



MEMORANDUM

To: All Interested Parties

From: Maine Emergency Medical Services

Date: April 23, 2021

Topic: Summary of Changes in Maine EMS Rules Adopted January 10, 2021

This is a general overview of the proposed changes. This is not intended to be a complete assessment of the changes made to the rules. A complete rules document can be found on the Maine EMS Website at: <https://www.maine.gov/ems/protocols-resources/statutes>

- Chapter 1 Mission and Goals of The Maine EMS System
 - Minor technical changes
- Chapter 2 Definitions
 - Minor technical changes
 - Under the definition of Service Level Medical Director, the Nurse Practitioner language was modified
- Chapter 3 Ground Ambulance Service and Non-transporting Service Licenses
 - The fee for an *EMS vehicle* (non-ambulance) has been removed
 - Adds a requirement that all agencies designate a point of contact for education and training
 - Adds a requirement for agencies licensed or permitting to the AEMT or paramedic level to have a medical director (Effective 1-1-2022)
 - For services that apply with a medical director, they must include a medical director acknowledgement
 - Adds a requirement for a safety plan that addresses patient, provider and public safety
 - Sets all agency expiration dates to November 30 annually (Effective 11-30-2022)
 - Adds a requirement for a detailed mutual aid plan to be shared with the service's primary dispatch agency

- PIFT designations must be renewed annually with the service license
- Clarifies the meaning of “*able to provide care*”
- Removes the annual average response time of 20 minutes or less
- Patient care reports will be due in 24 hours - modified from “one business day”
- Incorporates by reference the NFPA 1917 & SAE J 3027 standard for ambulance litter integrity, retention, and patient restraint fasteners
 - *The deadline for compliance was moved to January 1, 2022*
- Chapter 3-A Emergency Medical Dispatch Center Licenses
 - Requires dispatch centers to utilize the electronic version of the EMD protocol
 - Adds a requirement for dispatch centers to have a policy that addresses what to do when an EMS agency does not respond to the notification of a call.
 - Adds a requirement that licensed EMD Centers must provide the Emergency Medical Dispatch *Determinant Code* and *Chief Complaint* to responders as part of the Emergency Medical Services dispatch to a call for medical treatment or transport on all calls received through the 911 system (Effective 6-1-2021)
- Chapter 4 Air Ambulance Service Licenses
 - *In Section 5(1)(C)(2)(dd), –“Victim recovery procedures in the post-crash or unanticipated incident” was removed*
 - *Section 5(1)(C)(4) – to require full time dispatch capability is in conflict with FAA regulations so “during operating hours” was added to line 1980 & 1981*
 - *Section 9(2)(A) – This was reworded due to the EMS person being the only one whose license is comparable to the service license level. It now reads “EMS Person licensed by the State, at or above the level to which the service is licensed or a, Registered Nurse, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, Physician, or Physician’s Assistant”*
 - *Section 13(2) & (5) – we will continue to pro rate fees for air ambulance vehicles*
 - *Section 15(1)(L)(4) – this language was confusing “must be located” was changed to read “must be secured”*
 - Moves the Restricted Response Air Ambulance requirement away from an air ambulance service and makes it available to a ground ambulance service for licensing requirements.
 - Several changes in this chapter focus on regulating the medical care provided by an air ambulance service instead of on areas that are regulated by the FAA.
- Chapter 5 Personnel Licenses
 - Incorporates by reference the 2018 NHTSA EMS Scope of Practice Model
 - Over a period of time CEH hours for all levels will transition towards the NCCP model, which introduces the opportunity for competency verification
 - Requires EMS personnel to attest to having sufficient CEH credits to renew and allows Maine EMS to audit a random selection of license renewals to check for compliance

- Adds language regarding competency verification requirements
- Changes the licensing period from three years to two years (Effective 11-1-2022)
- Chapter 5-A Emergency Medical Dispatcher Licenses
 - Removes the requirement that a dispatcher be employed by a dispatch center in order to maintain their license
- Chapter 6 Advanced Life Support Drugs And Medications
 - Minor language changes
 - Added requirement to notify Maine EMS of any instance of missing medications within 24 hours of discovery
 - Increased frequency of scheduled checks for scheduled medications to daily
 - *Section 2(2)(E) was updated to be reflective of the actual substance types.*
- Chapter 7 State Licensure Examinations
 - Minor language changes
- Chapter 8 Training Courses And Continuing Education Programs Used For Licensure
 - Minor technical clarifications
- Chapter 8-A Training Centers
 - Minor language clarifications
- Chapter 9 Instructor Coordinator Licenses
 - Removal of requirement for three years of experience at the level for licensure
 - Changes the licensing period from three years to two years
 - Allows Maine EMS to audit random renewal applications for compliance
- Chapter 9-A Emergency Medical Dispatch Training, Instructors, And Continuing Education Programs
 - Minor language changes
- Chapter 10 Reciprocity
 - Minor language changes
- Chapter 11 Standards and Procedures For Refusing To Issue Or Renew A License, And For Modifying, Suspending, Or Revoking A License
 - Minor language updates
 - Adding quality rules for dispatchers
- Chapter 12 Procedures for Licensing Actions And Board Actions
 - *Some revisions were rejected, and the original language was kept, specifically, Section 1(1): Add sentence back in "The investigating body may require that the complaint be submitted on complaint forms developed for that purpose..." &*
 - *Section 1(2)(C) & (E): "subcommittee" was added back in*
 - *Section 2(1)(A): "denial of the application or negotiation of a consent agreement" was added back in.*

- Minor language changes as this chapter is largely derived from statute
- Adds a non-disciplinary refusal to renew
- Chapter 13 Waiver of The Rules
 - Minor language changes
 - *Sections 4 and 5: Added “or organization” to make consistent with the Board’s changes to Sections 1 and 2*
- Chapter 14 Sexual Misconduct
 - Minor language changes
- Chapter 15 Maine EMS Regions and regional Councils
 - Minor language changes
- Chapter 16 Death Benefits for Emergency Medical Services Persons Who Die In The Line Of Duty
 - Minor language changes
- Chapter 17 Equipment Lists For Maine EMS Services And regional EMS Radio Frequencies
 - *Section 4 (Dressings and Bandages): Footnote 12 was unclear. Remove “Aluminum foil roll must be 18” by 25”; change “and” to “as well as” to make clear that both required*
 - Changes the equipment chapter from a list to a table
 - Adds clarification to sizes of equipment
 - Brings equipment required by protocol into the Rules
- Chapter 18 Quality Assurance and Improvement
 - Minor language changes
- Chapter 19 Community Paramedicine
 - No changes