

A Message from MIEMSS Executive Director



Robert R. Bass, MD
MIEMSS Executive Director

This year marks a personal milestone for me as I announce my retirement at the end of the calendar year as MIEMSS Executive Director. I have been extraordinarily fortunate to have had the opportunity to lead MIEMSS and the Statewide EMS System and to work on many important EMS issues over the years. As I look back over the past 20 years, I am proud of the many accomplishments that we have worked together to achieve, but I am even prouder of how you have always accepted and overcome the challenges that inevitably are associated with progress. It has been said that it takes a system to save a life, and I believe that we have collectively made a difference in the lives of many people. I thank you for the opportunity to have served you, for your support, and above all for your friendship.

Robert R. Bass, MD
MIEMSS Executive Director

MIEMSS Implementation of the Veterans Full Employment Act

The Veterans Full Employment Act of 2013, effective July 1, 2013, expedites licensing for US Armed Forces service members seeking EMS licensure or certification. In Maryland, MIEMSS has applied the following policies and procedure to meet the requirements of this law.

MIEMSS has implemented procedures to credit appropriate training and education for service members who are seeking Maryland licensure/certification as EMTs, CRTs, or Paramedics and to expedite licensure/certification (see below).

MIEMSS accepts registration with the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) as the equivalent of licensure/certification by another state, which significantly expedites obtaining Maryland licensure/certification. The US Army and US Air Force require their medics to be NREMT-registered. Individuals who have previously attained NREMT registration, but whose NREMT has expired, may be eligible for NREMT reinstatement.

Procedures for an active duty service member of the US Armed Forces, a reserve component of the US Armed Forces, or the National Guard of any state who seeks Maryland licensure or certification are as follows:

- For EMT certification:
 - Submit an application to MIEMSS, along with a copy of current NREMT registration or certification as an EMT, CRT, or Paramedic in another state
 - Be affiliated with an EMS Operational Program
 - Successfully complete a 12-hour skills refresher program or a protocol and system orientation that includes a skills check-off by the EMS Operational Program

(Continued on page 2)

Maryland Ambulance Safety Summit to Be Held in November

The Maryland Ambulance Safety Task Force and subcommittees have been hard at work over the past two years, and now is your chance to hear updated information on crashes in Maryland, national vehicle standards, model programs for ambulance design, and restraint use. Plan to spend November 5, 2013, helping continue to build the Culture of Safety for public safety professionals. The summit will take place 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Howard County Public Safety Training Facility, James N. Robey Public Safety Training Center, 2200 Scott Wheeler Drive, Marriottsville, MD 21104. A full agenda and registration information will be available soon.

MIEMSS Implementation of the Veterans Full Employment Act

(Continued from page 1)

- For CRT licensure:
 - Submit an application to MIEMSS along with a copy of current NREMT registration as an EMT-I/99 (Note: EMT-I/99 is the national equivalent to the Maryland CRT. After December 31, 2013, NREMT will no longer provide national certification for this level of EMS Provider.)
 - Be affiliated with an EMS Operational Program
 - Successfully complete a Maryland protocol review session and pass a written protocol exam (which may be taken at one of MIEMSS' Regional Offices or at MIEMSS headquarters)
- For Paramedic licensure
 - Submit an application to MIEMSS along with copy of current NREMT registration as a Paramedic
 - Be affiliated with an EMS Operational Program
 - Successfully complete a Maryland protocol review session and pass a written protocol exam (which may be taken at one of MIEMSS' Regional Offices or at MIEMSS headquarters).

Certain service members may not be NREMT-registered, e.g., US Navy Corpsmen. For these individuals, MIEMSS (1) identifies creditable training already completed, (2) determines which training requirements the individual is able to "test-out," and (3) only requires further training where previous training has been insufficient to meet State standards. This process allows these personnel to meet the State requirement of completing an EMS course without having to take a full course and then to qualify to test for State licensure/certification.

Emergency Medical Dispatchers are also not NREMT-registered. For these service members, MIEMSS (1) identifies creditable experience and training they have already received/completed, (2) determines any further training/experience needed, and (3) requires successful completion of a written EMD examination and, within the previous 18 months, a CPR course.

