

April 13, 2020 - Emergency Suspension of Ambulance Service Requirement

What does this mean?

On March 13, 2020, Governor Tim Walz declared a peacetime emergency. On March 16, 2020, the Executive Council of the State of Minnesota voted to extend the peacetime emergency declaration for thirty (30) days. On April 13, 2020, Governor Walz extended the peacetime emergency through May 13, 2020.

Minnesota Statutes section 144E.266 remains in effect through May 13, 2020.

*The mission of the EMSRB is to protect the public's health and safety through regulation and support of the EMS system. **During this declared emergency, normal operations should be maintained whenever possible.** However, operations may be modified as outlined below, when necessary. **If you have questions, please send them to the EMSRB at emsrb@state.mn.us***

M.S. 144E.101 Subdivision 1: Personnel

What does this mean? An ambulance service should staff their ambulance with the highest trained personnel available to respond for service.

- *This may mean, under suspension of this statute, a responder may have no certification.*

M.S. 144E.101 Subdivision 2: Patient care

What does this mean? Please see the definition of personnel in subdivision 1

M.S. 144E.101 Subdivision 3: Continual Service

What does this mean? If an ambulance service is unable to provide services 24 hours each day, they are not obligated to do so, however 144E.101 Subdivision 4 has not been suspended and no patient shall be denied prehospital care...

M.S. 144E.101 Subdivisions 6 through 9: Basic Life Support, Advanced Life Support, Part-Time Advanced Life Support, Specialized Life Support

What does this mean? This suspends the definition of level of licensed ambulance services and removes restrictions as to what type of care you are required to provide.

M.S. 144E.101 Subdivision 10: Driver

What does this mean? This suspends the need for the driver of an ambulance to complete an emergency driving course prior to driving the ambulance.

- *This may mean, you can utilize civilian drivers.*
- *Other statutes related to driving an emergency vehicle may not be suspended.*

M.S. 144E.101 Subdivision 11: Personnel roster and files

What does this mean? While you are not required to have two people on a written on-call schedule, if you are able to maintain regular operations, you should do so.

M.S. 144E.101 Subdivision 13. Service outside primary service area

What does this mean? This suspends the defined primary service areas in the State of Minnesota.

M.S. 144.103 Equipment

What does this mean? This suspends the requirements to carry specific equipment related to your ambulance service. All maintenance, sanitation, storage, and testing of equipment, supplies, and drug requirements are also suspended.

- *Expired items may be used, please refer to the [CDC Guidance for EMS](#)*

M.S. 144E.121 Air Ambulance Service Requirements

What does this mean? This suspends all air ambulance requirements, please direct specific questions to the EMSRB.

M.S. 144E.123 Prehospital Care Data

What does this mean? This suspends all prehospital care data requirements.

While this suspends the requirements to collect and report data, please maintain operations as much as possible.

M.S. 144E.127 Interhospital; Interfacility Transfer

What does this mean? This suspends the staffing requirements for interfacility transfers.

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