



PULSE SD



South Dakota Office of Rural Health – Emergency Medical Services

EMS PROGRAM QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

September 2021

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Director's Welcome

Marty Link—EMS Program Director

Welcome to the September edition of PULSE-SD. We're three quarters through another historic year between COVID and events happening around the globe. It's hard to believe how quickly time continues to pass by. I certainly hope you take time each day to recharge—a time for peaceful reflection of the good work that is occurring around you and through you.

From a healthcare perspective, we are again seeing our COVID numbers rise. Data can be found at COVID.sd.gov. Please use this site as a source of credible information. The DOH is working diligently to ensure data is uploaded continually on current cases, recoveries, safety, and vaccination status.

Please maintain a healthy supply of personal protective equipment, and reach out to our office as new members join your crews to ensure they have the proper HALO fitted masks. These devices have been used widely across South Dakota and have been a benefit for many EMS agencies.

As always, please visit our website at EMS.sd.gov for additional information.

Sincerely,

Marty



Communications and Service Contacts

Marty Link—EMS Program Director

I wanted to reinforce to you the importance of having your ambulance service director information updated on a continual basis within our ImageTrend License Management System (LMS). This includes the primary contact, phone number, and email. There have been recent grant opportunities available to EMS agencies as of late. Some of these grant opportunities are time sensitive with a very short turn around time. Our main form of communication is through your agency service director.

It is equally important to review the roster and personnel access to your agency's LMS and electronic Patient Care Report (ePCR) systems. Personnel who are no longer affiliated with your agency should have their login access restricted. We encourage your agency to initiate policies around these security features if you have not done so already.

Community Health Worker Grant

Marty Link—EMS Program Director

For the past several months, the Department of Health and the EMS Program have been working on a large Community Health Worker (CHW) grant. The DOH received substantial funding in which the EMS Program was awarded approximately one million dollars to invest in CHW infrastructure. The first round of grants was awarded to eight ambulance services across South Dakota. This grant will support cross training of EMS providers with CHW training and education. SD Medicaid reimburses for CHW services.

Over the past decade, the DOH, EMS Program, and various stakeholders have invested considerable time and resources to develop the SD EMS Agenda for 2040. As we work to envision the future, it is essential that we look at broad brush strokes in remolding pre-hospital services across South Dakota. The CHW model is one of many initiatives our office is working on.

As we look to the future of pre-hospital services, the CHW model has promising reimbursable opportunities to help sustain EMS agency personnel. Coupled with increased revenue, the CHW model can also leverage additional services performed by EMS agencies within SD communities.

The Department of Health will be opening a second round of CHW grants for EMS agencies. If your agency is interested, please have them contact me at Marty.Link@state.sd.us.

Digital Radio Grant

Marty Link—EMS Program Director

The Department of Health continues to work on supplying digital mobile radios for ambulance services. We are continuing with the planning phase of this project and hope to begin distribution so programming and installation can begin. Nearly every agency across the state will be impacted by this project to ensure all digital radios are P25 compliant.

License Management System

Julie Smithson—Western EMS Specialist

We have upgraded the South Dakota E-Licensing System to allow Service Directors, Assistant Service Directors, and Operations Officers the ability to add, delete, or edit their vehicle(s) or aircraft(s). This upgrade will also give them the ability to do self-inspections of their vehicle(s).

EMS Specialists will still do random inspections, but this will help you keep your service information current within our system.

Instructional sheets can be found on our website (ems.sd.gov) under the orange tab “E-Licensing System Instruction Sheets”:

- Vehicle Addition or Revision Instructions for SD Licensed Ambulance Services
- Ground Vehicle Self-Inspection Instructions
- Air Vehicle Self-Inspection Instructions

We are asking ambulance services to use this opportunity to complete the self-inspection on any of their vehicles which have an expired inspection date in the License Management System.

In June 2022, all South Dakota Ambulance Service Licenses will expire and will need to be renewed. At this time, we will be checking on the status of your service’s vehicle(s) to ensure that they are current before renewing your license.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 605-394-5113 or Julie.Smithson@state.sd.us.

Thank you for all that you do for South Dakota.

Pre-Rally Training

Matthew Hardwick — Monument Health EMS Lead-Deadwood

Monument Health EMS Lead-Deadwood and Black Hills LifeFlight conducted Pre-Rally Landing Zone Training. First Responders included Deadwood Fire, Bownsville Fire, Nemo Fire, Spearfish Canyon Fire, Lawrence County Emergency Management & Search and Rescue, and Lawrence County Sheriff's Office.