Service members who seek Maryland licensure/certification as an EMD, EMT, CRT, or Paramedic, and who have never been NREMT-registered or have an expired NREMT registration, should contact:

Rae Oliveira
 Director, Licensure & Certification
 Telephone: (410)-706-3666 or (800) 762-7157
 Email: roliveira@miemss.org

Basic Disaster Life Support Course Open for Registration

November 20, 2013
 8:00 am – 6:00 pm
 Easton Volunteer Fire Company
 315 Aurora Park Drive
 Easton, MD 21601
 Cost: Free

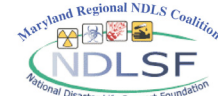
Sponsored by Winterfest EMS Conference
 Hosted by Talbot County EMS

Visit www.mfri.org/ndls to register.
 Seats will fill quickly, so don't delay!

SPECIAL OFFER

Anyone who attends the BDL course will get a coupon for \$10 off the Winterfest registration price for one day or \$25 off the Winterfest registration price for two days!

Contact Ian Bussey at 410-706-0881 or ibussey@miemss.org with questions.



For Your Information

On June 11, 2013, the electronic Maryland EMS Data System (eMEDS) was registered by the United States Patent and Trademark Office as a service mark owned by MIEMSS. From this point on, when referencing eMEDS in print or electronically, please include the federal registration symbol ®, as in "eMEDS®."



Save the Date!

Winterfest EMS Conference



Preconference:

January 23 – 24, 2014

Full conference:

January 25 – 26, 2014

More info coming soon!

Maryland State Police Mark Full-service Mission Operation of the First New AW-139 Helicopter



The Maryland State Police Aviation Command marked the full-service mission operations of the first new AgustaWestland 139 (AW-139) Helicopter on September 3, 2013, at the Frederick Section. In attendance to officially mark the commencement were Maryland State Police Superintendent Colonel Marcus L. Brown, Major Frank B. Lioi, Commander, Maryland State Police Aviation Command, MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Robert Bass, Delegate Jim Malone, and other state officials. The pilots and flight EMS providers who staff “Trooper 3” are the first to have been fully trained on the new aircraft. They are now flying the new helicopter around-the-clock on all Aviation Command missions. In the photo to the left, Dr. Bass addresses the group during the press event.



Licensure and Certification

TIDBIT

Q. I recently got married and changed my name. How do I get my new name on my provider card?

A. Congratulations! MIEMSS has a **Change of Information Form** available for this purpose. To download the form, visit MIEMSS’ homepage (www.miemss.org) and click on the EMS Providers tab. The form is available under the “EMS Provider & Instructor Forms” link.

However, anytime a name needs to be changed, we require a legal document verifying the change. With your Change of Information Form, you may submit your marriage certificate, a copy of your state driver’s license with your new name, or another legal document describing the name change. If you have any questions, please call 800-762-7157 or 410-706-3666.

State EMS Board Member Receives National Award

MIEMSS would like to congratulate State EMS Board Member Mary Alice Vanhoy, MSN, RN, CEN, CPEN, NREMT-P, the Nurse Manager of the University of Maryland Medical System–Shore Health Queen Anne’s Emergency Center, for receiving a 2013 Nursing Excellence GEM award from Nurse.com.

Ms. Vanhoy, who was nominated for the award by her colleagues at Queen Anne’s Emergency Center (QAEC), was recognized in the category of Home, Community, and Ambulatory Care as an “RN who exemplifies outstanding clinical knowledge and nursing expertise in caring for patients in settings outside the hospital in professional home care nursing, home hospice, sub-acute and intermediate, or in other ambulatory community, industrial, or school nurse roles.”

The award recognizes a nurse who has made an outstanding commitment to the community beyond expectations, including demonstrating exemplary knowledge, skills,

and values in the work place and professional organizations. Ms. Vanhoy played an integral part in the development, design, and construction of the QAEC, which opened in 2010. She worked with designers, architects, and construction engineers, helped choose equipment, and hired and trained staff. Ms. Vanhoy was also recognized for taking on other special projects, serving on various national committees, and for her roles as a national speaker and state Emergency Nurses Association leader.

“It was an honor to receive this award,” said Ms. Vanhoy. “It really represents recognition for all the hard work by the QAEC team to bring emergency care to our friends and neighbors in Queen Anne’s County and the surrounding area.”

The GEMS Awards ceremony was held on June 12, 2013, at Martin’s Crosswinds in Greenbelt, Maryland.



State EMS Board Member Mary Alice Vanhoy received a 2013 Nursing Excellence GEM Award for her outstanding commitment to medical care in her community.

