



*Larry Hogan, Governor*  
*Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor*  
*Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary*  
*Allan Fisher, Deputy Secretary*

**Bill Number:** SB 515

**Short Title:** State Emergency Medical Services Board – Park Services Associates –  
Certification as Emergency Medical Responders

**Department's Position:** Letter of Information

**Explanation of Department's Position**

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources provides the following information on SB 515.

**Bill Summary**

This emergency bill requires the state Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Board to credit any training and education completed by a Park Services Associate (PSA) employed by the Maryland Park Service (MPS) toward any training or education requirements for certification as an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) by the EMS Board if the board determines that the training or education is: (1) substantially equivalent to the training or education required by the EMS Board; and (2) not contrary to other requirements.

The EMS Board is prohibited from charging MPS PSAs specified fees for temporary certification as an EMR. MPS PSAs who submit specified proof to the EMS Board must be given temporary certification as an EMR. Fees and exams may not be required for the temporary certification. This temporary certification expires December 31, 2024.

To receive certification as an EMR after December 31, 2024, MPS PSAs must apply to the state EMS Board. The EMS Board must complete a review of the training records for all MPS PSAs to identify those individuals whose training meets the training requirements for certification as an EMR. On or before July 1, 2024, the EMS Board must offer at least twice to each MPS PSA (1) the examination for certification as an EMR; and (2) information regarding any other requirements the individual is required to meet to become a certified EMR.

**Background / Impact**

The MPS employs a variety of staff who provide emergency medical response at parks throughout the state. The MPS requires EMR training for classified MPS staff in the following positions: Park Services Associate I (26 filled positions), Park Services Associate II (52 filled positions), Park Services Associate Lead (20 filled positions), Park Services Supervisor (28 filled positions), Park Services Assistant Manager (three filled positions), Park Services Manager I (15 filled positions), and Park Services Manager II (four filled positions).

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MPS has been working with the Maryland Institute of Emergency Medical Services System (MIEMSS) to become an approved Education Program under MIEMSS, and has already submitted documentation to MIEMSS to initiate this process. Furthermore, MPS Training Division staff have been registered for required instructor courses in April 2022 and August 2022.

For any additional information, please contact our Legislative and Constituent Services Director, Bunky Luffman.