begun their own pediatric readiness work. Pilot sites continue to provide useful feedback on the application process and this information is being incorporated into new directions to better support facilities as they work to establish themselves as Pediatric Ready. Colorado EMSC is now also working to support trauma centers verified by the American College of Surgeons establish pediatric readiness programs at their facility. This will impact 17 facilities in Colorado. Pediatric Care Committee (PCC)

Colorado EMSC hosted the quarterly PCC meeting on October 11, 2023. Ben Lantow resigned his board position, as he is moving out of state. He has been replaced by Scott Fitzgerald. Steven Milroy was appointed to the vacant Member at Large position. Additional information is available on the EMSC website.

Human Trafficking Screening Education

Colorado EMSC has partnered with Dr. Kristin Kim of the University of Colorado supported by an EMTS grant funded to Children's Hospital Colorado to host training on the identification of child labor and sex trafficking. The Colorado EMSC website Human Trafficking | EMSC Colorado will house the training, "Positioned to Care: Improving identification of victims of Child Labor and Sex Trafficking." Modules for emergency healthcare providers (both prehospital and ED) and those who work alongside healthcare providers such as unit clerks, financial representatives, research assistants, administrators, social workers, environmental services technicians or do any other job, are available. Continuing Education Credits available for healthcare providers.

Grant Cycle 2023-2027

Colorado EMSC was awarded the EMS for Children State Partnership Grant offered by HRSA/MCHB to continue the activities of Colorado EMSC for the years 2023-2027.

New grant priorities established by HRSA:

1. Expand the uptake of Pediatric Readiness in Emergency Departments by establishing a standardized pediatric readiness recognition program for EDs, designating PECCs in EDs, and ensuring hospital EDs weigh and record children's weight in kilograms. (COPPER)
2. Improve Pediatric Readiness in EMS Systems by establishing a standardized pediatric readiness recognition program for prehospital EMS agencies; increasing PECCs in prehospital EMS agencies; and increasing the number of prehospital EMS agencies that have a process for pediatric skills-check on the use of pediatric equipment. (COPECC/PREPARE)
3. Increase pediatric disaster readiness in hospital EDs and prehospital EMS agencies by ensuring that disaster plans address the needs of children. NEW

4. Prioritize and advance family partnership and leadership in efforts to improve EMSC systems of care by including and engaging family representatives who can speak to the emergency care needs of children in their community on EMSC state advisory committees. NEW

To meet these priorities Colorado will work to do the following:

Aim 1: Continue to expand pediatric readiness efforts for hospitals with a focus on:

1. Weight in Kilograms
2. Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinators

Aim 2: Establish an EMS Pediatric Readiness Recognition program

Aim 3: Ensure that hospitals and EMS agencies have disaster plans that include pediatric consideration

Aim 4: Ensure the family perspective in all EMSC activities

Funding Section

Tim Petreit, Funding Section Manager, timothy.petreit@state.co.us

Boards and Councils

The Department is excited to welcome Jonathan Bertrand as the new Boards and Councils Coordinator. Jonathan has worked a number of years in the Fire/EMS setting and possesses a robust business education. He will be working to support all of our council, committee and task force activities. We look forward to all that he will be able to bring to those efforts.

Provider Grants and System Improvement Funding Requests

The fiscal year 2023 funding cycle concluded on June 30. Approximately 43% of projects had to be extended due to supply-chain issues and delivery delays. A majority of the funded projects have been

either completed or extended. We continue to work with our Fiscal Branch to request and track these extensions.

For the fiscal year 2024 funding cycle, a total of \$4.7 million was awarded for 121 projects. All agreements have been executed and work is in progress. Approximately \$200,000 has been reimbursed thus far.

The fiscal year 2025 funding cycle began on December 18, 2023 with the opening of the application. A number of grant workshops are being hosted by the RETACs during the month of January. The pre-application deadline is February 8th and final applications are due by February 15th.

CREATE Grant Program

The Colorado Rural Health Center continues to administer the Colorado Resource for EMS and Trauma Education grant program. There were no financial waiver requests submitted for review during the previous quarter. The Expert Review Committee evaluated 10 applications, for 10 individual courses. There were 10 courses approved with \$56,607 being awarded.

Emergency Grants

There was one (1) emergency grant requested and awarded during the previous quarter. This was to help mitigate an infrastructure failure at Lincoln Community Hospital.

Path4EMS

The Path4EMS program continues to experience robust utilization and growth. During the last quarter there were 27 requests for services which brings the total of new participants to 50 for the first half of fiscal year 2024. We have also added 4 more clinical service providers during this time, bringing that total to 15, covering various regions throughout the State. This steady growth continues to demonstrate the true need and value of the Path4EMS program.

