

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AMENDMENTS**

2020 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Derrin R. Owens**

Senate Sponsor: David P. Hinkins

---

**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill amends provisions relating to emergency medical services.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ establishes the Emergency Medical Services System Account to be administered by the Department of Health (department) for certain purposes related to emergency medical services;

- ▶ modifies the expenditure requirements for certain funds transferred to the department;

- ▶ requires the department to hire five regional emergency medical services liaisons to serve the needs of certain rural counties;

- ▶ requires the department to submit a report to the Health and Human Services Interim Committee; and

- ▶ establishes a repeal date for the reporting requirement.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

This bill appropriates in Fiscal Year 2021:

- ▶ to the Department of Health -- Family Health and Preparedness -- Emergency Medical Services and Preparedness, as an ongoing appropriation:

- From the Emergency Medical Services System Account, \$3,000,000;

- ▶ to the Emergency Medical Services System Account -- Emergency Medical Services System Account, as an ongoing appropriation:

- From the General Fund, \$3,000,000.

30 **Other Special Clauses:**

31 None

32 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

## 33 AMENDS:

34 **26-8a-207**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2011, Chapters 297 and 30335 **63I-2-226**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapters 262, 393, 405 and last  
36 amended by Coordination Clause, Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 246

## 37 ENACTS:

38 **26-8a-108**, Utah Code Annotated 195339 **26-8a-210**, Utah Code Annotated 195340 **26-8a-211**, Utah Code Annotated 195341 

---

---

  
42 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*43 Section 1. Section **26-8a-108** is enacted to read:44 **26-8a-108. Emergency Medical Services System Account.**45 (1) There is created within the General Fund a restricted account known as the  
46 Emergency Medical Services System Account.47 (2) The account consists of:48 (a) interest earned on the account; and49 (b) appropriations made by the Legislature.50 (3) The department shall use:51 (a) an amount equal to 25% of the money in the account for administrative costs  
52 related to this chapter; and53 (b) an amount equal to 75% of the money in the account for grants awarded in  
54 accordance with Subsection **26-8a-207**(3).55 Section 2. Section **26-8a-207** is amended to read:56 **26-8a-207. Emergency medical services grant program.**57 (1) [~~¶~~] The department shall receive as dedicated credits the amount established in

Section 51-9-403. That amount shall be transferred to the department by the Division of Finance from funds generated by the surcharge imposed under Title 51, Chapter 9, Part 4, Criminal Conviction Surcharge Allocation.

~~[(b) Funds transferred to the department under this section shall be used for improvement of delivery of emergency medical services and administrative costs as described in Subsection (2)(a). Appropriations to the department for the purposes enumerated in this section shall be made from those dedicated credits.]~~

~~[(2) (a) The department may use the funds transferred to it under Subsection (1):]~~

(2) From the total amount of funds transferred to the department under Subsection (1), the department shall use:

(a) an amount equal to 50% of the funds:

(i) to provide staff support; and

(ii) for other expenses incurred in:

(A) administration of grant funds; and

(B) other department administrative costs under this chapter[:]; and

(b) an amount equal to 50% of the funds to provide emergency medical services grants in accordance with Subsection (3).

(3) (a) A recipient of a grant under this section shall actively provide emergency medical services within the state.

~~[(b) After funding staff support, administrative expenses, and trauma system development, the department and the committee shall make emergency medical services grants from the remaining funds received as dedicated credits under Subsection (1). A recipient of a grant under this Subsection (2)(b) shall actively provide emergency medical services within the state.]~~

~~[(c) The department shall distribute not less than 25% of the funds, with the percentage being authorized by a majority vote of the committee,]~~

(b) From the total amount of funds used to provide grants under Subsection (3), the department shall distribute an amount equal to 21% as per capita block grants for use

specifically related to the provision of emergency medical services to nonprofit prehospital emergency medical services providers that are either licensed or designated and to emergency medical services that are the primary emergency medical services for a service area. The department shall determine the grant amounts by prorating available funds on a per capita basis by county as described in department rule.

~~[(d) The committee shall award the remaining funds as competitive grants for use specifically related to the provision of emergency medical services based upon rules established by the committee.]~~

(c) Subject to Subsections (3)(d) through (f), the committee shall use the remaining grant funds to award competitive grants to licensed emergency medical services providers that provide emergency medical services within counties of the third through sixth class, in accordance with rules made by the committee.

(d) A grant awarded under Subsection (3)(c) shall be used:

(i) for the purchase of equipment, subject to Subsection (3)(e); or

(ii) for the recruitment, training, or retention of licensed emergency medical services providers.

(e) A recipient of a grant under Subsection (3)(c) may not use more than \$100,000 in grant proceeds for the purchase of vehicles.

(f) A grant awarded for the purpose described in Subsection (3)(d)(ii) is ongoing for a period of up to three years.

(g) (i) If, after providing grants under Subsections (3)(c) through (f), any grant funds are unallocated at the end of the fiscal year, the committee shall distribute the unallocated grant funds as per capita block grants as described in Subsection (3)(b).

