



Emergency Medical Services Planning & Regulation

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Fast facts

- ▲ Hennepin County Human Services & Public Health Department is responsible for planning and regulating Emergency Medical Services (EMS). EMS staff work to assure common medical response, treatment and transportation standards for emergencies and ambulance response times. Also, the EMS unit provides planning and staff to the Hennepin County Emergency Medical Services Council.
- ▲ Hennepin's EMS Planning & Regulation unit works with the county's five ambulance services to develop more efficient strategies for equipment purchases and service improvements.

What is Hennepin County Public Health's role in Emergency Medical Services?

Ensuring that the public's health, safety and general welfare are protected by having coordinated emergency medical services is the primary role of the Hennepin County Emergency Medical Services (EMS), which is within the Human Services and Public Health Department.

The EMS Planning & Regulation unit provides planning support and regulatory oversight for the county's EMS system, which includes five ambulance providers, municipal police departments, fire departments and hospitals.

Hennepin's Ordinance 9 lists regulatory activities, which include:

- Investigating complaints about emergency ambulance response.
- Certifying physicians to provide medical control to paramedics.
- Certifying paramedics to practice within Hennepin.
- Monitoring emergency ambulance response times.

In addition, EMS Planning & Regulation staff:

- Develop a coordinated emergency response to 911 calls.
- Collect data on the emergency response system.
- Provide staff support to the EMS Council, which makes recommendations to the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners and appropriate authorities concerning activities and processes necessary for the coordination and improvement of pre-hospital emergency services within Hennepin.
- Develop EMS-related public health policy.
- Coordinate EMS activities with local, regional and state EMS agencies.

There are five advanced life support ambulance providers, which are authorized by the state to operate within Hennepin:

- Allina Medical Transportation
- City of Edina EMS and Fire
- Hennepin County Medical Center EMS
- North Memorial Ambulance Service
- Ridgeview Hospital Ambulance

How many are served?

All people who live, work or visit Hennepin County benefit from having a coordinated emergency medical service system.

More information is available on Hennepin's website at www.hennepin.us. Do a search using "EMS planning."