SD EMS Spotlight Service

Matt Thompson — Keystone Ambulance Service Inc.

Keystone Ambulance Service was officially incorporated in March of 1996 as a private non-profit ambulance service. Looking back through the archives, the Keystone area was previously covered by the Hill City Ambulance Service from March of 1984 through June 1986. In June of 1986, the Keystone Ambulance officially started operation as part of the Rapid City/Pennington County Ambulance Service, as a volunteer branch of that service. This continued to be how the service operated until 1996 when it became the service that is in operation today.

In the beginning, the service was funded by donations, fund-raisers, and a subsidy from the Town of Keystone. In 2003, the Keystone Ambulance Tax District was formed to provide a much more stable funding source for the growing service.

In the humble beginning of the service, it operated out of a small garage in “old Keystone” near the current Big Thunder Gold Mine. This served as the base of operation for the ambulance service until 1997 when a two-bay addition was added on to the Keystone Volunteer Fire Department station. The ambulance service continued to lease the space and operate out of the fire department station until early 2005. In early 2005, the ambulance service moved into our current building at 915 Harney St. in Keystone. This building was built with the future in mind, as at the time, the ambulance service was all volunteer with responders coming from their homes for calls. The ambulance station consists of three bays, ample storage space, a large training room/day room for staff, full kitchen, an office, two bedrooms, and two bathrooms.

In 2007, the ambulance service hired their first full-time billing clerk/EMT. This started the foray into a combination service. In March of 2008, the service had their first paramedic join the service. By the end of 2008, the service was able to transition into a part-time ALS service. With volunteerism at an all-time low, the service then hired three more full-time staff, covering the day shift (6am-6pm) Monday – Saturday with the remainder covered by volunteers. However, this model eventually became unsustainable resulting in the current model of the service as it operates today.

The service, as it is today, operates one ambulance 24/7 with full-time paid staff from 7am Monday through 7pm on Friday with the weekends being covered either by volunteers or full-time staff on overtime. The service also has one fully stocked backup ambulance that is staffed for special events such as the Sturgis Rally, Central States Fair, Custer County Fair, and Rapid City Christian School Varsity Football games. The service also maintains an unstocked reserve ambulance that is available in the event one of the other ambulances goes out of service, or a neighboring service needs a truck. Our response area is approximately 83 square miles and includes the Town of Keystone, Mount Rushmore National Memorial, Rockerville, and rural Pennington and Custer County areas. The service works closely with our neighboring services of Custer, Hill City, and Rapid City providing back-up when requested. Our service is proud to be the Spotlight EMS Service in this issue!

SD EMS Spotlight Service (continued)

Matt Thompson — Keystone Ambulance Service Inc.



Pictured (L-R) Ambulance Director/Paramedic Matt Thompson, Assistant Director/AEMT Margaret Farrell, Paramedic Ethan Esposti, EMT Rachel Nelson, EMT Shannon Rittberter, EMT Matt Roder, and Paramedic Bill Day. (Several staff not pictured)



Updates to Education Module in License Management System

Lance Iversen — EMS Program

Our software vendor has made an update to the Training module (now called Education) in our E-Licensing System.

EMRs and EMTs can now record their training completed (if not entered by the course instructor) directly by logging into your E-Licensing account, clicking the “Education” button on the left side of the page, then clicking the “My Report” button. This will open a page where you can see your training entered at a glance:

Welcome, LANCE IVERSEN | Logout

Search for any upcoming training courses that have been approved. To view additional details about any course, click the arrow beside the course name to expand details, or click the course name to open a more complete course overview.

If On-Line Registration is allowed by the course instructor, when you open the course for more details you can click the "Register" button at the bottom of the page to have your name added to the course roster. If not, you can contact the Instructor for more details of his/her course and if you will be able to attend.

