

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

July 2, 2015

### Current Program Close-Out

- 1. Now that the law has passed, do the current administrative policies and procedures remain in place?**
  - The funding provisions in Act 12 of 2015 take effect 8/1/2015. Therefore, the current funding period has been extended through 7/31/2015.
  - Current administrative policies and procedures will remain in effect until 7/31/2015.
  - The reconciliation report will now cover the period of 7/1/2014 – 7/31/2015.
  - The due date of the reconciliation report has been extended to 9/30/2015 to allow sufficient time to close out the old funding program.
  - As part of the reconciliation, PSAPs will be asked to provide their wireline/VoIP account balance as of 7/31/2015 to get a clear end point to the current program.
  - The webtool is scheduled to be updated the week of the July 13<sup>th</sup> to reflect these changes.
- 2. Will PEMA be disbursing the revenues collected in the second quarter (April, May, June) of this year under the expired legislation? If yes, how will it be distributed?**
  - Yes, wireless monies collected in April, May and June will be disbursed in July. You can expect to receive the 1st quarter wireless payment shown on the FY 2015/2016 PSAP Line Item Report.
  - Any VoIP funds remitted to the State Treasurer for April, May, and June will be disbursed to the appropriate County or City in August.

### New Program Administration

- 1. Since there is no distinction between wireline and wireless funding going forward, what will the guidelines be for eligible 9-1-1 expenses?**
  - The uniform 911 surcharge, remittance and disbursement procedures will take effect on August 1, 2015.
  - Within Act 12 of 2015, the legislature required an interim funding formula. PEMA will administer this interim formula during the period from 8/1/2015 – 12/31/2015. This period will also serve to transition the program to a calendar year. The interim funding period will allow time for the establishment of the 911 Board.
  - PEMA will take a block grant approach towards administering the funding for the interim period of 8/1/2015 – 12/31/2015. PSAPs will have discretion over how funds are spent provided the funds are used for a specified range of activities that are related to the provision of 911 service.
  - Eligible activities will be based on the current eligibility list for wireless, wireline, and VoIP. PEMA, in consultation with the Board, will then publish eligible uses for funding in subsequent calendar years.

**2. Will the line item report from our FY15 application be used to determine further funding for this year?**

- You can expect to receive the 1st quarter payment shown on the line item report.
- Subsequent disbursements will be based on the interim funding formula provided in the new law.
- Effective 8/1/2015, PSAPs will not have to adhere to the FY 15 funding application. PSAPs will have discretion over how those funds are spent as described in the previous question.

**3. What disbursements should we expect once the new surcharge amount goes into place?**

- Disbursements will be made quarterly as required by the new law.
- Revenue remitted to the State Treasurer for August and September will be disbursed to the PSAPs in October.
- October, November and December revenue will be disbursed in January.
- Under the interim formula required by law, PSAPs will receive a share equivalent to 106% of your wireline and VoIP average receipts over the prior five years. The remaining amount in the fund will be disbursed based on a ratio of your PSAPs average reported expenses to average reported expenses statewide over the past 5 years.
- Wireline and VoIP averages along with the ratio calculation will be provided after the webinar.

**4. What should we do if we receive wireline funds directly going forward?**

- You should retain any wireline or VoIP funds received for April, May, and June.
- Should a carrier remit a single monthly payment to you for July, you should retain those funds as well but notify the carrier in writing that all future remittances should be made to the Commonwealth
- Any wireline or VoIP funds received for August and going forward should be forwarded to the State Treasurer.
- The State Treasurer is in the process of establishing the new 911 fund account now. Banking information and the process to remit those funds will be provided as soon as possible.