



Alaska Council on Emergency Medical Services (ACEMS)

Mission: ACEMS shall support and strengthen the existing system of emergency medical services and promote the full integration of EMS into the larger system of healthcare delivery

Vision: EMS shall be recognized as an essential public function intersecting public health, public safety and healthcare. The work of the Council shall ensure access to timely, affordable & high quality pre-hospital emergency care services.

Priority 1: Reimbursement & Financing

OBJECTIVES		STRATEGIES
A. Ensure the availability and provision of EMS to all Alaskans.	»	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine the true costs of readiness in the provision of pre-hospital emergency medical services. Determine the true cost of treatment and transport. Fund alternate means of reimbursement other than transport to a hospital (i.e. transport to a community health center, treat and release). Ensure adequate budget and staffing levels for ACEMS and the State EMS Office so they may carry out required statutory and regulatory functions.
B. Ensure a system which supports the safety and well-being of EMS providers as well as the public they serve.	»	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For immediate critical infrastructure maintenance increase the Code Blue Program funding to \$1,000,000 as requested by the Regional Coordinators and Directors Group. Invest in EMS to control the rising costs of healthcare in Alaska. Ensure a reliable, robust public safety communications system; including restoration of a statewide EMS emergency frequency.

Priority 2: Restoration, Restructuring & Coordination of Services

OBJECTIVES		STRATEGIES
A. Restore the presence/visibility of EMS in the Department of Health and Social Services	»	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restore Emergency Medical Services Grants as its own line item in the DHSS budget. Establish an EMS seat on the Alaska Health Care Commission. Support State of Alaska presence at the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO). Fund travel for ACEMS, EMS Unit and Regional Directors to conduct site visits with EMS agencies throughout Alaska.
B. Restructure EMS to fully integrate into the healthcare system.	»	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support & fund an ACEMS directed EMS task-force to develop a five-year plan of restructuring EMS in Alaska with the goal of full integration into the healthcare system.
C. Improve the coordination of services to provide best care at lower costs and improve patient outcomes.	»	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restore trauma care funding to coordinate pre-hospital emergency services so that the patient gets to the right treatment, in the right place, at the right time. Include in the trauma care fund appropriate levels of funding to implement level 5 trauma centers.
D. Update regulations to incorporate evidence based medicine and to align with National Standards	»	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support a regulatory staff program manager as recommended by NASEMSO in the <i>EMS System Models Project: Model State EMS System Lead Agency</i>. Begin a QA program to evaluate ground-based and air-medevac services. Realign the Alaska ETT and EMT curriculum with National EMS Education Standards.

Priority 3: Recruitment & Retention

OBJECTIVES		STRATEGIES
A. Ensure long term viability of our mixed paid/volunteer EMS system	»	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build an EMS system that is supported by but is not completely reliant on volunteer EMS providers. Quantify the monetary contribution of EMS volunteers throughout Alaska.