
**Report to
The Vermont Legislature**

Overview of State Funding for EMS Training and Education

**In Accordance with Act 78 (2023), Sec. B.1101(d) (2)
Healthcare and Social Services Workforce – fiscal Year 2024 one-time appropriations**

Submitted to: House Committee on Health Care
House Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs

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Introduction

Act 78 (2023) provided one-time funding in the amount of \$1,000,000.00, appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Health (Department) to provide training for emergency medical service (EMS) personnel.

Objectives

The Office of EMS identified a range of initial education, continuing education, and specialty EMS training courses needed to recruit, support, and retain EMS professionals. Additionally, training and education for EMS educators, EMS service leaders, and supporting the mental health and wellness needs of all EMS personnel were included in the funding plan.

Training and Education Funding Update

The Department partnered with a diverse range of EMS education professionals to deliver this vital education and training. A list of the EMS training content areas, and the amount of funding allocated to each for fiscal year 2024 can be found in Table 1.

Table 1.

EMS Training Content & Funding Allocation Plan for FY24

Training Content	Funding Allocation
Initial EMS Licensure Courses	\$240,900.00
Paramedic Licensure Courses	\$457,600.00
Critical Care Paramedic Training	\$10,000.00
Community Paramedic Training	\$32,600.00
Specialty Training Courses	\$49,822.00
NCCP Refresher Training	\$16,300.00
Health and Wellness	\$2,900.00
Leadership Training	\$14,000.00
EMS Instructor Training	\$56,922.00
Continuing Education	\$95,706.00
Training Officer Development	\$23,250.00
Total	\$1,000,000.00

To date, four grants have been awarded and a range of EMS licensures and specialty training courses are ongoing or have been completed. Those grants are listed in Table 2; the total amount of funding awarded to date is \$608,022.00. A detailed breakdown of the number and type of EMS licensure courses, number of students, and their progress, can be found in Table 3.

Table 2
Executed Grants as of January 25, 2024

Grantee	Training Content	Grant Award
Bennington Rescue Squad	Initial EMS licensure courses Specialty training courses NCCP refresher training	\$108,122.00
Fairfax Rescue	Initial EMS licensure courses	\$72,000.00
Newport Ambulance Services Inc	Paramedic education Initial EMS licensure courses Specialty training courses	\$142,900.00
Vermont State Colleges	Paramedic licensure course	\$285,000.00
Total		\$608,022.00

Table 3
EMS Certification & Licensure Courses and Student Progress (July 1, 2023, through January 19, 2024)

Course Type	Number of Courses to Date*	Students Enrolled	Students Actively Training	Students Marked Complete	NREMT Certified**	Obtained State Certification or Licensure
VEFR	4	32	0	23	NA	14
EMR	1	7	7	0		
EMT	1	18	14	1		
AEMT	1	7	7	0		
Paramedic	1	19	19	0		
Critical Care Paramedic	1	25	25	0		
Total	9	108	72	24	0	14

*Note - An additional four state funded VEFR courses, three EMT courses, and three AEMT courses are scheduled to start prior to June 30, 2024.

**Note – A student has 24 months from the end of their course to obtain NREMT certification. We will not fully understand the impact of this funding until late 2026.

Table 3 only includes EMS courses financed utilizing the one-time state funding, which represents 24% of total FY24 courses offered to date. It does not include EMS certification and licensure courses funded by the EMS Special Fund (23%), or courses financed by organizations directly (53%).

Furthermore, four specialty training courses have been held, with 51 students attending. Participants received training in areas such as Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), and Tactical Emergency Casualty Care.

There are an additional four grants in various stages of development and are expected to be executed prior to June 30, 2024. The total amount of funding expected to be awarded is \$274,672.00. Those grants are listed in Table 4.

Table 4
*Proposed Grants**

Grantee	Training Content	Grant Award
UVMHC Health Network	Paramedic licensure course	\$75,000.00
Kate Soons LLC	EMS skills instructor course Instructor coordinator course RN to EMT transition course	\$16,822.00
Premier EMS Consulting	Community paramedicine training course Training officer development program Advanced EMS instructor development	\$76,850.00
Vermont EMS Academy	Initial EMS licensure courses Specialty training courses NCCP refresher training Critical care paramedic training Health and wellness EMS leadership	\$106,000.00
Total		\$274,672.00

The one-time funding has provided urgently needed financial resources to support the EMS learning management system without requiring reductions in the funding provided to EMS Districts or to other EMS priorities, as has been necessary in previous years. The EMS learning management system, which is required by statute and costs approximately \$120,000 annually, allows EMS personnel to take on-demand continuing education courses. During calendar year 2023, Vermont EMS personnel completed 16,958 online courses, and accumulated 13,504.5 continuing education hour credits needed for national recertification.

This year marks the return of the annual “Healthcare Coalition, EMS, & Preparedness Conference, tentatively scheduled for June 12-16, 2024. The EMS conference attracts several hundred EMS personnel, medical directors, EMS leaders and other stakeholders for five days of engaging EMS education content. Refer to Table 5 for additional details.

Table 5
EMS Learning Management System and EMS Conference

Training Forum	Training Content	Amount
EMS Learning Management System	On-demand continuing education	\$63,556.00
EMS Conference	Continuing education	\$53,750.00
Total		\$117,306.00