ADVOCATE ILLINOIS MASONIC MEDICAL CENTER
JOHN H. STROGER JR. HOSPITAL OF COOK COUNTY
NORTHWESTERN MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO MEDICAL CENTER

DATE: November 16, 2026

TO: Region 11 EMS Clinicians
Region 11 EMS Base Stations

FROM: **REGION 11 EMS MEDICAL DIRECTORS CONSORTIUM**

SUBJECT: **"BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UPDATE 2026" MANDATORY EMS CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE)**

There will be a "Behavioral Health Update 2026" mandatory EMS Continuing Education (CE) module for all EMTs, Paramedics, ECRNs, and ECPs in the Region 11 Chicago EMS Systems that will begin November 16, 2026, and must be completed by January 12, 2027, at 1200 hours. This will be a three (3) hour CE module consisting of two assignments.

This mandatory education module will consist of **two required assignments**. The first assignment is the "Behavioral Health Update" and the second assignment is "Creating Safe Scenes" from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). For EMTs and Paramedics, both educations are available on the *Vector Solutions – EMS Medical Directors Consortium* site, and you should receive notice of the assignments through the email linked to your account. Both assignments will be found in your To-Do list. You will receive two certificates, one for each assignment. Users who do not achieve a 75% score after three attempts will not receive credit for the assignment and must contact their Resource Hospital for review. On successful completion, users will earn two certificates, each worth 1.5 hours of Continuing Education in the "Medical" Core Content Category. Both certificates will be listed under "My History" and do NOT need to be uploaded and submitted again.

For EMTs and Paramedics who fail to complete the mandatory CE module prior to the date and time deadline as stated above, that EMS clinician will receive written notification from the EMS System Coordinator via the email associated with their Vector Solutions – EMS Medical Directors Consortium site. This email serves as an official notification of the failure to meet deadline requirements and includes the intent to suspend from EMS System Participation. The EMS clinician's employer agency will be copied on the email notification.

Failure to complete the mandatory module of both assignments by the deadline (January 12 at 1200 hours) will result in a required administrative fee of $100/CE credit hour, for a total of $300. After the deadline of the mandatory module, there is a 15-day grace period to complete the CE requirements and arrange payment of the administrative fee with the EMS Clinician's assigned EMS System Coordinator (per the profile in Vector Solutions). Failure to complete requirements of the mandatory CE and administrative fee payment before the end of the 15-day grace period (January 27 at 1200 hours), will result in suspension of EMS System Participation in Region 11. This grace period serves as an opportunity for the EMS clinician to have due process prior to suspension of EMS System Participation in Region 11. The administrative fee for this mandatory Continuing Education module is $300 and the suspension date is January 28, 2027, at 0800 hours.

For all ECRNs and ECPs, the education will be provided through your EMS Coordinator or EMS Medical Director and three hours of ECRN CE will be provided.

The implementation date for the new Region 11 Protocols, Policies and Procedures from the "Behavioral Health Update 2026" Continuing Education assignment is January 28, 2027.

Please contact your Resource Hospital with questions.

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