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OPERATIONAL BULLETIN

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Approved By:	Wil O’Neal, Maine EMS Director		
Overview: This bulletin aims to ensure a universal understanding of the responsibilities of a licensed EMS service as a clinical site and who may participate in clinicals with an EMS service in Maine.			

Audience: Maine EMS Services, Training Centers, Students, and other stakeholders in EMS Education

Background:

The Board's Statute, 32 MRS §82 (1) states that "*Emergency Medical Services Persons*...may not operate or practice unless duly licensed by the Emergency Medical Services' Board."

Maine EMS Rules, Chapter 2 §17 defines an *Emergency Medical Services Person* as "any person who routinely provides *emergency medical treatment* to the sick or injured." This definition has an exception carved out specifically for students: "The following persons are not considered to be routinely providing *emergency medical treatment* for the purpose of these Rules and may provide *emergency medical treatment* only as specified below when called upon:

5. Any student currently enrolled in a course leading to licensure may practice procedures learned in that course when that student:

- A. Has received permission to practice those procedures from the *Maine EMS-authorized Training Center* conducting the course.
- B. Is participating in a *scheduled field internship* session approved by the course's *clinical coordinator*.
- C. Is practicing those procedures with a Maine EMS-licensed service that complies with guidelines as developed by Maine EMS to conduct *field internship* sessions; and,
- D. Is supervised by a *preceptor* licensed to perform those procedures and who is acting in accordance with any requirements or guidelines as approved and published by Maine EMS."

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32 MRS §85 (1) and (2) gives the Board, with advice from and in consultation with the Medical Direction and Practices Board, the authority to define which skills, techniques and judgments constitute *basic* and *advanced emergency medical treatment*, respectively.

Chapter 2 §19 defines *Emergency Medical Treatment* as “those skills, techniques and judgments, as defined by the Board, which are directed to maintaining, improving or preventing deterioration of the medical condition of the patient and which are appropriate to be delivered by trained persons at the scene of a patient’s illness or injury outside the hospital and during transportation to the hospital.

Chapter 2 §1 defines *Advanced Emergency Medical Treatment*, and Chapter 2 §5 defines *Basic Emergency Medical Treatment*. Both state that they are “those portions of emergency medical treatment that the board determines may be performed by persons licensed under 32 MRS Chapter 2-B...” and,

Chapter 5 §3 (1) and (2) further define *Basic* and *Advanced Medical Treatment* for licensed personnel, incorporating by reference *NHTSA’s National EMS Scope of Practice Model 2019*, with clinical practice defined by *Maine EMS protocol*.

Guidance:

A student EMS clinician may only provide emergency medical treatment at a level that they do not hold active licensure at when they are enrolled in a course leading to licensure with a Maine-EMS authorized training center and are participating in a scheduled and authorized field internship program under the supervision of a preceptor who holds licensure at the level the student is seeking to achieve. Even when the student EMS clinician is participating in a scheduled and authorized field internship program under the supervision of a preceptor, that student must only provide those skills, techniques, and judgments by both Maine EMS’s current protocols and the *NHTSA’s National EMS Scope of Practice Model 2019*.

For additional details, questions, or concerns, please contact the Maine EMS Education Coordinator, John DeArmond at John.DeArmond@maine.gov.