

**McHenry Western Lake County EMS System
EMS Coordinators Report
June 2, 2020
Cindy Amore, RN, BSN**

IDPH Update:

- **NREMT Licensure Examination transition-** The transition to NREMT testing has occurred. Unfortunately, due to the COVID 19 Pandemic, the communications component between NREMT and IDPH for licensure has not yet been established. Therefore, we are still operating under the old system of submitting a system approved application with proof of NREMT success and licensure fee to IDPH for processing new licenses at the EMT, Paramedic and PHRN levels of practice. IDPH has also adjusted the requirement for NREMT certification for Paramedic licensing through June of 2021. This means the Paramedic candidates must take the NREMT written exam but are not expected to complete the NREMT ‘official’ skill practical due to the pandemic, and limitations on face/face interactions, and limited access to NREMT faculty and multiple skill instructors required to complete the NREMT objectives. The Paramedic candidates would be eligible for IDPH licensure in much the same manner as EMT candidates.
- **Annual Ambulance Inspection Fees-** Due to an issue in the IDPH Licensing software/database, agencies will not be receiving Vehicle Fee Inspection notices. The IDPH Ambulance inspectors will be providing a form to return to the state with the necessary fee. At this time you are not able to complete the fee payment online. Due to the pandemic, self-inspections with system authorization are being completed until the state inspectors have the authorization to begin scheduling appointments.
- **IDPH EMS Licensing Database Transition:** IDPH will be rolling out a new license database system in the upcoming months. The initial training will be offered via Webex to the EMS System Coordinators on Thursday June 4. We will keep you updated as we learn more regarding the transition.. Cindy Tabert has continued to update all renewals as they have been due.
- **Next IDPH EMS Advisory Council Meeting: Thursday, June 11th- 11am-1pm via webex. Details to come.**

Region IX Update:

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, all regional activities have been focused on the local system operations related to local needs.

Next Meeting: Region IX EMS Advisory Committee-
Tuesday, June 9th- 9am via SKYPE

- Region IX Healthcare Coalition- Focus on the COVID 19 response in assuring Regional partners were able to access equipment and PPE supplies as distributed via the SNS/FEMA and IEM/IDPH. Weekly status update calls with the hospitals and health departments continue as we navigate this challenge.
- **Next Meeting: Region IX RHCC Meeting- Wednesday, July 8, 2020 hosted by Advocate Sherman Hospital- 8:30am-Noon- format details to be announced.**

System Update:

- **Paramedic Program 2018-2019:** All 15 graduates have completed testing. 14/15 have been successful in achieving licensure on the initial attempt. One student was not able to complete testing for licensure with the 3rd attempt. *Overall pass rate 93.3%-*
- **Paramedic Program 2019-2020-** 18 students are enrolled as we enter summer Field Internship.
- **EMS CE Calendar -** The 2020 CE calendar is currently in process. As we move forward to summer the focus will be on 12 ECG's. We anticipate continuing the option for blended learning with Zoom and face/face as we look to fall 2020.
- **EMS PPE Cache:** With the anticipation of continued COVID transports and the likelihood of a 2nd wave in conjunction with the flu season, informaitn is coming forward that highly suggests EMS providers maintain a 60 day cache on hand of PPE- N95; surgical masks; eye protection; gloves and gowns. It is suspected that the limited resources we have received over the past few months via FEMA/IEMA/IDPH will be even more limited as we move into fall. Please look at your usage/burn rate and work to plan accordingly. PPE consumption and conservation practices will most likely continue much as they have been in hospitals and public safety through the end of the year, and into early 2021.

NEXT EMS COUNCIL MEETING: 2020 Schedule EMS Council: (format TBA)

August 25th – 9am- ATEC Crystal Lake

November 24th- 9am- Woodstock Station #3

MCC Report:

Spring programming 2020- EMS programming was transitioned to a blended program delivery method with the onset of Spring break. All lectures were conducted via ZOOM. Final skill validations were conducted by scheduled appointment on campus at MCC. Students were not able to complete all hospital clinical; and we have allowed substitution with field time to meet both IDPH and program requirements.

EMS 110 competed with a total of 30 students enrolled. Of that group- 6 are eligible to write the NREMT exam for licensure. The others are eligible with the completion of the required clinical experiences.

Summer 2020- Due to the many challenges in supporting the Spring program with transition to online learning via ZOOM. We cancelled the EMS 105 summer section.

Fall 2020 MCC Classes:

EMS 105- 2 sessions-Thursday Morning/evening; Fran Woloszynski/Heather Yoder
Morning / Evening – enrollment underway

EMS 110- 2 sessions- Afternoon (T/TH) /Evening (M/W) Ruth Kormanak/Michelle Krysiak- enrollment underway

EMS Advisory Committee: Next Meeting Tuesday April 7th, cancelled due to COVID pandemic. Fall meeting date to be determined.

CoAEMSP Reports- Follow-up response to our most recent Progress Report identified one area of clarification related to the summative exam conducted at the conclusion of the Capstone field internship. Our response is due September 1st.

CoAEMSP and COVID 19 program delivery alterations. We will be creating an action plan which outlines our changes as we have continued the program during the pandemic response- areas to be addressed- changes in specialty unit hospital clinical; simulation learning/ skill testing; online-blended lecture. The action plan will be reviewed by Dr. Pacini and the Advisory committee. This provides documentation critical to demonstrating our commitment to our students, ongoing program accreditation