

Maryland EMS News

For All Emergency Medical Care Providers

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Maryland Celebrates 30th Anniversary of Child Passenger Safety Law

The week of September 14–20 is National Child Passenger Safety Awareness Week, but it also marks 30 years since Maryland enacted its first child passenger safety law in 1984. More than thirty years ago, car crash research proved that car safety seat use by children would save lives and prevent injuries, but many people still did not use car

seats for their children. To protect the youngest passengers on roads, Maryland legislators took action by passing a law requiring that every child under the age of 3 be restrained in a safety seat and every child age 3 to 5 be secured by a seat belt. Since then the law has been amended to keep it current with research and safety products, including the current

mandate that every child under 8 years old must ride in an appropriate car seat unless the child is 4' 9" or taller, and every child from 8 to 16 years old who is not secured in a car seat or booster must be buckled into a vehicle seat belt.

The State of Maryland is commemorating 30 years of protecting children on roads by releasing a 30-second public service announcement (PSA) video entitled "Do Your Part: Buckle Up," produced collaboratively by MIEMSS, Maryland Kids in Safety Seats, and the Maryland Highway Safety Office, with assistance by Maryland State Police and Babies 'R' Us. Copies of the video are available by contacting MIEMSS EMS for Children at eps@miemss.org or 410-706-8647 and will also be available for viewing on MIEMSS YouTube page (www.youtube.com/user/MarylandEMS).

For more information about child passenger safety, contact KISS at 800-370-SEAT or www.mdkiss.org.



Seat Belt Use Saving Lives in Maryland

According to a 2014 roadside observational survey, more than 92% of drivers and front seat passengers in Maryland are wearing their seat belt while traveling on Maryland's roadways, an increase from the 90.7% observed in 2013. The Maryland seat belt rise eclipses the national rate of 87% in 2013. Last year, Maryland experienced the lowest number of traffic-related fatalities in half a century, and a major role in reducing injuries and fatalities from crashes is buckling your seat belt.

"I am very encouraged by the fact that more people are using their seat belts," said Milt Chaffee, the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) Administrator and Governor Martin O'Malley's Highway Safety Representative. "Safety is one of the MVA's highest priorities. The proper use of seat belts and child passenger safety seats has proven to be incredibly effective in preventing injuries and deaths."

Maryland's seat belt usage results were obtained from more than 50,000 observations conducted at 140 sites. Passenger car occupants were observed to buckle up 93% of the time, while pickup truck drivers and passengers buckle up a little over 86% of the time. Smaller, local roadways were observed to have a lower seat belt use rate than highways.

Maryland's seat belt observation came on the heels of the state's participation in the Click it or Ticket media and enforcement campaign. In May 2014 the Click it or Ticket program used media and highly targeted educational efforts to encourage motorists to buckle up in all seats, every ride, day and night.

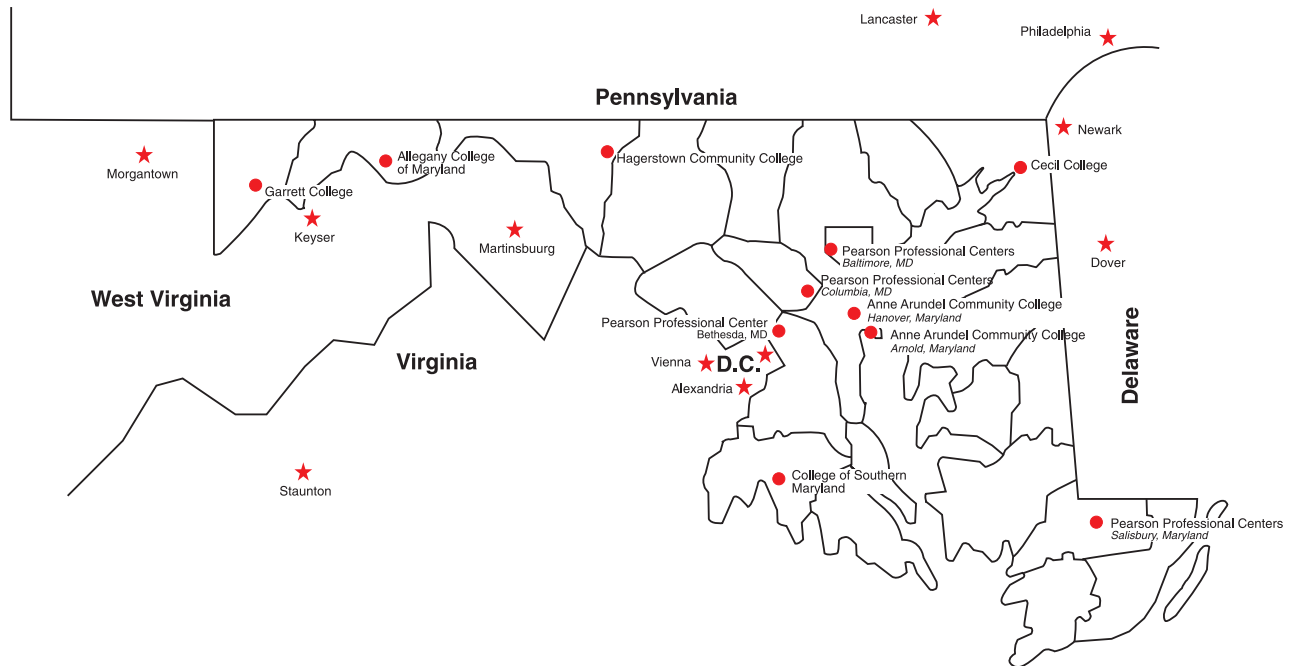
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NREMT Pearson–VUE Maryland Test Sites

