

Thomas O. Forslund, Director

Governor Matthew H. Mead

June 27, 2012

OFFICE OF EMS UPDATE

Dear EMS Colleagues:

EMT Classes for fall 2012

We received an unusual number of applications to host EMT classes this fall. That is a very positive thing in that it shows interest, and at the same time is concerning when we are faced with a shrinking budget.

There are two things to consider in "how and where" EMT classes will be done in the future:

- 1) Available funding
- 2) How many classes can we logistically handle?

Some of you have heard me say that our EMS education needs to move to model that is less dependent on the OEMS for provision. Ultimately, this should provide education that is a little more available on a more consistent basis. For example, EMT classes are recurring on a regular basis at Casper College, Laramie County Community College, and a similar process is in place in Sheridan as well as Western Wyoming Community College in Rock Springs. We are also hoping to continue to establish independent training sites in various towns and EMS agencies. The concept is that in places that we can identify as fully capable, a lot of latitude will be given to instruct, supervise, test and validate students. This will allow us to focus limited funds and oversight capability

That won't happen everywhere. It takes a lot of time, effort and infrastructure to do EMS education. In order to fully implement this type of model, we need absolute confidence in the Instructor/Coordinators, high academic and clinical standards, solid support from the Physician Medical Director, the backing from the local hospital and other essential elements. This is certainly a move in a new direction for Wyoming, but I am confident that it is the right way to go.

With that said, EMT classes this year will be held in:

- 1) Cheyenne Laramie County Community College
- 2) Laramie Laramie County Community College
- 3) Casper Casper College
- 4) Wheatland
- 5) Wright
- 6) Douglas
- 7) Sundance
- 8) Riverton
- 9) Saratoga

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None of these are closed classes. They are open to all of the neighboring communities. As always contact information for the individual classes is on our web site.

EMT Intermediate Classes

We have received a lot of inquiries regarding what direction the Intermediate program is going. I assure you, there has been a lot of hard work to get us closer to a solution and a "revamp" of the curriculum.

My deepest thanks go to Roger Hespe, Scott Murphey, Russ Christiansen, Amy Long, and Pat Currie, for their efforts. There have been some lively discussions, ideas, and proposed solutions passed around. This should give all of you confidence that we don't take this process lightly, and are trying to create a brand new day in Wyoming.

42nd Annual Wyoming Trauma Conference

We have another great conference scheduled for August 16th through the 18th. We will be featuring Mike Rubin this year. Mike is a regular columnist for EMS World magazine, and will be presenting several times on Saturday. Mike will also be featured as the "entertainment" for the banquet that night presenting *EMS at Opryland*. This will be a mix of music, skits and education centered on the types of patients encountered at Opryland. *Remember, if you register before July 31, the cost is only \$150*. *After August 1st, the cost will be \$200.00*.

We would also like to do something a little different this year to honor those that we have lost. Many of you have kept us apprised, but we don't want to forget anyone. If you will contact us and make sure we have the name and details of service, we would greatly appreciate it.

Site Visits

I remain committed to visiting with each of your services, in your hometown. I've fallen out of this habit recently, but want to come see each of you and hear what your particular issues are. If you will send me an email, and tell me when the next training meeting, case review or get together time is, I will do my best to get there.

Meanwhile, please stay safe and enjoy the summer.

Sincerely,

Andy Gienapp, MS, NREMTP

Administrator

Office of Emergency Medical Services

Public Health Division

Wyoming Department of Health