We have also been able to refocus more of our efforts on many other aspects of provider resiliency. We are steadily increasing our outreach and networking opportunities, as well as coordinating efforts with community partners, both old and new. We have been working with multiple groups that share our same mission of expanding the vision and increasing the resources needed for our EMS responder wellness. We will continue working towards adding clinical service providers in all regions of the state to further expand the accessibility of the Path4EMS program.

Technical Assistance

The Funding Section provides formalized technical assistance to EMTS agencies, regions and systems through the Consultative Visit process. There was one formal request for a Consultative Visit for FY24. This will be coordinated by the San Luis Valley RETAC to assess the current functional status of EMS agencies within that region. The department has supported 23 local EMTS system assessments since the program began.

The Funding Section also welcomes informal requests to assist with all phases of grant funded activities. This includes the application process, completion of deliverables and reimbursement invoicing. Difficulties are easier to manage early in the process and we encourage grantees to reach out whenever there is a concern.

Colorado Poison Control Center

The Denver Health and Hospital Authority (DHHA) administers the statewide poison control services and dissemination of poison control information through the use and benefit of the Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center. They staff a 24-hour toll-free telephone number (800-222-12220) for Colorado. They also maintain a computer database of patient cases and generate various reports. Finally, they supply quarterly reports to CDPHE with the number of cases, break down of toxic and non-toxic exposure, and percentage of project cases for the year. There is a statutory requirement for an annual contract with CDPHE for \$1,535,140; which is paid in monthly installments of \$127,928.33.

Boards and Councils

Emergency Medical Practice Advisory Council (EMPAC)

Mike Bateman, Section Manager, michael.bateman@state.co.us

The EMPAC held its regularly scheduled quarterly meeting Thursday, Nov. 2, 2023 at the Keystone Conference Center in Keystone, CO using a hybrid format, with remote attendance via Zoom. The council reviewed draft guidelines for Manual Transport Ventilators, Phenylephrine, and Intravenous Epinephrine. Manual Transport Ventilators and Phenylephrine guidelines were approved; the Intravenous Epinephrine novel waiver request was voluntarily withdrawn by the applicant. Currently, there are 397 active waivers, 4 for the BLS levels, 307 for the ALS levels, and 86 for both the BLS and ALS levels. Of the 397 active waivers, 330 have been transitioned to the new agency-scoped waiver application and are subject to the 16 waiver guidelines that have been approved so far. The next EMPAC meeting is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 12, 2024, starting at 10 a.m. at the department's offices in Glendale, CO using a hybrid format. The next Regional Medical Direction committee meeting will be held the same day immediately prior to the EMPAC meeting, from 8 to 9:45 a.m. also using a hybrid format.

Designation Review Committee (DRC)

Martin Duffy, Section Manager, martin.duffy@state.co.us

The DRC meeting in Oct. was held in a hybrid format. Trauma program staff presented three facilities that were given an automatic recommendation on their designation and six facilities that required DRC consideration. The DRC recommended continued designation of all facilities presented to the committee.

Statewide Trauma Advisory Committee (STAC)

Martin Duffy, Section Manager, martin.duffy@state.co.us

The committee meeting in Oct. was held in hybrid format. The STAC will continue exploring resources and collaborate with our partners in emergency response to build resiliency and redundancy in the system. The STAC considered a presentation from the Patient Tracking Task Force. Staff shared their conclusions on the health information hub integration proof of

concept. STAC went on to hear reports from the Whole Blood Coalition and the Stop the Bleed campaign.

Office of Public Safety Communications

Pam Monsees, Program Manager, pam.monsees@state.co.us

Public access in the emergency medical services setting may be defined as the ability of an individual to secure prompt and appropriate emergency medical care. All counties in the state currently support enhanced or E-911 telephone services and less than a handful of 9-1-1 dispatch centers remain unable to receive ‘text-to-911’ calls. The transition of the legacy 9-1-1 network to a broadband digital, IP network (“Next Generation 9-1-1 Network,” also termed an “Emergency Services IP Network” or ‘ESInet’) will improve transfers and communication between Emergency Call Centers. This is how 9-1-1 calls from cell phones, internet phones, and any additional devices or systems are connected to the Emergency Call Center. The migration of Colorado’s Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) to the CenturyLink Emergency Services IP Network ESInet is nearly complete, with one PSAP operated by a military base still awaiting migration from the legacy 9-1-1 network to the CenturyLink ESInet. An ESInet allows public safety agencies to create a broad umbrella network to link all Emergency Call Centers, and facilitate inter-agency communication. An ESInet is more robust and survivable than a typical analog network and more efficiently transmits data. The ESInet may also be utilized to economically provide PSAP systems on a ‘hosted’ basis, where several 9-1-1 Call Centers with lower population census can share a central 9-1-1 telephone or computer-aided dispatch system.

