

For interested or potential applicants, the most important document for the formation of an application is the "Emergency Medical Services Systems Program Guidelines," DHEW Publication No. (HSA) 74-2009, which is available from the EMSS program officers in all of the HEW Regional offices.

The "Guidelines" spell out for potential applicants the necessary information concerning application procedures, the review and evaluation of applications, how applications will be rated, the post-award program administration of grants, reporting requirements, and other information.

Further details concerning the components of an emergency medical services system, taken from both the law and the guidelines, are contained in a companion booklet to this one entitled "What Is an Emergency Medical Services System," also available from the regional offices.

The mailing addresses of the Regional Offices are:

REGION I - HEW
Regional Health Administrator
Government Center
Boston, Massachusetts 02203

Connecticut, Maine,
Vermont, New
Hampshire, Rhode
Island, Massachusetts

REGION II - HEW
Regional Health Administrator
26 Federal Plaza
New York, New York 10007

New Jersey, New
York, Puerto Rico,
Virgin Islands

REGION III - HEW
Regional Health Administrator
P.O. Box 13716
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
19101

Delaware, Maryland,
Virginia, West
Virginia, Penn-
sylvania, District of
Columbia

REGION IV - HEW
Regional Health Administrator
50 Seventh Street, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

Alabama, Florida,
Georgia, Kentucky,
Mississippi, North
Carolina, South
Carolina, Tennessee

REGION V - HEW
Regional Health Administrator
300 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Illinois, Indiana,
Michigan, Ohio
Wisconsin, Minnesota

REGION VI - HEW
Regional Health Administrator
1114 Commerce Street
Dallas, Texas 75202

Arkansas, Louisiana,
New Mexico, Okla-
homa, Texas

REGION VII - HEW
Regional Health Administrator
601 East 12th Street
Kansas City, Missouri
64106

Iowa, Kansas
Missouri, Nebraska

REGION VIII - HEW
Regional Health Administrator
Federal Office Building
19th and Stout Street
Denver, Colorado 80202

Colorado, Montana,
North Dakota, South
Dakota, Utah,
Wyoming

REGION IX - HEW
Regional Health Administrator
Federal Office Building
50 Fulton Street
San Francisco, California
94102

Arizona, Calif-
ornia, Hawaii,
Nevada, Guam,
American Samoa,
Trust Territory
of the Pacific

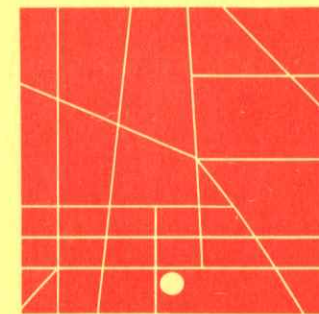
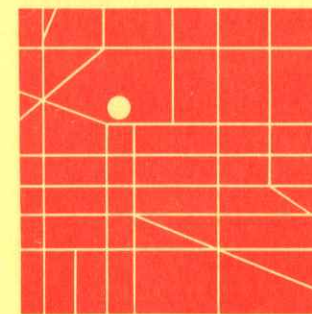
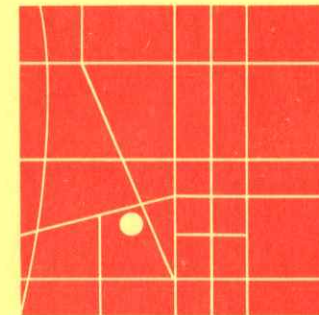
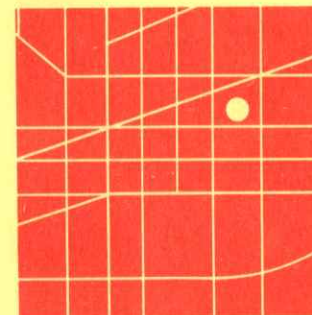
REGION X - HEW
Regional Health Administrator
Arcade Plaza Building
1321 Second Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

Alaska, Idaho,
Oregon, Washing-
ton

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION,
AND WELFARE
Public Health Service
Health Services Administration
Bureau of Medical Services
Division of Emergency Medical Services

DHEW Publication No. (HSA) 75-2003

THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEMS ACT



The Emergency Medical Services Systems Act was passed by the Congress and signed by the President late in 1973 with the purpose of providing Federal financial support, technical assistance, and encouragement for the development of better emergency medical services in communities throughout the nation.

