



The Protecting Patient Access to Emergency Medications Act (PPAEMA): Second Update

Overview: *Maine EMS has been consistently communicating with our DEA partners since initial education was offered in late 2025. Our efforts have been focused on working with the DEA to secure clear guidance for the Maine EMS Office and our ALS agencies.*

DISCLAIMER: *Maine EMS does not enforce or interpret federal rules or statutes and is unable to provide legal advice. For more information on how the contents of this informational document impact you and your circumstances, please consult your own legal counsel.*

Maine EMS's Engagement with Federal DEA Partner

Maine EMS has been communicating with the Acting Diversion Control Program Manager for the New England Field Office of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration ("DEA"), to better understand the agency's "Registering Emergency Medical Services Agencies Under the Protecting Patient Access to Emergency Medications Act of 2017". This final rule took effect on March 9, 2026, and implemented the Protecting Patient Access to Emergency Medications Act of 2017 ("PPAEMA").

State Authority

Maine EMS acknowledges that some of our stakeholders may have heard from the DEA regarding the creation of a state license for controlled substances; the DEA clarified that DEA registrations are predicated on state authority, not necessarily a separate state controlled substance license.

Registration

Maine EMS appreciates the patience of our stakeholders as we have worked to answer questions about registration.

Maine EMS has been made aware, through stakeholders within our system, that registration for EMS Agencies is now open. Maine EMS has not been able to confirm this directly with the DEA; our office has reached out for direct confirmation.

We wish to provide the following relevant information:

- The only Maine-EMS-licensed ambulance services and nontransporting emergency medical services that are authorized under state law to procure, possess, administer, and furnish controlled substances are those agencies authorized to provide advanced emergency medical treatment, or those services **licensed or permitted to the Paramedic-level.**



- While completing a registration application, it is important that a service is aware that Maine EMS's protocols currently authorize the below controlled substances in certain CSA schedules, also identified below. Future protocol updates or shortage protocols could potentially include controlled substances from schedule(s) II through V.
 - Fentanyl – CSA Schedule II
 - Midazolam – CSA Schedule IV
 - Ketamine – CSA Schedule III
 - Morphine – CSA Schedule II (Shortage Protocol)
 - Diazepam – CSA Schedule IV (Shortage Protocol)

- Please ensure that your agency understands all requirements necessary to register with the DEA. We recommend reaching out to the DEA to understand the necessary steps to take **before** applying for registration.

Educational Offering

Maine EMS is continuing to engage with our DEA partners on educational offering(s). We will provide more information as it becomes available.