



COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS

A

AAA – American Ambulance Association

AAP – American Academy of Pediatrics

AAR – After Action Report

ACS – American College of Surgeons

ADA - Americans with Disabilities Act

AED – Automated External Defibrillator

AEMER – Alliance for Emergency Medical Education and Research

AEMSC - Atlantic EMS Council

AEMT- Advanced Emergency Medical Technician

AHA – American Heart Association

ALS – Advanced Life Support

AMI - Acute Myocardial Infarction

APA - Administrative Process Act

APCO - Associated Public-Safety Communications Officers

ARES - Amateur Radio Emergency Service

ASPR - Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (DHHS)

ATLS - Advanced Trauma Life Support

ATS – American Trauma Society

ATT - Authorization to Test Letter

B

BDLS - Basic Disaster Life Support

BIS - Benchmarks, Indicators and Scoring

BLS – Basic Life Support

BOH – Board of Health (Virginia)

BOM - Board of Medicine

BON - Board of Nursing

BOP - Board of Pharmacy

BP - Blood Pressure

BREMS - Blue Ridge EMS Council

BVM - Bag Valve Mask [Ambu Bag (tm)]

C

CAAHEP - Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Programs

CAAS - Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (US)

CAD - Computer Aided Dispatch

CAD - Coronary Artery Disease

CoAEMSP – Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the EMS Professions

CAH – Critical Access Hospital

CAMTS – Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems

CAP - Civil Air Patrol

CARS – Commonwealth Accounting and Reporting System

CAT1 - Category 1 Continuing Education

CAT2 - Category 2 Continuing Education

CBRNE – Chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive

CCU - Critical Care Unit

CDC – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US government)

CE – Continuing Education

CECBEMS – Continuing Education Coordinating Board

for Emergency Medical Services (national accrediting body for EMS continuing education courses and course providers)

CERT – Community Emergency Response Team

CESC – Commonwealth Enterprise Solutions Center (VITA)

CICO – Commonwealth Interoperability Coordinator's Office

CFR - Code of Federal Regulations (US)

CFR - Crash Fire Rescue (airports)

CGAP – Consolidated Grant Application Program

CHF - Congestive Heart Failure

CISD - Critical Incident Stress Debriefing

CISM – Critical Incident Stress Management

CODES – Crash Outcome Data Evaluation System

COG – Council of Governments, Continuity of Government

COOP – Continuity of Operations Plan

COPD - Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

COPN – Certificate of Public Need

COV – Commonwealth of Virginia

CPAP – Continuous Positive Airway Pressure

CPR – Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation

CQI – Continuous Quality Improvement

CSDR – Course Student Disposition Report

CSEMS – Central Shenandoah EMS Council

CTS – Consolidated Test Site

CVA - Cerebro-vascular Accident

CVCC - Central Virginia Community College

D

DAN - Diver's Alert Network

DCC - Danville Community College

DDNR – Durable Do Not Resuscitate

DEA – Drug Enforcement Agency (US)

DED – Division of Educational Development (Virginia Office of EMS)

DERA – Designated Emergency Response Agency

DGIF - Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (Virginia)

DGS – Department of General Services (COV)

DHP – Department of Health Professions (Virginia)

DHRM – Department of Human Resources Management (COV)

DHS - Department of Homeland Security

DMAT – Disaster Medical Assistance Teams

DMRT - Disaster Mortuary Response Teams

DMV – (Virginia) Department of Motor Vehicles

DNR - Do Not Resuscitate

DO - Designated Officer

DOA – Department of Accounts (COV)

DOA – Dead on arrival

DOH - Department of Health

DOT - Department of Transportation (US)

DPB – Department of Planning and Budget (COV)

DRT – Disaster Recovery Team

E

E911 – Enhanced 911 (the system that displays calling number and address)

EAS – Emergency Alert System

EC – EMS Education Coordinator

ECC – Emergency Coordination Center located at James Madison Bldg. (VDH)

ECG – Electro Cardiogram

ED - Emergency Department

EHS – Emergency Health Services

EKG – ElectroCardioGram (old, from German ElectroKardioGram)

