

Virginia's State EMS Plan

Reviewing the Plan

What is the State EMS Plan?

- Three year strategic and operational plan
- Designed to utilize core strategies and strategic initiatives to outline and address the needs of the EMS System over a three year span.
- Goal is to make improvements to EMS System in Virginia, and not necessarily delivery of EMS care.
- Build on the past efforts made in previous versions of State EMS Plan.

Why was the State EMS Plan created?

- §32.1-111.3 of the Code of Virginia requires the development of a comprehensive, coordinated, statewide EMS plan by the Virginia Department of Health's Office of EMS (OEMS).
- Support delivery of EMS care in Virginia
- Support existing and new initiatives designed to improve all aspects of the EMS system in Virginia.

How was the Plan created?

- In the fall of 2009, OEMS, in conjunction with the EMS Advisory Board and it's 13 subcommittees, reviewed the existing plan to determine the needs of the EMS system.
 - Plan divided into four core strategies:
 - Develop Partnerships
 - Create Tools and Resources
 - Develop Infrastructure
 - Assure Quality and Evaluation

Plan Creation – 2009

- OEMS staff gathered and evaluated information submitted by subcommittees, and integrated that information into the draft plan.
- Plan presented to EMS Advisory Board in May 2010, approved in August 2010.
- Plan posted to OEMS website for public comment from June 1 to July 16, 2010.
- Plan presented to State Board of Health for approval in October 2010, approved in March 2011.

Highlights of State EMS Plan

- Use of technology and social media to provide accurate and timely information.
- Creation of EMS Agency and Provider Portal
- Creation, maintenance, and expansion of Virginia Pre-hospital Information Bridge (VPHIB)
- Transition to new EMS education standards.

Why is a revision to the State EMS Plan necessary?

- Required by the Code of Virginia to be revised triennially.
- Current plan is nearly three years old.
- Many of the strategic initiatives and action steps have been met, or made significant progress.
- EMS is dynamic field, and plan must also remain dynamic to address the needs of changing system.

What happens to the current plan?

- Unfinished initiatives carry over to new version of plan.
- Summary information provided as requested
- Lessons learned help shape the new version of plan.

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How is the new plan created?

- OEMS staff held planning retreat in September 2012.
- Input will be gathered from EMS Advisory Board subcommittees February 2013 – May 2013.
- Revised plan presented to EMS Advisory Board for review in August 2013.
- Public comment period – September 15 – October 15, 2013
- Vote for approval by EMS Advisory Board – November 2013.
- Presented to State Board of Health for approval – Spring 2014.

For more information:

<http://www.vdh.state.va.us/OEMS/EMSPlan/index.htm>