The Colorado digital trunked radio system (DTRS) provides statewide, two-way interoperable communications to state, local, tribal and a limited number of federal government agencies over a shared communication platform. The DTRS in Colorado consists of 256 remote tower sites, serving in excess of 1,000 governmental agencies, including law enforcement, fire and EMS. There are currently over 125,000 subscriber units (individual radios) spread across six master zone control sites. The DTRS averages in excess of 8 million calls per month, with nearly 90% of those calls being voice calls on the system, and the balance being data calls on the system. The DTRS is a ‘system-of-systems’, meaning some local agencies invest in network infrastructure integrated into the statewide system, and thereby considered a shared resource for improved interoperability for all DTRS users.

Several new DTRS radio tower sites are under various stages of planning and construction. The Emergency Medical and Trauma Services grant-funding program continues to assist with improvement of local communications needs throughout the state. Funding has provided equipment to agencies to enable them to utilize the DTRS and in some cases, to sustain legacy communication systems.

The First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) is an independent authority within the U.S. Department of Commerce. Chartered in 2012, its mission is to ensure the construction, deployment and operation of a nationwide broadband network dedicated to public safety. AT&T was awarded the contract for the buildout and deployment of the FirstNet network. Public safety spent years

advocating for a nationwide broadband network for first responders following the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. FirstNet/ATT continue to work toward contracted build out of sites in Colorado to improve broadband coverage. In addition to the original federal funding to stand up the infrastructure for the FirstNet/ATT network, subscriber fees are used for ongoing support of the network.

EMS Compact

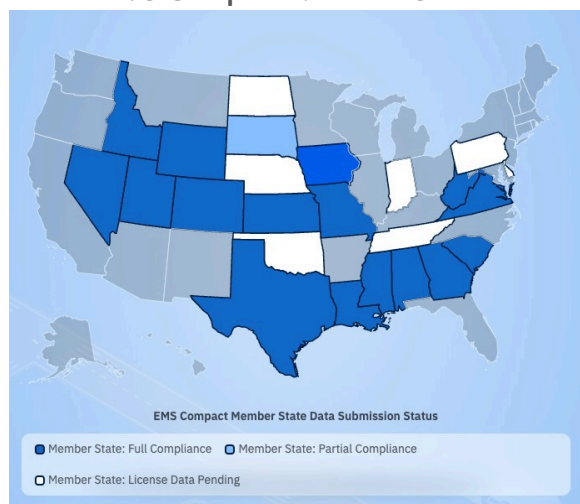
Colorado Commissioner of the Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice: Mike Bateman

The EMS Compact currently has 24 participating member states with over 325,000 EMS providers. The EMS Compact allows qualified EMS personnel certified or licensed in good standing in one Compact state (Home State) to practice in other Compact member states (Remote State) within their scope of practice.

Employers and state licensing officials can validate an individual's EMS Compact privilege to practice [online](#) by entering the individual's National EMS-ID. The EMS-ID is printed on all Colorado-issued EMS certifications and licenses or is available through an individual's National Registry of EMTs account.

All EMS Compact meetings are open to the public and stakeholders. Meeting information is published on the EMS Compact [website](#). Stakeholders can register to receive email notifications [here](#).

EMS Compact Member States



Name	Section	Position Description
Peter Myers	Branch	Interim Branch Chief
Amber Viitanen	Data	Section Manager
Jenna Seddon	Data	Data Quality Specialist
Scott Beckley	Data	Lead Data Analyst
Vacant (New Hire Pending)	Data	Statistical Analyst
Matt Pickler	Data	Management and Technology Advisor
Bill Clark	Data	EMS Data Consultant
Beth Penrod	Data	Office of Cardiac Arrest Management
Michael Bateman	Operations	Section Manager
Vanessa Brazee	Operations	Licensing Specialist
Eric Lucas	Operations	EMS Operations Specialist
Jennyfer Nguyen	Operations	Certification Technician
Cecilia Potter	Operations	Contractor
Vacant (New Hire Pending)	Operations	Ground Ambulance Licensing Specialist
Martin Duffy	Trauma	Section Manager
Lisa Domenico	Trauma	Trauma Designation and Emergent Systems of Care Specialist
Kiva Thompson	Trauma	Trauma System Nurse Consultant
Norma Pelegrin	Trauma	Administrative Assistant
Tim Petreit	Funding	Section Manager
Jonathan Bertrand	Funding	Boards and Councils Coordinator
Andre Smith	Funding	Grants and Communications Coordinator
Jessica Nelsen	Funding	Peer Support Coordinator
Jeanne-Marie Bakehouse	Funding	Contractor
Shelley Sanderman	Enforcement	Section Manager
Alex Scherer	Enforcement	Enforcement Investigator
Audra Leturgez	Enforcement	Enforcement Coordinator