Updated EMS Commission Policy: Organization Renewals

In April, the EMS Commission approved a policy of sanctions for EMS provider organizations that submit their provider organizations certification renewals late.

All EMS provider organizations including BLS non-transport, BLS transport, ALS non-transport, ALS transport, supervising hospitals and training institutions fall under this new policy.

All EMS organizations have applicable rules requiring recertification applications be submitted at least sixty (60) days before the expiration. This rule permits IDHS time to review the application fully, perform any verifications necessary, request additional information to complete the application (which commonly occurs) and issue the new certification to the provider organization in a timely manner.

Many provider organizations are not submitting until the last week or even after their expiration with no consequences or reason to comply with the EMS rules.

**New Policy:**

- Once a provider organization is expired without a renewal issued, the provider organization shall cease all EMS operations.

- Tiers of Sanctions
  - Submitting between 30 and 60 days prior to expiration will result in a censure.
  - Submitting between eight (8) and 29 days prior to expiration will result in a censure with a $50 civil penalty.
  - Submitting seven (7) days or less prior to expiration will result in a censure with a $100 civil penalty.
  - Recertification applications submitted up to 60 days AFTER the expiration date will be processed but will result in a censure with a $250 civil penalty.
This new policy will be enforced beginning with the October 1, 2021, expiration cycle.

Neither the EMS Commission nor IDHS look to impose sanctions but hope this policy will increase awareness of the problem and ensure better compliance with deadlines already in place.

The goal remains integration of the provider organizations into Acadis where renewals can be processed online and certifications accessible such as with individual certifications. When this occurs, more information will be released.

Questions may be addressed to dhscertifications@dhs.in.gov