(★ Out-of-State NREMT Pearson–VUE Test Sites)



Anne Arundel Community College
7556 Teague Rd
Room 310
Hanover, Maryland 21076

Garrett College
687 Mosser Road
ROOM TC 305
McHenry, Maryland 21541

Pearson Professional Centers
3108 Lord Baltimore Dr
Suite 103
Baltimore, Maryland 21244

Pearson Professional Centers
4350 East West Highway
Suite 525
Bethesda Towers
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

Pearson Professional Centers
9891 Broken Land Parkway
Suite 108
Columbia, Maryland 21046

Pearson Professional Centers
1315 Mt. Hermon Road
Suite B
Salisbury, Maryland 21804

Allegany College of MD
12401 Willowbrook Rd, SE
Continue Ed Bldg, RM CE15
Cumberland, Maryland 21502

Anne Arundel Community College
101 College Pkwy
Building: Student Union
Room: 240
Arnold, Maryland 21012

Cecil College
One Seahawk Drive
North East, Maryland 21901

College of Southern Maryland
8730 Mitchell Rd
LR Building
Room # 114
La Plata, Maryland 20646

Hagerstown Community College
11400 Robinwood Drive
Learning Resource Center Room 322.
(3 story building closest to entrance)
Hagerstown, Maryland 21742

The web page to search for NREMT Exam test locations is: <http://www.vue.com/vtclocator/>

MIEMSS would like to remind candidates for initial Maryland BLS certification (EMT and EMR) that, beginning with fall 2014 classes, they will be testing with the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT). Maryland students can take the exam at any NREMT-approved Pearson VUE site in the United States, including those shown on the map above.

MIEMSS and Partners Develop New Perinatal Database

MIEMSS has recently completed the 5-year re-designation of Level III A, B, and C Perinatal Centers in Maryland. In an effort to ensure ongoing monitoring and improved outcomes of the care provided to both the maternal patient and neonates, MIEMSS has developed the Maryland Perinatal Programs database. This database contains information

about the care and outcomes of both maternal and high-risk newborn infants in the State that have received care at a Level III Perinatal Center.

Maryland Perinatal Centers currently submit neonatal data to the Vermont Oxford Network (VON) Registry. Centers then receive center-specific reporting to help target

clinical practices and patient outcomes. VON focuses on neonatal outcomes and does not address maternal outcomes.

In collaboration with Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) and the Perinatal Advisory Committee and its subcommittees, quality indicators for both maternal and neonatal care were developed and incorporated into the database. The database will provide unique, reliable, and confidential reporting for use in quality management, process improvement, internal audit, and peer review. Each center will access the database via a secure online portal and submit their data annually. Centers will only see their submitted data and will have the opportunity to benchmark their results against the State aggregate data. Dr. Carla Bailey, MIEMSS Perinatal Programs Director, will have the ability to benchmark each Center's data against the State aggregate data and identify areas of opportunity for quality improvement in the care of patients and their families. The database will provide MIEMSS as well as DHMH with a statewide perspective on maternal and neonatal care and outcomes.



The EMRC/SYSCOM operations in MIEMSS' Baltimore location has officially moved into its new, temporary home for the next few months. Between September 2014 and January 2015, upgrades to the structure and technical operations will take place while EMRC/SYSCOM remains fully operational in its temporary space. MIEMSS anticipates that EMRC/SYSCOM will be housed in a new, permanent space by January 2015.

**SAVE
THE DATE!**



**Winterfest
EMS Conference**

Preconference: January 22-23, 2015
Full Conference: January 24-25, 2015
Tilghman Island, MD

More info coming soon!



