



Emergency Medical Services Funding Assistance Program Guidance

In 1989, Wisconsin Act 102 created the original Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Funding Assistance Program (FAP) to provide supplemental funding for eligible Wisconsin ambulance services. Since its inception, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) has distributed approximately \$125.3 million in supplemental aid to local ambulance service providers throughout Wisconsin for improvements to their EMS systems and training of EMS personnel. Beginning with state fiscal year (SFY) 2025, Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) departments also became eligible to apply for FAP funds.

Under the authority of [Wis. Stat. § 256.12\(4\)](#), DHS shall annually distribute funds for ambulance service vehicles or vehicle equipment, emergency medical services supplies or equipment, nondurable or disposable medical supplies or equipment, medications, or emergency medical training for personnel to an emergency medical responder department or ambulance service provider that is a public agency, a volunteer fire department or a nonprofit corporation. The funds are disbursed under a funding formula consisting of an identical base amount for each emergency medical responder department or ambulance service provider plus a supplemental amount based on the population of the emergency medical responder department's primary service area or the population of the ambulance service provider's primary service or contract area, as established under [Wis. Stat. § 256.15\(5\)](#). If a public agency has contracted for ambulance service with a provider that operates for profit, DHS distributes the funds to the public agency. Funds distributed through the FAP shall supplement existing, budgeted moneys of or provided to an ambulance service provider and may not be used to replace, decrease, or release for alternative purposes the existing, budgeted moneys of or provided to the ambulance service provider.

Under the authority of [Wis. Stat. § 256.12\(5\)\(a\)](#), DHS also distributes funds annually to emergency medical responder departments or ambulance service providers that are public agencies, volunteer fire departments, or nonprofit corporations to purchase the training required for licensure and renewal of licensure as an emergency medical technician under [Wis. Stat. § 256.15\(6\)](#), or for certification and renewal of certification as an emergency medical responder under [§ 256.15\(8\)](#), and to pay for administration of the examination required for licensure or renewal of licensure as an emergency medical technician under [§ 256.15\(6\)\(a\)3](#) and [\(b\)1](#) or for certification or renewal of certification as an emergency medical responder under [§ 256.15 \(8\)](#).

If an emergency medical responder department or ambulance service provider does not use the training funds received under [Wis. Stat. § 256.12\(5\)\(a\)](#) within a calendar year, the emergency medical responder department or ambulance service provider may escrow those funds in the year in which the funds are distributed to the emergency medical responder department or ambulance service provider, except funds distributed for nondurable or disposable medical supplies or equipment or medications. In a subsequent year, an emergency medical responder department or ambulance service provider may use escrowed funds to purchase the training required for certification or renewal of certification as an emergency medical responder or for licensure or renewal of licensure as an EMS practitioner at any level.

[Wisconsin Stat. §§ 256.12\(4\)\(c\)](#) and [\(5\)\(b\)](#) require DHS to make a financial report on the expenditure of any funds received through FAP a condition of an emergency medical responder department and as a condition of relicensure for ambulance service providers. DHS also requires, as a condition of ambulance service provider relicensure under [Wis. Stat. § 256.15\(6\)\(c\)\(2\)](#), submission of a form stating the population and boundaries of an ambulance service provider's primary service or contract area, signed by a representative of the ambulance service provider and the clerk of each county, city, town or village served by the ambulance service provider.

