

Department of Health and Social Services

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH Office of Emergency Medical Services

350 Main Street, Suite 530 Juneau, Alaska 99801-0616 Main: 907.465.3140

October 15, 2020

TO: All State Certified Emergency Medical Service Providers

FROM: Todd McDowell, NRP, Office of EMS Manager

SUBJECT: Updated Certification Extension Guidance for Providers

The Office of EMS is exercising its authority by modifying certification extensions dates under the waiver of 7 AAC 26.100(a)(7) granted in the COVID-19 Disaster Order of Suspension issued March 31,2020 by Governor Mike Dunleavy. This waiver allows for the extension of certification expiration dates beyond 60 days. This memo is in addition to guidance issued April 10, 2020 titled Extensions for All Certifications Expiring May 31, 2020.

Please note, this extension does not apply to providers that were given a one-year extension earlier this year and are due to expire on March 31, 2021. Those providers are required to renew and will not be included in this round of extensions.

Those certifications that expire December 31, 2020; March 31, 2021, excluding those as noted above; and December 31, 2021 will be given a blanket extension for one year. No additional CME, or action is required on the part of the provider to receive this extension. The Office of EMS is working to update provider certification cards within the EMS Certification Management System to reflect the new expiration dates as each certification cycle approaches.

As our current pandemic situation evolves, we will continue to work with providers and agencies to assure adequate accommodations for recertification. Further guidance will be issued as developments occur.

Please feel free to contact my office with any questions at todd.mcdowell@alaska.gov or (907) 465-8634.