

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS Act 10 EMS Grant

Who is eligible to receive a grant?

EMS agencies duly licensed by the Commonwealth, including their individual licensee affiliates, are eligible to receive grant funding. This includes agencies that are identified as the primary 911 responder or serve as interfacility transport agencies. Agencies that solely provide quick response service (QRS) are not eligible for grant funding pursuant to Act 10. Criteria for eligibility was determined by the legislature through the passage of Act 10.

Will the Office of State Fire Commissioner (OSFC) or the Department of Health (DOH) be publishing a list of all EMS agencies eligible for a grant?

Yes. The Office of State Fire Commissioner (OSFC) will post a list of eligible EMS agencies to its website and send notifications via U.S. Mail and email.

My company does not appear on the list of eligible agencies. Who should I contact with questions about eligibility?

If an EMS agency believed to be eligible does not appear on the list, please reach out to the Bureau of EMS directly at: paemsoffice@pa.gov.

How much is the grant award for?

Specific grant awards will be determined after the certification period is closed. Grants shall be awarded in an amount equal to the total amount of the funds appropriated divided by the total number of EMS agencies that returned the certification. The process for certification is set forth below.

Would each of my affiliate agencies be eligible for a grant or is it only one grant per license?

Grants are not limited to one per license. Licensee affiliates that have separate operational units that otherwise meet the eligibility criteria are eligible for separate grants.

What are allowable expenses?

Grants provided under the Emergency Medical Services Recovery Grant Program shall be used by EMS agencies to provide services in response to the novel coronavirus pandemic in one or more of the following categories:

- Construction and renovation of the EMS agency's facility and purchase or repair of
 fixtures, furnishings, office equipment, and support services necessary to maintain or
 improve the capability of the service to provide ambulance, emergency medical, basic life
 support and advanced life support services.
- Repair of ambulance equipment or purchase thereof.

- Debt reduction associated with construction and renovation of EMS agency's facilities
 and purchase or repair of fixtures, furnishings, office equipment, and support services
 necessary to maintain or improve capability of the service to provide ambulance,
 emergency medical, basic life support and advanced life support services OR repair of
 ambulance equipment or purchase thereof.
- Training and certification of members.
- Education of the general public regarding community risk reduction programs.
- Recruitment and retention programs, including, but not limited to, program for minors.
- Revenue loss for grants issued in 2021 and 2022.

Is there a timeframe for the funds to be utilized?

The period of performance for this grant will run through June 30, 2023.

How does my EMS agency certify for this grant?

Eligible EMS agencies will receive an invitation to the DCED administered grant portal to complete the certification process. In addition to confirming the agency's eligibility for the grant, agencies will indicate how they intend to use the funds in response to the novel coronavirus pandemic and provide essential information to complete the grant agreement.

What information will agencies need and what are the requirements in the DCED online grant portal for certification?

To complete certification, agencies will be asked to provide the following information:

1. Keystone ID

The agency seeking to certify for the grant will need both signatories to have a username and password registered within the Keystone Login Portal. You may register here: Keystone ID.

2. DUNS Number

All entities wishing to do business with the federal government must have a unique entity identifier (UEI). Currently, the DUNS number, which is a unique nine-character identification number provided by Dun & Bradstreet (D&B) free of charge, is the official UEI. D&B assigns UEI (DUNS) for each physical location of a business. Requesting a UEI (DUNS) takes about 10 minutes. Receiving a UEI (DUNS) takes 1–2 business days (under normal circumstances) when using the D&B web form. The federal government uses Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) numbers to track how federal money is allocated. https://www.dnb.com/duns-number/get-a-duns.html

A 12-digit Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) Number will be provided by SAM and accompanies an active SAM Registration.

3. An active SAM registration

You must have an active registration in the System for Award Management (SAM). There is no charge to register or maintain your organization's SAM registration. You can apply for (or renew) your SAM registration for free at https://SAM.gov. You will need your DUNS number to complete this registration. Please note that SAM registration can take up to three weeks for processing. Delaying your SAM registration may affect how quickly you receive your grant funds.

4. FFATA Form (found in the grant portal)

You will need to download and complete a Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act Sub-Recipient Data Sheet (FFATA Form). You will need your DUNS number to complete this form.

5. An active Commonwealth Vendor Number

Your organization must have an active Commonwealth Vendor Number for us to process your future grant contract and payments. You will need your organization's FEIN to complete this registration. To check if you have an active vendor number, search for your municipality on our list of Verified Active Vendor Records. If your municipality is you listed, can complete your vendor registration online: not https://www.budget.pa.gov/Services/ForVendors/Pages/Non-Procurement-Help.aspx choosing the Non-Procurement Registration option. Or you can call our Vendor Database Management Unit (VDMU) at 1-877-435-7363 and choose Option 1.

6. Sign-up for Direct Deposit (ACH payments)

All your future grant payments will be made through the Automated Clearing House (ACH). You will want to check that your vendor record has your bank account information. You can add/change bank account information in your vendor record at the PA Supplier Portal. (See the step-by-step guide for making changes to your vendor record.)

Where should questions be directed?

Eligibility questions should be directed, via email, to the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Bureau of EMS: paemsoffice@pa.gov.

Grant administration questions should be directed, via email, to Office of State Fire Commissioner: ra-ememsgrant@pa.gov.

All questions regarding technical issues with the grant portal can be directed, via email, to the Department of Community and Economic Development: ra-dcedcs@pa.gov, or call the DCED Customer Service Center at: 1-800-379-7448.