EMS FAP Definitions

- **Escrow:** To hold money received in one fiscal year in trust until it can be used in a subsequent fiscal year. Funds escrowed from previous fiscal years may only be used for the purposes allowed under statute for which they were issued. Money not expended in the fiscal year appropriation should be kept in a separate account and may only be used for FAP-related expenses in subsequent years.
- **Federal Tax Identification Number:** The [federal tax identification number \(FEIN\) assigned by the IRS](#) is used to identify a business entity.
- **Financial report:** The standardized form identified in [Wis. Stat. §§ 256.12\(4\)\(c\)](#) and [\(5\)\(b\)](#) where a service must list all expenditures of FAP funds under either Support and Improvement or Training and Examination Aids. Submission of this form is a condition of ambulance service provider relicensure under [Wis. Stat. §§ 256.12\(4\)\(c\)](#) and [\(5\)\(b\)](#).
- **Funding Assistance Program (FAP):** In 1989, Wisconsin Act 102 created the original emergency Funding Assistance Program (FAP) to provide supplemental funding for EMS with a large portion of the funding allocated to assist with initial and refresher EMS training identified in [Wis. Stat. §§ 256.12\(4\)\(a\)](#) and [\(5\)\(a\)](#). Starting July 1, 2024 (State Fiscal Year 2025), emergency medical responder departments are eligible to receive funds in addition to ambulance service providers.
- **EMS Program Municipal Signature and Population Verification Form:** The standardized form identified in [Wis. Stat. § 256.15\(6\)\(c\)\(2\)](#) where an ambulance provider and the clerk of a county, city, town, or village served by the ambulance service provider certify the population and boundaries of the ambulance service provider's primary service area in that county, city, town, or village.
- **Municipality:** A village, town, or city that has corporate status and usually powers of self-government.
- **Nonprofit Corporation:** Per [Wis. Stat. § 256.01\(12\)](#), "nonprofit corporation" means a nonstock corporation organized under [Wis. Stat. ch. 181](#) that is a nonprofit corporation as defined in [§ 181.0103\(17\)](#). A nonprofit corporation does not make distributions, except as authorized under [§§ 181.1302\(1\), \(2\), and \(3\)](#). Nonprofit corporations will often fall under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, allowing for federal tax exemption of nonprofit organizations, specifically those that are considered public charities, private foundations, or private operating foundations.
- **Per Capita:** A term commonly used in the field of statistics in place of saying "per person"; measures the per person in a given area (county, village, town, or city).
- **Primary Service Area:** Per [Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 110.04\(60\)](#), a primary service area is the geographic area in which an ambulance service provider is designated to provide first-in EMS under contract with a local government. Primary service area does not include areas that the provider serves through mutual aid or back-up arrangements.
- **Private for Profit:** A business or other organization whose primary goal is making money (a profit), as opposed to a nonprofit organization that focuses on a goal, such as helping the community, and is concerned with money only as much as necessary to keep the organization operating.
- **Public Agency:** Per [Wis. Stat. § 256.15\(1\)\(n\)](#), a public agency means this state, a county, city, village or town; an agency of this state or of a county, city, village, or town; or Tribe.
- **Support and Improvement of Emergency Services:** Support and Improvement of Emergency Services is one component of the FAP that distributes funds for ambulance service vehicles or vehicle equipment, EMS supplies or equipment, or emergency medical training for personnel of an EMR department or ambulance service provider under [Wis. Stat. § 256.12\(4\)](#).

- **EMS Practitioner and EMR Training and Examination Aid:** EMS Practitioner and EMR Training and Examination Aid is one component of the FAP that distributes funds annually to EMR departments or ambulance service providers to purchase the training required for licensure or renewal of licensure as an emergency medical technician under [Wis. Stat. § 256.15\(6\)](#) or for certification and renewal of certification as an EMR under [§ 256.15\(8\)](#), and to pay for administration of the examination required for licensure or certification.

EMS FAP Funding Formula

The current funding formula for FAP is based on a total amount of \$25 million available for state fiscal year (SFY) 2027. This amount is divided between the Support and Improvement and EMS Practitioner and EMR Training and Examination Aid funds using the following multi-part formula:

- **Support and Improvement:** The current allocation of \$25 million will have \$1 million allocated for the training and examination aid. All EMR departments and ambulance service providers who apply and meet the statutory requirements of the EMS FAP receive a predetermined base rate of \$10,000. The total amount of base funds will be deducted from the \$24 million allocation. The remaining funds will then be divided by the total populations reported from all services to determine a per capita rate. The base rate and per capita rate will be added together to give each service's individual award.
- **EMS Practitioner and EMR Training and Examination Aid:** The amount available for EMS Practitioner and EMR Training and Examination Aid is determined by dividing \$1 million equally amongst all services that apply and qualify for these funds.

Getting Started

[Wisconsin Admin. Code § DHS 110.48\(1\)](#) states the [service director](#) serves as the primary contact between the EMS provider and DHS. The service director, for the eligible service, will have access to the EMS FAP application when the application period opens. If there is a change of service director during the application process, the new service director will need to contact the FAP team to determine if any additional steps are needed to ensure the service director change does not affect the application process and information is not lost in the transition.