My Report

Please select below criteria to view your education progress

Level: EMT Recertification Hours Course Completed: In the last two years from expiration date

4 topics remaining to meet all of your education requirements within filtered date range

Click "Find My Courses" to show you all of the courses that would satisfy your remaining requirements

Find My Courses

EMT Recertification Hours (current level): In Progress

9.00 Completed		11.00 Remaining		Topic	Required	Completed	Remaining		
20.00 Total Requirements				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> >	Airway/Respiration/Ventilation	1.50	3.00	0.00	<input type="button" value="+"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	Cardiovascular	6.00	0.00	6.00	<input type="button" value="+"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/> >	Medical	6.00	2.00	4.00	<input type="button" value="+"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/> >	Trauma	1.50	1.00	0.50	<input type="button" value="+"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/> >	Operations	5.00	3.00	2.00	<input type="button" value="+"/>

To enter training hours completed (not entered by your instructor), you will click the green circle with white + sign, which will then open a page where you will enter your course information (topics), hours, etc.:


Continued on next page


Updates to Education Module in License Management System, Cont. Lance Iversen—EMS Program


Add Course

* Course Name


Course Number

Start Date 

* Completed Date 

Location 

File Upload No file chosen
Accepted File Types: .BMP, .css, .doc, .docx, .htm, .jpeg, .jpg, .mht, .mp4, .msg, .odt, .pdf, .png, .ppt, .pptx, .rtf, .rtx, .tif, .txt, .xls, .xlsx, .xsl, .xml - application
No files larger than 23000 KB

Topics 

Options

Ventilation Oxygenation Supraglottic Airway Devices Suctioning


Pulse Oximetry ETCO2 CPAP BiPAP Obstructed Airway


Resp. Distress Croup Epiglottitis COPD

To generate a pdf of your training, you will click the small pdf icon near the top of the page:

My Report

Please select below criteria to view your education progress

 Level Course Completed

 **4 topics remaining to meet all of your education requirements within filtered date range**

Click 'Find My Courses' to show you all of the courses that would satisfy your remaining requirements

The report can then be printed or saved if needed.

ImageTrend has made several updates to the Education module and are in the process of fixing some glitches we have found. As these are fixed, I will make new instruction sheets and have them available on our website, ems.sd.gov.

2021 SDEMSA Conference—Pierre

Julie Smithson — Western EMS Specialist

The 46th Annual South Dakota EMS Association State Conference (In-person and Virtual Options) will be held in Pierre, October 29th—31st, 2021 (with a pre-conference course on Thursday, Oct. 28th).

Some of the topics and speakers, at this time, are below (subject to change):

- All you need to know about drugs by Lynn Reimer
- The art of history taking by Bob Page
- Geriatric assessment by Dusty Lynn-Page
- EMSC by Jamie Bartell
- Marijuana by Lynn Reimer
- Treating burns by Andrea Zickmund
- OB emergencies by Dusty Lynn-Page
- Cardiac by Bob Page
- Shock by Andrea Zickmund
- The gift of knowledge, the curse of knowledge by Bob Page
- Traumatic brain injury in pediatric patients by Dusty Lynn-Page
- Suicides of EMS providers by Andrea Zickmund
- Diabetics by Bob Page
- Piecing together the call by Andrea Zickmund
- Putting PTSD out of business
- Rapid emergency pediatric assessment by Dusty Lynn-Page
- Altered mental status of the elderly by Andrea Zickmund
- Managing a patient with an implanted pacemaker and defibrillator by Bob Page
- Bizarre and unusual case studies by Andrea Zickmund
- Responding to airplane crashes by Andrea Zickmund

For more information and to register, please visit the SDEMSA's website: <https://www.sdemta.org/event-4446618>

The EMS Program is planning to have a room where people can come and go throughout the conference for questions you have, as well as training on the E-Licensing and ImageTrend Elite ePCR systems. At this time, we are looking at being available Thursday late afternoon/evening for a couple hours, then Friday and Saturday. We will have signs posted.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone in person this year for another great conference put on by the SDEMSA!



SOUTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

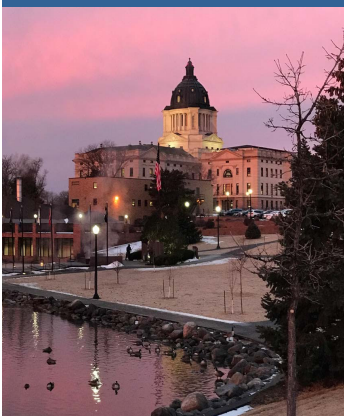
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South Dakota EMS Program

IMPROVE

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Websites

[EMS Program Website](#)
[SD Dept. of Health Website](#)
[Trauma Program Website](#)
[E-Licensing Website](#)
[South Dakota Govt. Website](#)