

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 the delivery of EMS care.
- Build on the past efforts made in previous versions of the 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.
- Most recent version of the State EMS Plan approved by Board of Health on March 16, 2017.

How was the Plan created?

- In the spring of 2019, OEMS, in conjunction with the EMS Advisory Board and its 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 – 2019

- OEMS staff evaluated information submitted by subcommittees, and integrated that information into the draft plan.
- Plan approved by the EMS Advisory Board on November 6, 2019.
- Plan submitted for approval by the State Board of Health on June 4, 2020.

Highlights of the State EMS Plan

- Use of technology and social media to provide accurate and timely information.
- Maintenance and expansion of EMS Agency and Provider Portal
- Maintenance and expansion of Virginia Pre-hospital Information Bridge (VPHIB)
- Continued focus on EMS Provider health and safety.

Why is a revision to the State EMS Plan necessary?

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

What happens to the current plan?

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

For more information:

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/state-strategic-and-operational-ems-plan/>