


**IMPORTANT Please Read This Letter Completely**

TO: Pennsylvania Emergency Medical Service Advanced Life Support Providers

FROM: Raphael M. Barishansky   
Deputy Secretary, Health Planning and Assessment

DATE: June 26, 2017

RE: Certification Registration Expiration

Dear Pa. EMS ALS-level Provider,

This is a notice of change to the Advanced Life Support (ALS) provider certification registration expiration dates in your next certification period.

In accordance with Emergency Medical Services System Act, 35 Pa.C.S. § 8113 and 28 Pa. Code § 1023, all ALS provider certification registration expiration dates shall expire on December 31 of the odd numbered years. Therefore, as not to place a significant burden on you we are going to transition all ALS providers to expire December 31, 2019 upon renewal of the current certification registration.

This does not change your current certification period or current continuing education requirements for recertification. You still need to meet your current continuing education requirements of 36 hours with at least 27 of them in Clinical Care prior to the expiration date on your current certification card. After successfully completing the current requirements for reregistration of your certification, you will receive a new certification card with a December 31, 2019 expiration date.

The table on the next page reflects the prorated hours needed once your current registration expires and you are issued a new certification card with the expiration date of December 31, 2019.

Following the December 31, 2019 expiration date, you will have a full two-year certification period and your next expiration date will be December 31, 2021. In that period, you will be required to obtain at least 36 hours of continuing education with at least 27 of those hours in clinical care to be eligible to reregister your certification.

<b>PRORATED HOURS NEEDED FOR CERTIFICATION PERIOD ENDING ON 31 DECEMBER 2019</b>		
<b>If your current expiration date is:</b>	<b>You will need the total required hours of:</b>	<b>You will need the minimum Clinical Patient Care hours</b>
1 October 2017	40.5	30
1 January 2018	36	27
1 April 2018	31.5	23.5
1 July 2018	27	20
1 October 2018	22.5	16.5
1 January 2019	18	13.5
1 April 2019	13.5	10
1 July 2019	9	6.5

In the past, the Bureau issued expiration dates for all ALS providers who previously held the registration expiration date of December 31, 2009. This was done as a requirement of the regulations promulgated by the Emergency Medical Service (EMS) System Act of 2009. To that end, the Bureau divided up all ALS providers and issued new expiration dates across 8 calendar quarters to ease the number of certification re-registrations that would be generated at one time. The past 2 years afforded the Bureau the opportunity to identify those individuals which remain active in our system and have completed at least one certification cycle. Additionally, this allowed for us to archive those records that are no longer valid thus providing a more accurate database for utilization.

We have been working on a new EMS Registry system which will provide additional resources and features to help manage your certification, and it is hoped that the new system will be operational by the end of 2017. This change in certification dates is one of the necessary steps in transitioning to the new system.

You can view your continuing education record at <https://ems.health.state.pa.us/emsportal>

Please remember, you must complete the required continuing education requirements to be eligible for reregistration prior to the expiration date on your current card! 36 Total Hours – 27 hours must be in the **Clinical Patient Care** category.

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact your Regional EMS Council.