EMAC – Emergency Management Assistance Compact

EMAP – Emergency Management Accreditation Program

EMD - Emergency Medical Dispatcher

EMR – Emergency Medical Responder

EMSAT – Emergency Medical Satellite Training

EMS – Emergency Medical Services

EMSC – EMS for Children

EMSI – Emergency Medical Services Instructor

EMSR – Emergency Medical Services Registry

EMSTF – Emergency Medical Services Training Fund

EMT - Emergency Medical Technician

EMT-I - Intermediate

EMT-P – Paramedic

ENA - Emergency Nursing Association

EOC – Emergency Operations Center

EP&R – Emergency Preparedness and Response

ER – Emergency Room

ESF – Emergency Support Function

ETA – Estimated Time of Arrival

ET - EndoTracheal (tube)

EVOC - Emergency Vehicle Operation and Control

F

\$4 for Life – EMS Fund; Established in 1983 as \$1 for Life; increased to \$2 for Life in 1990; increased to \$4 for Life in 2004; 2008 Virginia General Assembly increased fund to \$4.25; increased to \$6.25 in 2010.

FAA – Federal Aviation Administration

FARC – Financial Assistance Review Committee

FCC – Federal Communications Commission

FDA - Food and Drug Administration (US)

FEMA - Federal Emergency Management Agency (US)

FHWA – Federal Highway Administration

FICEMS – Federal Interagency Committee on Emergency Medical Services

FIPS – Federal Information Processing Standard (State, County and City Code)

FISDAP - Field Internship Student Data Acquisition Project, documents and measures students' experiences in field, lab, and clinical settings; evaluate skill performances; generate progress reports; gain or maintain accreditation; prepare students for certification exams; manage internship schedules; and more.

FL&P (FLAP) – Finance, Legislation and Planning Committee

FLEX – Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Grant Program

FLSA - Fair Labor Standards Act

FOIA - Freedom of Information Act

FR - First Response/First Responder

FTE - Full Time Equivalent

FTL - Field Team Leader

G

GA – General Assembly

GAB – EMS Advisory Board, often times referred to as the Governor’s Advisory Board (GAB). The technical term used in the Code of Virginia and Virginia Administration Code for the advisory board appointed by the Governor to advise the State Board of Health concerning the administration of the statewide emergency medical care system and emergency medical services vehicles maintained and operated to provide transportation to persons requiring emergency medical treatment, and for reviewing and making recommendations on the Statewide Emergency Medical Services Plan is State EMS Advisory Board.

GED - General Equivalency Diploma

GEMS - Geriatric Education for Emergency Medical Services

GIS – Geographic Information System

GPS - Global Positioning System

GSA – General Services Administration (US)

GSW – Gun shot wound

H

HAN – Health Alert Network

HazMat – Hazardous Material

HHS – Department of Health and Human Services

HIPAA - Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act

HMERT – Health and Medical Emergency Response Teams

HPP – Hospital Preparedness Program (DHHS)

HRSA – Health Resources and Services Administration

HTR - Heavy and Tactical Rescue

I

IAFC - International Association of Fire Chiefs

IAFF - International Association of Fire Fighters

IAOC – Internal Agency Oversight Committee (VITA)

IC - Incident Commander

ICE – In Case of Emergency

ICISF – International Critical Incident Stress Foundation

ICS - Incident Command System

ICO - Infection Control Officer

ICP - Infection Control Plan

ICU - Intensive Care Unit

IFB – Invitation for Bid

IM – Intramuscular

IMT – Incident Management Team

IO - Intraosseous

IOM – Institute of Medicine

IT – Information Technology

ITDR – Information Technology Disaster Recovery

ITLS - International Trauma Life Support

IV - IntraVenous

J

JAMA - Journal of the American Medical Association

JEMS - Journal of Emergency Medical Services

JCHC – Joint Commission on Health Care

JLARC – Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission

JSRCC - J. Sergeant Reynolds Community College

JTCC - John Tyler Community College

K

KED - Kendrick Extrication Device

KTBI! – (Keeping the Best) EMS Workforce Retention Toolkit and Workshops

L

L&D - Labor and Delivery

LEO - Law Enforcement Officer

LFCC - Lord Fairfax Community College

LFEMS – Lord Fairfax EMS Council

LMS – Learning Management System

LOC - Level of Consciousness (in Glasgow scale)

LODD – Line of Duty Death

LZ - Landing Zone (aeromedical)

M

MAST - Military Anti Shock Trousers or PASG (Pneumatic Anti-shock garment)

