



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

ROBERT GORDON  
DIRECTOR

**MEMORANDUM**

March 16, 2020

TO: EMS Education Programs  
FROM: Kathy Wahl, Director Division of EMS and Trauma  
SUBJECT: EMT Hospital Observation Hours During COVID-19 Pandemic

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has been notified that some basic EMT courses have students that are still required to complete the required hospital emergency department observation hours, and some hospitals have suspended all clinical hours during the COVID 19 outbreak.

If a basic EMT program is close to completion, and students have not had an opportunity to complete eight hours in a hospital setting, a temporary modification to this requirement has been identified. It will be acceptable to substitute eight hours of clinical on an ambulance rather than the eight hours hospital requirement.

It is imperative that students utilize appropriate PPE at all times, practice appropriate hand hygiene and cough etiquette, and not report to class or clinicals if they are ill.

If the program will be modifying this requirement for students, the course coordinator must notify MDHHS via email at MDHHS-EMSED within 24 hours of the decision. Thank you very much.