Hands-Only CPR Taught by Baltimore County FD to Visitors at 2013 State Fair



The Baltimore County Fire Department provided hands-only CPR training to over 2,000 people at the 2013 Maryland State Fair. County Career and Volunteer Fire Department members staffed the hands-only CPR tent throughout the 11-day event. The public was very enthusiastic about having the opportunity to learn how to save a life, and trainers thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to interact with citizens. Photos courtesy of Baltimore County Fire Department.

MIEMSS Unveils NEW Online Training Center

Users Should See Improved Performance and Usability



On Wednesday, August 21, 2013, MIEMSS unveiled an improved Online Training Center to EMS providers and other users. In an effort to improve performance and provider satisfaction, the agency replaced the previous learning management system, which used the Moodle 1.9 software package, with an upgrade to Moodle version 2.4. As MIEMSS continues to move forward with its distance learning initiatives, providing quality continuing education across Maryland, this system upgrade promises to offer you increased interactivity and usability.

There are a few items to keep in mind when you log on to the new Online Training Center.

- You will still access the Online Training Center using the same links as before. From MIEMSS homepage (www.miemss.org), click the “Online Training Center” link on the left-hand side of the page to access the training content.
- Your username is still your provider ID number, which is a seven-digit number that starts with a zero on your certification card.

- **ALL passwords in the new system have been reverted back to your date of birth as listed in MIEMSS’ records.** The date of birth should be entered in a “mmdyyy” format (example: March 30, 1966, would be 03301966).
- Once you access the Online Training Center, you are encouraged to change your password and update your email address in your user profile. **A correct email address is required for the lost password function to work correctly.**
- Printable certificates that were earned for online courses completed prior to August 9, 2013, are no longer available in the system. However, all of these previous completions have been entered into your continuing education record.

Currently, there are a limited number of continuing education courses available on the new system. As the agency works to finalize the implementation of this new Online Training Center over the next several weeks, more courses, both previously-available and brand new content, will become available.

MIEMSS is also working to enable a “certificate of completion” function in this new system, which will be available soon. You are always encouraged to perform a “Print Screen” when you reach the completion page of each course in order to maintain a personal record of completion. After completing the course, your continuing education records will be updated within ten business days.

Meeting the educational needs of Maryland’s EMS community is of paramount importance to MIEMSS. We are confident that the upgrades and improvements that this new Online Training Center offers will be beneficial to you and enhance your ability to serve the citizens of Maryland. If you have any problems while using the Online Training Center, we encourage you to email onlinetraining@miemss.org for assistance.

Disciplinary Actions

The following final disciplinary actions were taken by the EMS Board on the dates indicated:

B-2012-579 (EMT-B) – August 13, 2013. For engaging in prohibited conduct: Provider voluntarily surrendered certification.

B-2013-636 (EMT Applicant) – August 13, 2013. For malicious destruction of property: certification process allowed to proceed, and, if certified, Applicant will be on probation concurrent with court-ordered probation.

B-2013-635 (EMT) – August 13, 2013. For theft scheme less than \$1,000: Provider on probation for remainder of court-ordered probation.

B-2013-630 (EMT-B Applicant) – August 13, 2013. On October 11, 2011, the EMS Board issued a final decision accepting the Applicant’s October 3, 2011, voluntary surrender of his EMT certification as a result of being found guilty on January 12, 2011, of 2nd degree assault. Applicant subsequently reapplied for certification as an EMT. Certification process allowed to proceed. If certified, the Applicant will be on probation for 3 years. If the Applicant commits a prohibited act during probation, EMT certification will be revoked.

B-2012-605 (EMT-B Applicant) – In July 2011, the EMS Board accepted surrender of Applicant’s then EMT certification for conviction of felony theft. Thereafter, Applicant received probation before judgment for theft under \$1,000. Applicant subsequently reapplied for EMT certification, and the application was denied.

B-2012-559 (EMT-P) – February 28, 2013. For making a false report in order to cover up an error in administration of medication while supervising another provider: Provider’s license was revoked.

Long-Time Staff Retire from MIEMSS

This June, Sadie Hannah retired after 35 years of service to the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems. Ms. Hannah worked in the Data, Informatics, and Research Department and most recently held the position of Data Processing Production Control Specialist II.

Also retired this summer was our Fire and EMS Liaison, Phil Hurlock, Past President of the Maryland State Firemen's Association. Mr. Hurlock was a valued member of the MIEMSS team for more than 13 years.

We wish Ms. Hannah and Mr. Hurlock the best in their future endeavors and a very happy retirement.