The EMSS Act recognizes that while some cities, counties, and States now have organized methods for taking care of the victims of accidents and other medical emergencies, the great majority are seriously deficient. The EMSS Act proceeds from the belief that each community or county must determine to improve its own system. The Act is not, therefore, an effort to implement a master plan for a national system, even though many city or county systems will have close working arrangements with their neighboring systems.

The EMSS Act defines an emergency medical services system as one "... which provides for the arrangement of personnel, facilities and equipment for the effective and coordinated delivery, in an appropriate geographical area, of health care services under emergency conditions (occurring either as a result of the patient's condition or of natural disasters or similar conditions) and which is administered by a public or non-profit private entity which has the authority and the resources to provide effective administration of the System."

Under the EMSS Act, eligibility for Federal support and assistance includes States, units of general local government, public entities who administer a compact or some other regional arrangement, or any other public entity or non-profit private entity.

These entities will be eligible for three types of Federal grants to establish or improve their emergency systems:

1. Feasibility Studies and Planning Grants, for studying the feasibility (through expansion or improvement of existing services or otherwise) and operating an emergency medical services system, and for planning the establishment and operation of such a system.

2. Establishment and Initial Operation Grants

3. Expansion and Improvement Grants

Under these grants, HEW is seeking, in each community, the implementation of a plan for a "system; and grant applications will have to demonstrate that there is such a plan." For example, if the purchase of an ambulance or communications equipment will fill a gap in the community's system, such a purchase will be acceptable. If, on the other hand, an applicant simply asserts that he wants to buy an ambulance or communications equipment, such an assertion by itself will not be sufficient to be considered a justifiable application.

The EMSS Act requires that where plans are developed and systems established, expanded, and improved with funds under this Act the recipients of funds must direct their efforts to the following components of a system: (1) the provision of manpower; (2) training of personnel; (3) communications; (4) transportation; (5) facilities; (6) critical care units; (7) use of public safety agencies; (8) consumer participation; (9) accessibility to care; (10) transfer of patients; (11) standard medical record keeping; (12) consumer information and education; (13) independent review and evaluation; (14) disaster linkage; (15) mutual aid agreements.

Other grants will be available for the training of emergency medical technicians and for some research projects.

The EMSS Act, which is in law as an amendment to the Public Health Service Act, will be administered by two agencies of the Public Health Service, the Health Services Administration and the Health Resources Administration. The Health Services Administration, through its Bureau of Medical Services, will administer the grants for feasibility, establishment and initial operation, and expansion and improvement, plus the National EMS Technical Information Center and technical assistance in the regional offices.

The Health Resources Administration will administer the training grants through its Bureau of Health Resources Development and the research grants through its Bureau of Health Services Research.

Applicants for funding under the EMSS Act should address all inquiries concerning requests for assistance, except for research projects, to the nearest of the ten HEW regional offices, specifically to the EMS representative in the Office of the Regional Health Administrator. (Regional office addresses are listed by State at the end of this brochure.)

Inquiries about research grants should be addressed to the Bureau of Health Services Research, Attention EMSS, Room 15A-19, Health Resources Administration, DHEW, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

Applicants seeking EMSS Act funds must meet specific eligibility criteria and provide for the use of the funds in accordance with program regulations and guidelines. Literature is available to acquaint potential applicants in determining (1) eligibility for EMSS funds; (2) the requirements for application clearances and review, (3) matching fund requirements, and (4) funding limitations and the use of Federal funds awarded under the EMSS Act.