The fall 2014 East Coast Helicopter Operations (ECHO) conference was recently held at the Airplane Owners and Pilots Association's National Aviation (AOPA) Community Center facility at the Frederick Municipal Airport. Helicopters and nearly 200 crew members from Maryland and surrounding state agencies participated in daylong training that focused on medevac, flight operations, and law enforcement missions. The event was sponsored by ECHO, AOPA, and Maryland State Police Aviation Command.



In August 2014 volunteers from Talbot County instructed participants in Hands-Only CPR at the Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) Summer Conference. The "Cowardly Lion" (right photo) was on hand to help show participants that CPR is nothing to be afraid of.

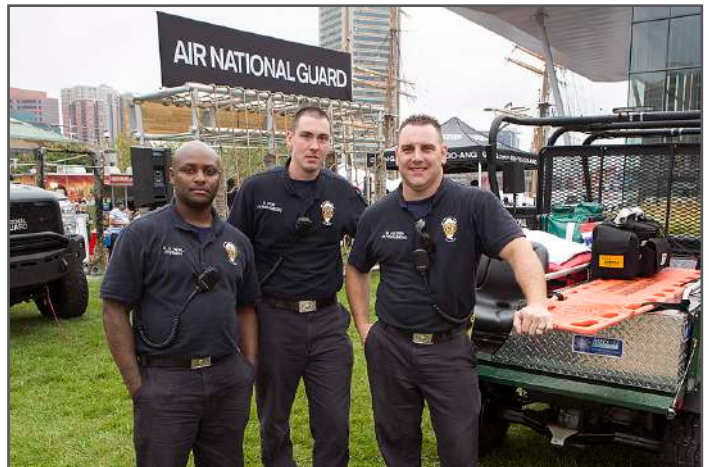
Star-Spangled Spectacular in Baltimore

The 200-year celebration of the Star Spangled Banner took place in and around Baltimore September 9–16, 2014. This “Star-Spangled Spectacular” was one of the largest events in Baltimore history and brought as many as 1 million visitors to the greater Baltimore area. The celebration coincided with a nationally “Star Spangled Banner” themed televised Ravens/Steelers game on the evening of September 11, as well as six Orioles games (including a double header), from September 12–16.

Baltimore City, Baltimore County, US Navy, US Coast Guard, Maryland Emergency Management Agency, MIEMSS, the Department of Human Resources, volunteers from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene “MD Responds” program, and many other agencies were involved with public safety preparations for this event over the last year. During the event MIEMSS staff assisted Baltimore City Fire/EMS with emergency medical services and patient tracking system support.

During the event there were five First Aid Stations, three of which were staffed with physicians and nurses. Fourteen ALS teams maneuvered through the crowds on bicycles and gator carts responding to requests for assistance. Mutual aid units, including transport units from Anne Arundel and Howard Counties and Annapolis, and the Medical Ambulance Buses from Howard and Anne Arundel Counties, were staged to augment the City resources as required. Throughout the four-day event, EMS encountered 140 patients and transported 28 to area hospitals.

For more information about the event, visit www.starspangled200.com.



Various teams from the region helped staff the First Aid Tents and tend to EMS needs of the Star Spangled Spectacular's many attendees.

World Heart Day

World Heart Day will be observed on September 29, 2014. To commemorate the occasion, the World Heart Federation is asking individuals to focus on making heart-healthy decisions in order to reduce their risk for life-threatening cardiovascular disease. Organizations can visit www.world-heart-federation.org to get tips on planning their own World Heart Day event. To watch their public service announcement on “the biggest intervention against cardiovascular disease in the world,” visit <http://youtu.be/dfhB3NJ8uTU>.

Seat Belt Use Saving Lives in Maryland

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“We’re out to save lives, not write tickets,” stated Thomas J. Gianni, Chief of the MVA’s Maryland Highway Safety Office. “Between 2009 and 2013, almost 600 people who were not wearing seat belts died in crashes. If they had been properly belted, it’s estimated that nearly half of those people would be alive today.”

When used, seat belts reduce the risk of death to front-seat passengers by 45% and injury by 50%. Those numbers are even higher for light-truck occupants, where seat belts reduce the risk of death by 60% and injury by 65%.

“I ask that everyone please do their part and buckle up,” stated Chaffee. “Make sure your children are riding in the proper booster or child safety seat. Together, we can get to 100% belt use as we strive towards zero fatalities on Maryland roadways.”

EMS providers are especially encouraged to protect themselves, and be role models for others, by using safety belts in all EMS vehicles, even in ambulance patient compartments.

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Governor Martin O’Malley
Lt. Governor Anthony Brown

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