

COVID-19 FAQ

12. What proof or evidence must EMS personnel have (especially EMTs and Medics) to prove they are “essential” personnel or otherwise employed by a “life-sustaining business” when local or state government has issued a “stay in place or stay at home order”?

Date Added: 03/31/20

Answer: We are not aware of any standardized national letter or “pass” to use to prove someone works or volunteers for an essential or life sustaining business. What is an “essential” or “life sustaining business” is typically dictated by individual states or even municipalities. The states that have issued such orders thus far have included fall first responders – police, Fire and EMS in that essential category. We have heard that some employers are issuing letters to employees to carry with them in the event they are ever questioned (e.g., by law enforcement) as to why they are out in public during a stay in place order. If a local/regional/state “stay in place” order goes into effect, EMS personnel should consult their employer concerning any requirements for travel. EMS agencies should consult the appropriate state or local authority about whether “letter” or some other form to prove affiliation with an essential business is required during the order so it can be produced to law enforcement if needed.