

To recognize the commitment of Vermont EMS first response and ambulance agencies that are improving pediatric emergency care, the Vermont Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) program has developed the **Vermont Pediatric Safe Program**. This free and voluntary statewide initiative will recognize agencies that go beyond basic requirements to provide excellent care to Vermont’s children.

Benefits

- Improve your agency’s readiness and response for pediatric emergency care.
- Demonstrate your commitment to quality emergency medical care for the children in your community.
- Showcase your agency’s achievements to the community and stakeholders.

Recognition

Upon approval of recognition by the EMS for Children Program, your agency will receive the following:

- Certificate of recognition.
- Award plaque of recognition.
- Pediatric Safe decals for your agency’s ambulance.
- Recognition on the Vermont EMS for Children website.
- Recognition during EMS for Children week in May.

Application

- Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis.
- Applications are reviewed by the EMS for Children Coordinator and the Pediatric Safe Committee.
- The EMS for Children Coordinator will contact the applicant if further information or clarification is needed.
- A final decision on your agency’s application will be made within 30 days of receiving the application.

Program Requirements

To be recognized as a Pediatric Safe agency, the following six (6) program requirements must be met. Please contact the EMS for Children Coordinator at EMSC@vermont.gov if you have questions.

KEY POINTS

- **Only 5% of 911 incidents in Vermont are for pediatric patients.**
- **The low frequency of pediatric EMS incidents in Vermont reflects the challenge for EMS professionals to maintain pediatric emergency skills through routine field work alone.**

Program Requirement 1: Required pediatric equipment for your agency's licensure level.

[EMR Equipment](#) [EMT Equipment](#) [AEMT Equipment](#) [Paramedic Equipment](#)

Program Requirement 2: Electronic submission of NEMSIS-compliant data to SIREN Elite.

Vermont-specific data inform protocols, training requirements, and gaps in prehospital emergency care. Access to quality data from all agencies provides a more complete picture of the care provided in Vermont and allows for evidence-based practices. Submission of data will be verified through SIREN.

Program Requirement 3: Participation in the annual EMS for Children survey.

The Vermont EMS for Children Program is required to collect data on our performance measures for the National Emergency Medical Services for Children Data Analysis Resource Center per the EMSC State Partnership grant from HRSA. This annual survey takes less than 45 minutes to complete.

Program Requirement 4: Community outreach events with a pediatric focus.

Pediatric Safe recognition requires at least two community outreach events be done each year. Your agency may sponsor the event or participate in an event sponsored by another organization. Some examples include:

1. Hosting an injury prevention day, child passenger safety event, or an open house at the station.
2. Hosting a community CPR or Stop the Bleed class, including child/infant curriculum components.
3. Providing a presentation on EMS to local elementary school students or scout troops.

Program Requirement 5: Pediatric education and skills training.

A minimum of four (4) hours of pediatric continuing education will be required per year for EMS providers. Pediatric training can come from in-person training held at your agency or another agency, other in-person training opportunities, courses like PEPP, PALS, PEARS, etc., or online training courses such as those from Vector LMS.

Providers will also be required to prove proficiency with pediatric-specific equipment at least once per year. It is highly recommended that skill competency evaluations be required twice per year using a variety of methods such as skills stations, simulations and field encounters. Suggested skills and equipment evaluations include pediatric safe transport devices (i.e., PediMate); airway management devices, intravenous and intraosseous line insertion and use, immobilization devices, medication administration, and use of an age/weight/length-based reference (i.e., Broselow tape, Handtevy System).

Program Requirement 6: Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator (PECC) assigned to your agency.

Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator (PECC)

Prehospital



Purpose and Function

The function of a pediatric emergency care coordinator (PECC) is to support the preparedness and safe delivery of emergency pediatric care. The activities taken on by PECC are flexible and up to the individual(s) in that role, but at a minimum the Vermont EMS for Children (EMS-C) program requests that PECCs:

- Serve as the point-of-contact between your agency or district and the Vermont EMS-C program.
- Promote and share pediatric continuing education opportunities.
- Ensure the availability of pediatric medications, equipment, and supplies at your agency or in your EMS district.



Qualifications

- Interest in pediatric emergency preparedness and response!
- Preferably someone familiar with the daily operations of your department (any level of EMS provider, medical director, administrative staff, training officer, head of service, etc.).



Different Models



One person serves as a PECC at an EMS agency (one person, one PECC)



One person serves as a PECC at multiple EMS agencies (district-level PECC)



A group of people share PECC responsibilities at an EMS agency (one agency, multiple PECCs)



Multiple agencies share a group of people who assume PECC responsibilities



Learn more at healthvermont.gov/EMS

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  @healthvermont

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