



C. Earl Hunter, Commissioner

Promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment.

March 3, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: GIA Committee
Steve Lansford
Steve McDade

FROM: Alonzo Smith
Director
Division of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma

SUBJECT: Revision of SC Grant-In-Aid (GIA) Program

Based on the concerns expressed by the SC EMS Association, we have conducted a comprehensive review of the SC GIA program. We have taken the input from various sources regarding the GIA process and have streamlined the program. The changes to the Grant-in-Aid program are as follows:

- Staff is working with the Budget/Finance offices in order for the Regional EMS offices to receive their State Appropriation contract and be allowed to request their reimbursement within the July time frame. This will speed the process barring any untoward circumstances, e.g. budget reductions or other delays at the beginning of the fiscal year.
- During the next grant cycle, our office will have all GIA program information available for download on-line in PDF format. GIA packets will also be available upon request.
- Equipment on the approved List of Eligible Items will be automatically approved without justification. EMS services who request equipment not on the approved list or questionable quantities of items may be required to submit justification or equipment literature.
- The state approved List of Eligible Items will be reviewed annually for changes or revisions based on recommendations from the GIA committee and/or EMS providers.
- The EMS office will continue to review and approve all GIA applications. The Regional EMS offices / GIA committee will only review unusual or extraordinary grants. This change in itself will considerably expedite the application process.
- DUI Grant-in-Aid funds will remain competitive and will continue to be processed through the Regional EMS offices.
- During each succeeding fiscal year, staff, in conjunction with the GIA committee, will review the GIA process to determine if any recommended changes or modifications are necessary.

If you have any questions, please submit them to me, *in writing*, no later than March 16, 2009.