(ii) Any grant funds distributed as per capita grants under Subsection (3)(g)(i) are in addition to the amount described in Subsection (3)(b).

Section 3. Section **26-8a-210** is enacted to read:

**26-8a-210. Regional Emergency Medical Services Liaisons -- Qualifications -- Duties.**

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Liaison" means a regional emergency medical services liaison hired under this section.

(b) "Rural county" means a county of the third, fourth, fifth, or sixth class.

(2) The department shall hire five individuals to serve as regional emergency medical services liaisons to:

(a) serve the needs of rural counties in providing emergency medical services in accordance with this chapter;

(b) act as a liaison between the department and individuals or entities responsible for emergency medical services in rural counties, including:

(i) emergency medical services providers;

(ii) local officials; and

(iii) local health departments or agencies;

(c) provide support and training to emergency medical services providers in rural counties;

(d) assist rural counties in utilizing state and federal grant programs for financing emergency medical services; and

(e) serve as emergency medical service personnel to assist licensed providers with ambulance staffing needs within rural counties.

(3) Each liaison hired under Subsection (2):

(a) shall reside in a rural county; and

(b) shall be licensed as:

(i) an advanced emergency medical technician as defined in Section [26-8c-102](#); or

(ii) a paramedic as defined in Section [26-8c-102](#).

(4) The department shall provide each liaison with a vehicle and other equipment in accordance with rules established by the department.

Section 4. Section **26-8a-211** is enacted to read:

**26-8a-211. Report.**

The department shall report to the Health and Human Services Interim Committee before November 30, 2022, regarding:

(1) the activities and accomplishments of the regional medical services liaisons hired under Section 26-8a-210;

(2) the efficacy of the emergency medical services grant program established in Section 26-8a-207, including grant distribution;

(3) the condition of emergency medical services within the state, including emergency medical services provider response times and personnel numbers; and

(4) the financial condition of the department, including department operational costs under this chapter.

Section 5. Section 63I-2-226 is amended to read:

**63I-2-226. Repeal dates -- Title 26.**

(1) Subsection 26-7-8(3) is repealed January 1, 2027.

(2) Section 26-8a-107 is repealed July 1, 2024.

(3) Subsection 26-8a-203(3)(a)(i) is repealed January 1, 2023.

(4) Section 26-8a-211 is repealed July 1, 2023.

~~[(4)]~~ (5) Subsection 26-18-2.3(5) is repealed January 1, 2020.

~~[(5)]~~ (6) Subsection 26-18-2.4(3)(e) is repealed January 1, 2023.

~~[(6)]~~ (7) Subsection 26-18-411(8), related to reporting on the health coverage improvement program, is repealed January 1, 2023.

~~[(7)]~~ (8) Subsection 26-18-604(2) is repealed January 1, 2020.

~~[(8)]~~ (9) Subsection 26-21-28(2)(b) is repealed January 1, 2021.

~~[(9)]~~ (10) Subsection 26-33a-106.1(2)(a) is repealed January 1, 2023.

~~[(10)]~~ (11) Subsection 26-33a-106.5(6)(c)(iii) is repealed January 1, 2020.

~~[(11)]~~ (12) Title 26, Chapter 46, Utah Health Care Workforce Financial Assistance Program, is repealed July 1, 2027.

~~[(12)]~~ (13) Subsection 26-50-202(7)(b) is repealed January 1, 2020.

~~[(13)]~~ (14) Subsections 26-54-103(6)(d)(ii) and (iii) are repealed January 1, 2020.

- 170           ~~[(14)]~~ (15) Subsection ~~26-55-107~~(8) is repealed January 1, 2021.  
171           ~~[(15)]~~ (16) Subsection ~~26-56-103~~(9)(d) is repealed January 1, 2020.  
172           ~~[(16)]~~ (17) Title 26, Chapter 59, Telehealth Pilot Program, is repealed January 1, 2020.  
173           ~~[(17)]~~ (18) Subsection ~~26-61-202~~(4)(b) is repealed January 1, 2022.  
174           ~~[(18)]~~ (19) Subsection ~~26-61-202~~(5) is repealed January 1, 2022.

175           Section 6. **Appropriation.**

176           The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1,  
177 2020, and ending June 30, 2021. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated for  
178 fiscal year 2021. The Legislature authorizes the State Division of Finance to transfer the  
179 following amounts between the following funds or accounts as indicated. Expenditures and  
180 outlays from the funds or accounts to which the money is transferred must be authorized by an  
181 appropriation.

182           ITEM 1

183           To Department of Health -- Family Health and Preparedness

184                   From Emergency Medical Services System Account                   \$3,000,000

185                   Schedule of Programs:

186                           Emergency Medical Services and Preparedness           \$3,000,000

187           ITEM 2

188           To Emergency Medical Services System Account

189                   From General Fund                   \$3,000,000

190                   Schedule of Programs:

191                           Emergency Medical Services System Account           \$3,000,000