Sadie Hannah



Phil Hurlock

Physician Assistant Authorization to Legally Sign MOLST Forms

New Maryland Law Effective October 1, 2013

Under a new Maryland law, Physician Assistants will be able to sign the Maryland Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (MOLST) form. All healthcare professionals, including EMS providers, are required to recognize and abide by the MOLST orders that are signed by a Physician, Nurse Practitioner, or, as of October 1, 2013, Physician Assistant. The signature and date are required to validate the order.

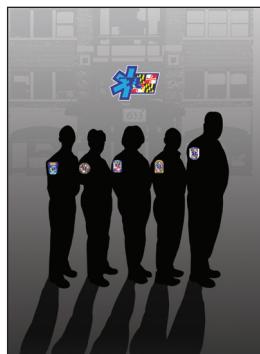
EMS providers can expect to see the new form with the addition of the Physician Assistant later this fall. However, as of October 1, 2013, a MOLST form signed by a Physician Assistant is valid even if it is not on the new form.

New Recognition Program for STEMI Care in EMS

American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline® is launching a new recognition program to showcase emergency medical services for their excellent care of STEMI patients. Beginning January 1, 2014, Mission: Lifeline® will be accepting applications that detail information and data for patients treated and transported by EMS during the 2013 calendar year. Achievement criteria and measures on which recognition eligibility is based are available on the Mission: Lifeline® section of the American Heart Association's website (<http://bit.ly/EMS-Recognition>).

MIEMSS Annual Report 2012-2013

Available October 1, 2013!
For printed copies, please contact:
Jim Brown, Director,
Educational Support Services
info@miemss.org or 410-706-3994



Pyramid 2013

Registration is now open!

This year's conference will be held November 2 -3, 2013, with Preconference courses taking place on October 31 and November 1. The event will be held at the Comfort Inn & Conference Center in Bowie, MD.

New this year, participants can register online by visiting www.regonline.com/pyramid. Course details, contact information, maps, and lodging information are all available on this website.

**State of Maryland
Emergency Medical Services Board**

**Announcement of Search For
Executive Director
Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems
September 20, 2013**

The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Board is seeking an Executive Director with superior credentials to manage the emergency medical services system for the State of Maryland. A candidate must be a board certified physician with demonstrated excellence and experience in managing an EMS or related health care organization. Eligibility for the subspecialty board in EMS is preferred and a candidate must have expertise in systems of care for the treatment of trauma, STEMI, stroke, and other emergency medical conditions. A minimum of five years of academic pursuits is desirable.

The Executive Director is the administrative head of the Maryland Institute for EMS Systems (MIEMSS), an independent state agency, and provides administrative support for the EMS Board, which is responsible for developing the statewide EMS plan. This important position coordinates and oversees the State's five EMS regions; the planning and operation of EMS with the federal, state, and county governments; the training, certification, and licensure of EMS providers; research and education related to EMS; emergency and specialty referral centers and systems for the treatment of emergency/critically ill or injured patients. The Executive Director is responsible for the implementation of all programmatic, operational, and administrative components of MIEMSS and is required to work closely with public and private agencies, health care institutions and universities, the Maryland State Police Aviation Command, the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, and career and volunteer fire and EMS services throughout the state.

A qualified candidate will be a respected leader and visionary in EMS, able to bring continuous improvement to emergency and trauma care, possess strong personal values and ethics, able to effectively solve problems, able to empower others to work together, able to build teams and coalitions, understand government and the legislative process, be committed to education and research, have strong interpersonal skills, and be dedicated to keeping the State of Maryland on the cutting edge of emergency medical and trauma care.

A letter of application, including a detailed curriculum vitae, must be submitted to:

Jeannie Abramson
Maryland Institute for EMS Systems
653 West Pratt Street
Room 506
Baltimore, MD 21201
jabramson@miemss.org

The deadline for receiving a letter of application and curriculum vitae is October 21, 2013.

Equal Opportunity Employer

Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems
653 W. Pratt St.
Baltimore, MD 21201-1536

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653 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD 21201-1536



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653 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD 21201-1536
www.miemss.org

Chairman, EMS Board: Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq.
Executive Director, MIEMSS: Robert R. Bass, MD

Managing Editor: Aleithea Warmack (410-706-3994)
Design & Layout: Gail Kostas
Photography: Jim Brown & Brian Slack
(unless noted otherwise for specific photos)