



**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health  
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Bureau of Emergency Medical Services  
Emergency Medical Services Certification Commission

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## Expansion to the Louisiana Scope of Practice

### Position of the Louisiana EMS Certification Commission

The consensus of the LA EMSCC is that the benefit of this expansion to the public is significant and the risk is negligible if agencies utilizing the expansion provide appropriate training and verify competency for individuals authorized to perform the skill or procedure.

### Specific Expansion

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, licensed EMS professionals at the EMR, EMT and Advanced EMT level in Louisiana will be allowed to perform the following procedures:

- Nasal swabbing for specimen collection
- Nasopharyngeal swabbing for specimen collection
- Oral swabbing for specimen collection
- Capillary blood collection for analysis "fingerstick"

### Record Keeping

Agencies utilizing these skills must maintain documentation demonstrating all individuals authorized by the agency's Medical Director to perform these skill(s)/procedure(s) have attended an agency-specific training module. Agency documentation of competency validation is required every 24 months.

(This expansion, under the same training requirement, is already approved for Paramedics as part of the Ear, Nose and Throat Assessment (Advanced) under the LA SOP).

### Duration of the expanded scope for EMR, EMT and AEMT Providers

This expansion of skills will remain in force during the COVID -19 crisis or until rescinded by the Louisiana EMS Certification Commission