MCHB – Maternal and Child Health Bureau

MCI – Mass Casualty Incident

MDC – Medical Direction Committee

MDT - Mobile Data Terminal(s) or MDC – Mobile Data Computer

MEC - Medical Education Campus

MECC - Mountain Empire Community College

MEDEVAC – Medical Evacuation, aka helicopter EMS, aero medical services, air ambulance

MHA – Masters of Health Administration

MHz - MegaHertz, unit of frequency

MI - Myocardial Infarction

MICU - Mobile Intensive Care Unit

MMRS – Metropolitan Medical Response System Program

MOA – Memorandum of Agreement

MOI - Mechanism of Injury

MOU – Memorandum of Understanding

MPH – Masters of Public Health

MRI - Magnetic Resonance Imaging

MSDS - Material Safety Data Sheet

MSV – Medical Society of Virginia

MVA - Motor Vehicle Accident

N

NAEMSE – National Association of EMS Educators

NAEMSP – National Association of EMS Physicians

NAEMT - National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (US)

NASAR - National Association for Search and Rescue

NAEMSO - National Association of State EMS Officials

NCIC – National Criminal Information Center

NDMS - National Disaster Medical System (US)

NEDARC – National EMSC Data Analysis Resource Center

NEMSAC – National EMS Advisory Council (NHTSA)

NEMSMA – National EMS Management Association

NEMSIS – National EMS Information System

NENA - National Emergency Number Association (9-1-1)

NFA - National Fire Academy (US)

NFIC - National Fire Information Center

NFIRS - National Fire Incident Reporting System

NFPA - National Fire Protection Association

NFPA - National Flight Paramedic Association

NG – Northrop Grumman

NG Tube – Nasogastric Tube

NHTSA – National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

NIMS – National Incident Management System

NIOSH - National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (US)

NRHA – National Rural Health Association

NOIRA – Notice of Intended Regulatory Action

NOSORH – National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health

NOVA – Northern Virginia EMS Council

NP - Nurse Practitioner

NR - National Registry

NRB – Nonrebreather Mask

NRC – EMSC National Resource Center

NRCC - New River Community College

NREMT - National Registry Emergency Medical Technician test (US)

NREMT – National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians

NREMT - Nationally Registered EMT (US) REMT is preferred

NRP - Neonatal Resuscitation Program

NSC - National Standard Curriculum

NTIMC – National Traffic Incident Management Coalition

NTSB - National Transportation Safety Board (US)

NUG – National Unified Goal

NVCC - Northern Virginia Community College

NVFC - National Volunteer Fire Council

NVOAD - National Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters

NWS – National Weather System

O

OAG – Office of Attorney General

OCP – Office of Commonwealth Preparedness

ODEMSA - Old Dominion EMS Alliance

OEMS – Office of Emergency Medical Services

OFM – Office of Financial Management (VDH)

OHR – Office of Human Resources (VDH)

OIM - Office of Information Management (VDH)

OMB – Office of Management and Budget (US)

OMD – Operational Medical Director

OPGS – Office of Purchasing and General Services (VDH)

OR - Operating Room

OSHA - Occupational Safety and Health Administration

P

PA - Physician Assistant

PADI - Professional Association of Diving Instructors

PALS - Pediatric Advanced Life Support

PASG - Pneumatic Anti-Shock Garment

PAT – Regional EMS Council (Process Action Team)

PCD – Physician Course Director

PDC – Professional Development Committee

PEA – Pulseless electrical activity

PEARS - Pediatric Emergency Assessment, Recognition and Stabilization

PEMS – Peninsulas EMS Council

PEPP – Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals

PHCC - Patrick Henry Community College

PHI - Protected Health Information

PHTLS - Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support

PIC – Performance Improvement Coordinator

PITLS - Pediatric International Trauma Life Support

PIO - Public Information Officer

PMD – Commonwealth Project Management Division (VITA)

POV - Privately Owned Vehicle

PPE - Personal Protective Equipment

PPV – Positive Pressure Ventilation

PR - Public Relations

PSAP - Public Safety Answering Point (911)

PUG – Practical exam Users Guide (VA OEMS)

PVCC - Piedmont Virginia Community College

Q

QA/QI – Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement

R

RACES - Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services

R&C – Regulation and Compliance (Virginia Office of EMS)

R&R - Recruitment and Retention

RCC - Rappahannock Community College

REMS – Rappahannock EMS Council

RFP – Request for Proposals

RFS – Request for Service

RHP – Rural Health Plan

RN - Registered Nurse

RS - Rescue Squad

RSAF – Rescue Squad Assistance Fund

RSI - Rapid Sequence Intubation

RT - Respiratory Therapist

RTL – Return to Locality (26% portion of EMS funds returned

to the local government for EMS purposes.)

