

May 25, 2021

Colleagues,

The New Mexico EMS Licensing Commission, in their May 11, 2021 meeting, unanimously approved the EMS Bureau to extend the Pandemic CE waiver to licensed EMS caregivers that have licenses expiring in March of 2022. This is the same CE waiver that was granted last year to those that expired this past March. Even as it appears the pandemic may be waning, those that expire in March of 2022 were significantly hindered in their ability to obtain CE's since the beginning of the health emergency, and have worked the extra time necessary to respond to our communities' additional needs.

This CE waiver will:

- Allow a medical director signature to suffice as attestation of clinical competence for NM licensed EMS caregivers **working at a certified EMS agency or approved clinical facility**, and
- **Relieve service affiliated, licensed caregivers of the need for attaining CE's for the renewal cycle ending March 31, 2022.**

The following will be instituted by the EMS Bureau when the renewals begin later this year:

1. If your EMS License (EMD, EMD Instructor, EMS First Responder, EMT-Basic, EMT-Intermediate, and Paramedic) expires March 31, 2022, and you are an EMS caregiver for a volunteer, career, public or private EMS agency or approved clinical facility, you will not need a specific number of CE's or proof of CPR or ACLS to renew your license, **contingent on your EMS Medical Director providing a signature of attestation of your clinical competency.**
2. Renewal fees will be unchanged.

**Please note: If you carry an EMS license, but do not currently work as an EMS caregiver and have no current medical director, your renewal process has not changed. Submit the required CE's and certification cards with your application, complete the criminal background check if required, and you will be issued a limited license as per normal practice. Special circumstances will be considered as necessary.**

Also, this waiver does not alleviate a caregiver's responsibility to complete EMS agency or clinical facility required education and skills requirements. Finally, if you are Nationally Registered and desire to keep that certification, you will need to submit required CE's according to their policies to maintain the National Registry certification.

If you have any questions, please email EMS Bureau Program Manager Jacob Bennett at [Jacob.Bennett@state.nm.us](mailto:Jacob.Bennett@state.nm.us) or Licensing Manager Peggy Ann Griego at [PeggyA.Griego@state.nm.us](mailto:PeggyA.Griego@state.nm.us).

The EMS Bureau and New Mexico EMS Licensing Commission thank you for your service and devotion to your communities. Please be careful and stay healthy.

Kyle L. Thornton, EMT-P  
NM DOH EMS Bureau Chief