



# Policy Statement

## Pilot Educational Programs

### I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy statement is to outline four new pilot educational programs to help increase recruitment and retention within the New York State EMS System.

### II. POLICY

#### A. General Information

1. Course approvals are required for pilot courses listed below and submissions should be made in the same manner a traditional course application would be submitted to the Bureau.
2. No other special enrollment is required at this time by a course sponsor or EMS agency who choose to participate in one of the pilot programs.
3. EMS Agencies who choose to participate in the Internship program will need to submit a simple framework of the internship program, such as what the 8-12 would entail. Submissions should be no longer than one page. Submissions can be submitted via the EMS Forms page. Please watch for updates to this policy statement or other communications should anything change as the programs progress.
4. A pilot program comment form has been added to the EMS Forms page to receive any questions or comments for the pilot programs. Please direct all questions to that form and NOT to individual bureau staff so we can centralize all questions and provide both direct responses as well as create a FAQ page in the future.

#### B. Pilot Courses & Programs

##### 1. Pilot EMT Academy Style Course

- a) Initiative: to train additional EMTs in shorter time period from traditional EMT course to help meet staffing demands for career and volunteer agencies providing EMS services.
- b) Program: NYS EMT course delivered in an academy style program which meets all the requirements and contents of the traditional EMT class but delivered in a 4–8 week period.
- c) Eligibility:
  - i. All approved EMT course sponsors will be permitted to teach one (1) pilot EMT academy program per calendar year.
  - ii. All pilot program courses must have prior approval of the department.
  - iii. FDNY is eligible to participate in this program.
- d) Class Size: Up to 40 students per class (all courses with over 40 students may bill at the normal funding reimbursement amounts for student 41 and above)
- e) Funding: \$1,275 per student up to 40 students



- i. Pilot EMT Academy courses will be approved for reimbursement of \$1275 for all students who successfully achieve NYS EMT certification.
  - ii. No reimbursement will be provided for students who do not obtain NYS EMT certification.
  - iii. This course is only eligible to those who have never held EMT certification prior.
  - iv. Pilot funding is expected to cover all student expenses including textbooks, lab fees and other associated expenses unless otherwise approved by the department.
- f) Application Deadlines
- i. Applications for 2023 academy classes will be accepted until September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Courses can occur after that date, but applications must be submitted by that date.
  - ii. Applications for any 2024 academy classes must be submitted by January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 for first 6 months of year and by July 1st for all second 6 months of the year. Course sponsors can choose to submit their academy class by January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 for any class in 2024 if they choose to.

## **2. Pilot EMS Agency Community Internship Program**

- a) Initiative: To attract new providers into the EMS profession through partnership with local EMS agencies.
- b) Program: Any licensed EMS agency may develop (or use already created material) an 8–12-hour internship program to help with recruitment with their agency. Agencies that develop and run an internship program for non-EMS agency members can offer this program to community members to help teach about EMS, introduce the potential candidate to the EMS field and have the candidate learn more about your agency. Community members who complete the 8–12-hour internship program with the agency is eligible for funding to take an EMT course after completion of the internship.
- c) Eligibility:
  - i. All approved licensed EMS agencies.
  - ii. All pilot internship programs must have prior approval of the department in order for interns to receive funding. Only one approval is required annually.
  - iii. FDNY is eligible to participate in this program.
- d) Class Size: Up to 15 interns, per agency, per calendar year
- e) Funding: EMS agencies would be able to sign the EMS voucher for interns that completed the EMS Agencies internship program.
  - i. Interns are eligible for traditional or academy style EMT Classes.
  - ii. No reimbursement will be provided for students who do not obtain NYS EMT certification.
  - iii. No additional funding is available to the EMS Agency to host the internship program.



- iv. All interns must have a letter from their EMS agency that they completed the internship program and submit that letter on the EMS Forms page prior to using the EMS voucher form to be eligible for funding.