Rx - Prescription

S

SACS - Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (education accreditation)

SAR – Search and Rescue

SAVER – System Assessment and Validation for Emergency Responders

SCBA - Self Contained Breathing Apparatus

SCHEV - State Council on Higher Education in Virginia

SHHR – (Virginia) Secretary of Health and Human Resources

SHHS – Secretary of Health and Human Services

SoP – Scope of Practice

SIDS - Sudden Infant Death Syndrome

SIEC – State Interoperability Executive Committee

SITREP - Situation Report

SMA – Statewide Mutual Aid

SMART – Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Timely (measures of performance in an evaluation process)

SME – Subject Matter Expert

SNS – Strategic National Stockpile

SOB - Shortness of Breath

SOG – Standard Operating Guidelines

SoP – Scope of Practice

SOP – Standard Operating Procedures

SQ - Subcutaneous

SSM - System Status Management

STEMI – ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction

SVCC - Southside Virginia Community College

SVT – Supraventricular tachycardia; an EKG rhythm

SWaM – Small, Woman Owned or Minority business

SWCC - Southwest Virginia Community College

SWESC – Southwest Enterprise Solutions Center (VITA)

SWOT - Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats

SWVEMS – Southwest Virginia EMS Council

T

TCC - Tidewater Community College

TEMS – Tidewater EMS Council

TIA - Transient Ischemic Attack (mini-stroke)

TJEMS – Thomas Jefferson - EMS Council

TNCC - Thomas Nelson Community College

TPAM – Training Program Administrative Manual

TRAINVirginia – Training Finder Real-time Affiliate Integrated Network (Learning Management System)

TSA – Transportation Security Administration (US)

TSAG – Transportation Safety Advancement Group

TSOMC – Trauma System Oversight and Management Committee

U

USAR – Urban Search and Rescue

USFA – United States Fire Administration

UASI – Urban Areas Security Initiative

V

VAA – Virginia Ambulance Association

VAC - Virginia Administrative Code

VACO – Virginia Association of Counties

VAVRS – Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads, Inc.

VAGEMSA – Virginia Association of Governmental EMS Administrators

VaCEP – Virginia Chapter of the College of Emergency Physicians

VCCS - Virginia Community College System

VDEM - Virginia Department of Emergency Management

VDFP – Virginia Department of Fire Programs

VDOT – Virginia Department of Transportation

VDH – Virginia Department of Health

VENA – Virginia Emergency Nurses Association

VERT – Virginia Emergency Response Team

VFCA – Virginia Fire Chiefs Association

VFIB – Ventricular fibrillation; an EKG rhythm

VFD - Volunteer Fire Department

VFIRS – Virginia Fire Incident Reporting System

VHAC – Virginia Heart Attack Coalition

VHCC - Virginia Highlands Community College

VHF - Very High Frequency (radio)

VHHA – Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association

VHI – Virginia Health Information

VITA – Virginia Information Technologies Agency

VML – Virginia Municipal League

VMRC – Virginia Marine Resource Commission

VNA – Virginia Nurses Association

VPFF – Virginia Professional Firefighters

VPHIB – Virginia Pre-hospital Information Bridge

VRHA – Virginia Rural Health Association

VRS - Volunteer Rescue Squad

VRS – Virginia Retirement System

VSC - Virginia Standard Curriculum

VSP – Virginia State Police

VSTR – Virginia Statewide Trauma Registry

VSSTF – Virginia Stroke System Task Force

VWCC - Virginia Western Community College



WCC - Wytheville Community College

WDC – EMS Workforce Development Committee

WVEMS – Western Virginia EMS Council



1041 Technology Park Drive
Glen Allen, VA 23059
800.523.6019 (VA only)
804.888.7507
www.vdh.virginia.gov/oems

Updated 3/28/2012