The [service director](#) will need to perform the following steps to complete the EMS FAP application:

- Verify that the service email address entered in the [E-Licensing](#) account is current and accessible.
- Verify service demographics in [E-Licensing](#). If you find incorrect information, please contact your [EMS regional coordinator](#).
- Verify service federal employer ID number.
- Submit a financial report of expenditures for the previous SFY along with the current application in [E-Licensing](#).
- Provide [EMS Program Municipal Signature and Population Verification forms](#) from each municipality in your [primary service area](#) and upload them to the application. Unless your primary service area changes, [Municipal Signature and Population Verification forms](#) need to be submitted only once for each licensing period and all populations entered in the application must match the documentation submitted.
 - **Note:** Populations still need to be included on the application to determine the total population of your primary service area.
 - [Municipal Signature and Population Verification forms](#) must have a clerk signature dated on or after **July 1, 2023**.
- EMR departments are not required to complete [EMS Program Municipal Signature and Population Verification forms](#) unless they opt in for the additional per capita amount. Without these forms, EMR departments will only be receive the base rate and, if opting in for, the EMS Practitioner and Emergency Medical Responder Training and Examination Aid.

How to Submit FAP Application

All Wisconsin EMS applications are located in the Wisconsin [E-Licensing](#) system. The following steps will assist you in your application submission process:

1. The service director will log into the Wisconsin [E-Licensing](#) system.
2. Once logged into the account, navigate to the "Application" tab.
3. In the "Start Applications" page, go to the "Service Applications."
4. Under the heading for the service you want to apply for, select "View All Service Applications."
5. Access your service EMS FAP application, which will have the name "**SFY 2027 FAP Application**". If you are a service director for more than one service, an application will need to be completed for each service applying for FAP funds.
6. Complete the application process.
7. Submit the EMS FAP application for review by the deadline.
8. You will receive a confirmation notification email that your service EMS FAP application has been received into the Wisconsin [E-Licensing](#) system. If you do not receive a confirmation email, contact the [FAP team](#).
9. The EMS FAP application will be reviewed.
10. If the application is incorrect or missing supporting items, the application will be opened and sent back to the service director for revision. The service director will be notified by email if an application has incorrect or missing information. Do not resubmit an application without making the requested changes. Once corrections have been made, re-submit the EMS FAP application for review by the deadline provided.
11. FAP applications that have been reviewed and are complete will be moved into one of two queues which can be seen in E-Licensing:
 - "**FAP Application Complete-Support Improvement**".
 - Did not opt in or are not eligible for Training and Education funds.
 - "**FAP Application Complete Support, Improvement, Education and Training**".
 - Opted in for the additional Training and Education funds.

Notification of Award

You will receive a confirmation notification email that your service's EMS FAP application has been approved. When awards have been calculated and are ready for disbursement, an email notification will be sent out explaining that the service's FAP Award Letter has been uploaded to the E-Licensing account which will have a breakdown of the award(s).

FAP awards will be issued via Automated Clearing House (ACH). Services with a private, for-profit tax status must receive payment to the municipality in which they are contracted with. If your service was awarded SFY 2026 FAP funds and had any issues with receiving payment or need to update an existing account, please contact the [FAP team](#). Any services that did not apply in SFY 2026 will also need to contact the [FAP team](#) to locate or set up an account.

You will receive notification that your service's EMS FAP application has been denied and no monies awarded through email.

Payee Information—Type of Service Designation

As part of the application, the EMR department or ambulance service provider will be classified based on its "type of service." This information is drawn directly from the Wisconsin [E-Licensing](#) system. Options include:

- **Municipal or public agency:** If the service is a municipal or a public agency the payment will be made payable to the municipality or its subunits. The municipality is responsible for determining the preferred payee when setting up its information.

- **Nonprofit corporation:** If the ambulance service is organized as a nonprofit corporation under [Wis. Stat. ch. 181](#), the payment will be made payable to the ambulance service.
- **Private for-profit corporation:** [Wis. Stat. § 256.12\(4\)\(b\)](#) mandates that allocations to private, for-profit ambulance services be paid to the contracting municipality. Payments for ambulance service providers that are for-profit services will be made payable to the designated municipality.

No matter who the payment is made payable to, the money must be allocated to the intended EMS provider and used for the purposes described in [Wis. Stat. § 256.12\(4\)](#) and [Wis. Stat. § 256.15\(5\)](#).

FAP Review Process

The review process verifies the following information for the service application for EMS FAP monies:

- Service organization type
- Base rate \$10,000
- Service area population
- Service area population multiplied by the per capita rate

FAP Financial Report of Expenditures Review Process

The review process verifies the following information for the service financial report for expenditures of EMS FAP monies:

- Education and training spending records
- Escrow accounts
- Vehicle initial purchase or maintenance costs
- Purchased equipment costs
- Additional criteria as determined by the department

For more information or assistance, please email the [FAP team](#).