



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR


STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
152 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333



MICHAEL SAUSCHUCK
COMMISSIONER

J. SAM HURLEY
DIRECTOR

OPERATIONAL BULLETIN

Bulletin #	Title		Date Issued
#2021-08-30-01	Service Level Safety Program		August 30, 2021
Superseded	Released By:	Source:	Pages
N/A	Maine EMS	Maine EMS Staff	1
Approved By:	J. Sam Hurley, MPH, EMPS, NRP Maine EMS Director 		

On January 10, 2021, the Maine EMS Board adopted rules changes that include a requirement for each licensed EMS service to submit a safety program:

Chapter 3 §5. 1. (C)(17)

The applicant has submitted a safety program that addresses its patients, personnel, and the general public during operations.

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide guidance for service administration to understand the expectation for the development of a safety program and to identify a time frame for accountability.

First, the intent of this Maine EMS rule is consistent with the goals of the National EMS Safety Council, published in their 2017 [Guide for Developing an EMS Agency Safety Program](#):

1. Ensure that patients receive emergency and mobile healthcare with the highest standards of safety.
2. Promote a safe and healthy work environment for all emergency and mobile healthcare practitioners.

When developing a service level EMS Safety Program, the administration may use the [Guide for Developing an EMS Agency Safety Program](#) as a resource to meet the expectation that the service's safety program will address the following items (identified in the guide's table of contents):

1. Facility Safety and Security
2. Vehicle Operator Safety
3. Scene Safety
4. Infection Control
5. Personal Health and Safety
6. Patient Safety

● **Excellence**

● **Support**

● **Collaboration**

● **Integrity**

PHONE: (207) 626-3860

TTY: (207) 287-3659

FAX: (207) 287-6251

With offices located at the Central Maine Commerce Center, 45 Commerce Drive, Suite 1, Augusta, ME 04330

The [guide](#) offers recommended policies and protocols that may be included in a comprehensive safety program, including sample policies used by highly respected EMS agencies and other resources for education around safety issues and injury prevention. However, it is the expectation that Maine EMS agencies will adapt these materials to generate a safety program with policies and procedures that reflect their individual operational needs.

All licensed EMS agencies will be required to submit a safety program as a part of their EMS service renewal application package by November 30, 2022 – a safety program is not required for standard EMS service renewal prior to November 30, 2022. For new EMS agencies or a licensed EMS service that chooses to modify a licensing factor, a Safety Program must be submitted as a part of the EMS service application package going forward.

For questions or concerns, please contact Maine EMS at maine.ems@maine.gov.