



Department of Health

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.
Commissioner

KRISTIN M. PROUD
Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

September 15, 2021
EMS DAL Number 21-06

Dear EMS Providers and Local Health Departments:

This DAL is a follow-up to EMS DAL Number 21-05, issued on June 29, 2021, advising that the Department of Health was analyzing whether Basic EMTs were covered under the PREP Act to continue administering COVID-19 vaccinations. Although Basic EMTs are not expressly named within the PREP Act Declarations, the Department of Health is hereby authorizing Basic EMTs to administer COVID-19 vaccinations pursuant to its authority under Title 10 NYCRR § 2.56. Before administering COVID-19 vaccinations, Basic EMTs must complete all of the following:

1. Complete the NYS DOH COVID-19 Vaccine Training for Vaccinators Modules on www.VitalSignsAcademy.com

EMS providers must take this course on Vital Signs Academy. EMS providers go to www.VitalSignsAcademy.com and click on the top right hand side of the page "Login/Register".

You must complete the training modules in your system.

1. Module 1 - Background on COVID-19 Vaccines
2. Module 2 - COVID-19 Vaccine Considerations
3. Module 3 - COVID-19 Vaccine Administration
4. Module 4 - Shipping, Storage, and Handling
5. Privacy and Security of Health Information in New York State
2. **Complete in-person clinical vaccine administration training with assessment of skills and competencies in accordance with NYSDOH guidance.**
 1. For new vaccinators, the in-person vaccine administration training must cover the areas listed in the [Immunization Action Coalition Skills Checklist for Vaccine Administration](#). The assessment of the individual's skills and competencies must be done using this checklist, with all areas identified as meeting or exceeding required skills and competencies for vaccine administration.
3. Login to VitalSignsAcadem.com and complete the attestation online.

The Department of Health's express authorization of Basic EMTs to administer COVID-19 vaccinations means that such individuals will be "qualified persons" under the PREP Act in accordance with to 42 U.S.C. sec. 247d-6d(i)(8).

The Department of Health has continually worked to ensure the safe and efficient administration of COVID-19 vaccines and Basic EMTs serve a critical role in the COVID-19

vaccination efforts. Thank you for all you have done and continue to do to support vaccination efforts in New York State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan P. Greenberg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ryan P. Greenberg
Director
Bureau of Emergency Medical Services
& Trauma System