

Proposed Revision to EMS Administrative Rule 105 (as of 11/17/2020)

Multnomah County EMS is issuing an immediate **change to minimum staffing allowances for licensed BLS ground ambulances providing non-emergency medical transportation.**

Minimum staffing shall be one qualified driver meeting the requirements specified in OAR 333-250-0270(6) and one EMT or above or an ambulance based clinician.

Current Multnomah County EMS Administrative Rules require BLS ambulances be staffed, at minimum, with two EMTs. This immediate change is consistent with Oregon Administrative Rule 333-255-0070 and is permitted by Multnomah County Code § 21.406 and the Multnomah County Ambulance Service Plan.

Submit public comment by 12/18/2020 to alison.j.goldstein@multco.us.

EMS-105 Ambulance Staffing

County ambulance staffing requirements do not apply to a) mutual aid resources requested by the County through mutual aid agreements with other jurisdictions, or b) EMS resources that are not licensed by the County but are requested and deployed by the County during a declared disaster.

- A. Basic Life Support (BLS) Non-Emergency. Minimum staffing shall be one qualified driver meeting the requirements specified in OAR 333-250-0270(6) and one Oregon State Licensed EMT or above or an ambulance based clinician.
- B. Advanced Life Support (ALS). Each ALS ambulance responding to 9-1-1 medical calls or any other calls not otherwise specified below, shall be staffed by two (2) Oregon State licensed Paramedics.
- C. Each ALS ambulance providing an ALS non-emergency inter-facility request, originating at a hospital, an acute care hospital, long-term acute care hospital, or skilled nursing facility may be staffed by at least one (1) Oregon State licensed Paramedic and one (1) Oregon State licensed Emergency Medical Technician. The Paramedic shall be in attendance with the patient and shall be responsible for all medical care provided the patient while in the provider's care.

An ALS ambulance transferring a patient on a ventilator from an acute care hospital, long-term acute care hospital, or skilled nursing facility to another acute care hospital, long-term acute care hospital, or skilled nursing facility shall be staffed with two (2) Oregon State licensed Paramedics, or one (1) Oregon State licensed Paramedic and one (1) respiratory therapist (RT) or one (1) registered nurse (RN) in the patient care compartment during the transport. Staffing must be confirmed at time of request.

This staffing requirement does not apply to the transport of ventilator-dependent patients capable of independent living defined as living with family members without specially trained nurses or respiratory care staff. Nor does the requirement apply for the stable ventilator-dependent Skilled Nursing Facility resident who has a scheduled non-emergency appointment at a hospital or clinic.

- D. Only ambulances licensed by Multnomah County as ALS ambulances and staffed in accordance with this rule may provide ALS level patient care.

- E. Oregon State licensed EMT-Intermediate, and Advanced EMT's may provide care in an ambulance only at the level of an EMT-Basic in accordance with the standing orders of the EMS Medical Director.
 - 1. This limitation does not apply to EMS First Responder providers in their capacity to assist in the ambulance and deliver patient care as part of their first response duties.
- F. Medical providers administering patient care on a routine basis on a County licensed CCT ambulance shall meet all State requirements to work on an ambulance, and shall be included on the agency list of field EMS personnel.
 - 1. This is not meant to preclude an independent medical provider (e.g. M.D., D.O. physician assistant/ P.A. or nurse practitioner/ N.P.) from providing/continuing care on scene or during transport of a patient which they are medically responsible.

To support the requirement and necessity for the Medical Director to know who is actively practicing under his/her medical direction, all County licensed Provider (agencies) are required to maintain an up-to-date EMS Provider list on file at all times with the EMS Program. The provider agency shall ensure that its list is updated with new information as it becomes available see EMS-410. This list shall include each EMS Provider's name, state license number, and level of licensure.