### **3. Pilot BLS Intro to Paramedicine Program**

- a) Initiative: To attract current BLS providers to gain additional knowledge about becoming a paramedic while completing EMT Refresher CME requirements.
- b) Program: This program is designed to provide an educational experience to those EMTs and AEMTs who are interested in becoming a paramedic. The program is geared to those who want to experience a sample intro paramedic program experience to help providers before they commit to a paramedic course. These programs will deliver all the required EMT CME Refresher hours, in some cases using alternative delivery models, while exposing EMT candidates to more advanced knowledge and skills than would have been taught in a traditional EMT Refresher program. The goal is to provide additional exposure, content, and experiences to EMTs to allow them to evaluate if they are ready to take the next step to becoming a Paramedic. These programs will be designed to be between 60-100 hours and be a mixture of classroom and clinical experiences.
- c) Eligibility:
  - i. All approved paramedic course sponsors are permitted to submit one (1) BLS Intro to Paramedicine Program per calendar year.
  - ii. Approvals may be limited to one paramedic course sponsor per REMSCO region on a first come first serve basis.
  - iii. FDNY is eligible to participate in this program.
  - iv. This course is only eligible to those who have never held paramedic certification prior.
- d) Class Size: Classes are required to have a minimum of 10 students unless otherwise approved by the department. Funding is eligible for up to 30 students per class.
- e) Funding: \$550 per student up to 30 students per class
  - i. Pilot Intro to Paramedic EMT Refresher program courses will be approved for reimbursement of \$550 for all students who successfully complete the program and use this course as the only funding for CME recertification program during this cycle.
  - ii. No reimbursement will be provided for students who do not complete the program.
  - iii. Students must hold an NYS EMT or AEMT certification during the program and are not eligible to sit for any NYS exam at the conclusion of the program. Course hours can be used towards BLS CME renewal.
  - iv. Note, students who participate in this pilot program are not eligible for CME recertification funding in addition to payment for this course.
  - v. Pilot funding is expected to cover all CME course content unless otherwise approved by the department. Additional fees for labs or textbooks may be charged if required but prior notice must be made on application for course approval.



#### **4. Pilot Leadership Development Program**

- a) Initiative: To provide leadership training and development for EMS leaders around NYS to further advance the EMS profession and aid in EMS system sustainability.
- b) Program: NYS in partnership with EMS Leadership Academy developed a two day leadership course for new EMS leaders. This program is to help develop the skills and needs of EMS leaders throughout NYS to learn how to communicate, innovate and advance the EMS profession.
- c) Eligibility:
  - i. All course sponsors will be permitted to teach up to two (2) leadership courses per year and specialty course sponsors will be permitted to teach up to three (3) EMS leadership courses per year. If a course sponsor is both, they cannot exceed 3 classes per year.
  - ii. All pilot program courses must have prior approval of the department and must follow the 16-hour NYS EMS Leadership course curriculum developed for this program.
  - iii. Course sponsors may add on an additional 4- or 8-hour recruitment and retention program if they choose, but it is not required.
  - iv. Course instruction materials will be made available to all instructors approved to instruct the course. To instruct the course, instructor candidates must have prior leadership experience, complete the course as a student and preferred to shadow another instructor prior to teaching independently. Instructors for this course do not have to be a CIC or CLI.
  - v. FDNY is eligible to participate in this program.
- d) Class Size: Classes are required to have a minimum of 10 students unless otherwise approved by the department. Funding is eligible for up to 30 students per class.
- e) Funding – \$100 per student, limit of 30 students per class
  - i. Leadership program will be approved for reimbursement of \$100 per student up to 30 students per class for all students who successfully complete the full 16-hour course.
  - ii. No reimbursement will be provided for students who do not complete the entire program
  - iii. Pilot funding is expected to cover all student expenses including books, lab fees and other associated expenses unless otherwise approved by the department.
  - iv. Course sponsors may charge an additional fee for the 3<sup>rd</sup> day for recruitment and retention portion of the program.

#### **5. Pilot Recruitment & Retention EMT Course Funding Opportunity**

- a) Initiative: To assist in recruitment and retention and increase providers on ambulances.
- b) Program: The program would provide EMTs reimbursement who paid for their EMT training directly and then worked/volunteer consecutively for 12 months for a NYS licensed EMS Agency providing direct patient.
- c) Eligibility:



- i. EMS Providers must have taken the course from a NYS course sponsor and obtained their initial certification within the past 24 months.
  - ii. Must be for initial certification as an EMT.
  - iii. EMS Provider must work/volunteer for licensed EMS agency for a consecutive 12-month period providing direct patient care.
  - iv. EMS Provider, EMS Agency and Course Sponsor is not eligible for funding if request to DOH for funding of training has already been made.
  - v. Only the EMS Agency can submit for funding.
- d) Class Size: Up to 25 EMTs, per agency, per calendar year
- e) Funding: \$850 per student
- v. No reimbursement will be provided for those EMTs who already have been paid for initial training.
  - vi. Documentation must be kept on record of EMS Agency showing the student paid directly for EMT training and records can be requested by the department at anytime.
  - vii. Funding is only for original EMT training.
  - viii. 12 month consecutive period to start any date after September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.
  - ix. Pilot program may end at any time.
  - x. EMTs can be volunteers or paid providers to qualify.

**Issued and authorized by:**

Ryan Greenberg, Director  
Bureau of Emergency Medical Services & Trauma Systems