



**NORTH DAKOTA**  
DEPARTMENT of HEALTH

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS  
AND RESPONSE SECTION  
Division of Emergency Medical  
Services and Trauma  
600 E Boulevard Ave – Dept 301  
Bismarck, N.D. 58505-0200  
[www.ndhealth.gov/ems](http://www.ndhealth.gov/ems)



DATE: April 17, 2013   
FROM: Division of EMS and Trauma, Thomas Nehring, Director  
TO: All ambulance services, squad leaders  
RE: North Dakota Rural EMS Assistance Fund

A copy of North Dakota Century Code 23-46 is included as Appendix A in the *North Dakota Rural EMS Assistance Fund Grant Guidance*.

As of June 30, 2012, N.D.C.C. 23-46 established the following:

1. A requirement for funding areas - The intent of the legislation is to provide funding to operate a minimally reasonable level of emergency medical services at a minimum reasonable cost for areas within the state where EMS operations can collaborate with other agencies and other funding areas. This would result in the sharing of ideas and resources to create efficiencies and development of a system of EMS in North Dakota. While there are currently 94 funding areas, it is the expectation that collaborative efforts will result in fewer funding areas in future grant cycles. Most current funding areas have only one ambulance service, but there are many other agencies to collaborate with, such as hospitals, dispatchers, physicians, etc. Creativity in system building and collaboration is encouraged.
2. Requirements of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council (EMSAC) - The Council is made up of people in the EMS field and those associated with the industry. It is meant to be the voice of the industry for input to the North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) and it will benefit you to know who the representatives are in your area so your ideas can have a voice at the state level. We have shared the names of the council representatives along with their contact information in the past and you can find the list of council members on our webpage at <http://ndhealth.gov/ems/EMSAC.html>.
3. A required minimum of \$10 per capita local match when applying for state funding (see Appendix C in the *North Dakota Rural EMS Assistance Fund Grant Guidance* for population by funding area).

As a result of this legislation, the NDDoH, through the Division of EMS and Trauma (DEMST) and the EMSAC, was charged with the responsibility of making this project a reality. These efforts have resulted in the current guidance and application for the *North Dakota Rural EMS Assistance Fund* for the second cycle of funding.

2013 EMS Rural Assistance Fund Grant Time-line

- Application completion time: **4/17/2013 – 6/17/2013.**
- State-wide information video conference: **4/25/2013 at 7 p.m.**
- **Application submission deadline: delivered to DEMST or postmarked by 5 p.m. on June 17, 2013.**
- Scoring period: **6/18/2013 – 6/30/2013**
- Awards to be made: **7/1/2013**
- Grant period: **7/1/2013 – 6/30/2014**

As stated in N.D.C.C. 23-46 “Emergency medical services operations that request financial assistance from the state must provide requested fiscal information to the state department of health for use in financial assistance determinations. All information provided to the department under this section is confidential”.

In a constant effort to improve the process for all involved there have been a few changes made to this upcoming cycle of funding:

1. Funding areas will have more time to complete the application process.
2. Efforts have been made to assure the grant guidance fully explains the application as well as the scoring levels.
3. Maximum request levels have been changed or removed from some funding categories.
4. Efforts will be made to improve and increase communications between DEMST and applying funding areas.

As this is only the second cycle of the Rural EMS Assistance Funding, DEMST is anticipating a lot of questions. A state-wide video conference is currently planned for **April 25, 2013 at 7 p.m.** The intent is that this video conference will act as an informational forum for sharing ideas and giving direction for the completion of the application process. The video conference will consist of a short presentation by DEMST representatives followed by a period of questions and answers. Participation will be available through local schools or hospitals. Further information will be supplied via email to ambulance squad leaders and medical directors as well as posted on the DEMST website. Please email DEMST ([dems@nd.gov](mailto:dems@nd.gov)) your plans to attend and the location from which you plan to connect. Everyone is welcome to attend and we hope this session will be helpful in your efforts to apply for the Rural EMS Assistance Fund grants.

DEMST is always available by phone or email for assistance. Our contact information is on the website ([www.ndhealth.gov/ems](http://www.ndhealth.gov/ems)). Please read through the application and guidance thoroughly and bring your questions to the video conference.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Working together on a project like this can help shape the future for EMS in North Dakota!