



**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
**Department of Health**

**Office of Emergency Medical Services**  
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Dear City/County Administrators or Managers;  
Regional EMS Council Board of Directors;  
Virginia Licensed EMS agency Executive/Financial Managers;

**FOUR FOR LIFE – 26% RETURN TO LOCALITY FUNDS**  
**IMMEDIATE ATTENTION AND DISTRIBUTION REQUIRED**

This is to provide you separate correspondence regarding an important update of the guidelines and information on the use of these funds. The widest dissemination of this information is requested. Attached are the updated guidelines for your convenience. The guidelines are to assist everyone and are posted on our website:

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/OEMS/Agency/FundingEquipment.htm>

It is important to recognize the Four-For-Life legislation, **Code of Virginia, § 46.2-694**, specifically addresses the following 3 topics:

- (1) Funds shall only be provided to **licensed, nonprofit emergency medical service agencies** for the purpose of training and purchase of necessary equipment and supplies.
- (2) Non-supplanting funds, and
- (3) Failure to report the use of funds by any local governing body will result in funds being retained.

The Assistant Attorney General, at our request, has offered the following interpretations for distribution and use of the funds:

- *The 'statute lays out how funds collected from motor vehicle registration fees are distributed for emergency medical service purposes. Based on the plain reading of the statute, you cannot give the money to an organization not listed in the statute, and you cannot use the money for any reason outside of what's specified in the statute.'*

In short, any money going to a regional EMS council to manage and distribute the funds shall be as set forth in the statute. The council cannot retain/receive the funds as an administrative fee, and it cannot use them for any other purpose.

- *'Any funds received from Section 46.2-694 by a non-state agency cannot be used to match any other funds derived from Section 46.2-694 by that same non-state agency'*

Simply put, funds returned to localities cannot be used as the matching share of any grants offered using Four-For-Life funds.

Sincerely,



Gary R. Brown  
Director

Attachment:

\$4 for Life GUIDELINES FOR LOCALITIES Revised 7 31 2014