



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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### OFFICE OF EMS TO CONTRACT WITH EDUCATORS STATEWIDE

The Virginia Department of Health Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) announced today that it has started the process of contracting with certified EMS educators statewide to be a part of a new, innovative approach to providing continuing education (CE) to both volunteer and career EMS providers across the Commonwealth.

These contract employees will work under the direction of the Division of Accreditation, Certification and Education to provide innovative continuing education programming for the more than 35,817 certified EMS providers who serve the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia. This new approach to continuing education will allow these educators the autonomy to conduct education on topics of local need and interest as well as ensure that a core set of courses covering state identified topics based on emerging trends and data are made available to EMS providers.

"I've seen first-hand the valiant and indispensable work of EMS providers across Virginia," said Office of EMS Director Gary Brown. "What better time to announce this new approach to continuing education than during National EMS Week? During National EMS Week, and throughout the year, we are proud to recognize our EMS professionals—both volunteer and career—who tirelessly serve their local communities and help patients and their families every day."

"Our new focus on providing cutting-edge continuing education, at no cost to our providers or agencies, will enhance the collective knowledge base and permit us an opportunity to fine tune continuing education offerings based on data-driven science from our extensive patient care database."

The Office will be ramping up these educational opportunities statewide over the next several months with approximately 21 educators strategically placed across the Commonwealth.

