



SPECIALTY AND OPTIONAL SCOPE PROGRAM APPROVAL POLICY

I. PURPOSE

To provide guidelines for the application and renewal of advanced life support (ALS) or basic life support (BLS) specialty or optional scope of practice programs.

II. DEFINITIONS

AED Service Provider - Public Service: A specialty program for public safety personnel. (See ICEMA Reference #6040 - AED Service Provider - Public Safety.)

Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) Program: The reception, evaluation, processing and provision of dispatch life support; management of requests for emergency medical assistance; ongoing evaluation and improvement of the emergency medical dispatch process. (See ICEMA Reference #6120 - Emergency Medical Dispatch Center Requirements.)

Mobile Medic Specialty Program: A specialty program that utilizes boats, bicycles, motorcycles, golf carts and/or powered all-terrain vehicles or for ALS or BLS response designed to deliver EMT, AEMT, and/or EMT-P to the scene of injury and/or transport a patient from the scene of injury to other awaiting EMS units.

Optional Scope Program: Any EMT program that may require approval from the ICEMA Medical Director to function outside of the basic scope of practice that is not initiated region-wide.

Specialty Program: Any program that may require approval from the ICEMA Medical Director to function due to regulations or any variance from standard ICEMA policies or protocols either in equipment or procedures.

Tactical Medicine Program: A specialty program that meets all the prerequisites established by POST/EMSA for the delivery of emergency medical care during law enforcement special operations. (See ICEMA Reference #6110 - Tactical Medicine Program.)

III. POLICY

- All providers interested in providing ALS specialty or EMT optional scope programs shall submit an application which will undergo a review process to determine eligibility.
- All specialty and optional scope programs must submit a new application and be approved every two (2) years.

IV. PROCEDURE FOR SPECIALTY AND OPTIONAL SCOPE PROGRAM APPROVAL

- Submit an original application indicating the type of program. The Specialty and Optional Scope Program Approval Application is available on the ICEMA website at ICEMA.net.
- Submit a copy of the proposed or renewal program which shall include:
 - A statement demonstrating a need for the program.
 - A description of the geographic area within which the specialty program will be utilized.
 - A detailed description of the operation of the program (i.e. special events, 24/7) and how the program will be implemented.
 - A description of how the program will interface with the EMS system and 9-1-1.
 - A detailed description of the training program. For optional scope programs, include provisions for written test and demonstration of skills competencies.
 - A detailed list of employees participating in this program. If there are changes in employees ICEMA must be notified within 10 days.
 - A detailed description of any deviations from the Standard Drug and Equipment List, how equipment and drugs will be stored and/or transported and a program for maintenance of the equipment.
 - A process for the reporting of any deviations or adverse events.
 - A quality improvement plan or an amendment to the EMS providers Quality Improvement Plan that describes the quality improvement process for the specialty program. The plan must comply with all provisions of the ICEMA Quality Management Plan and include provisions for 100% review of all patient care reports in which the specialty or optional scope program was utilized.
- Additional procedures for Mobile Medic Specialty Programs:
 - A statement indicating compliance with Department of Motor Vehicles rules for personal safety equipment and/or vehicle registration.

- A list of type of vehicles utilized (bicycles, motorcycles, ATV).
- Type of patient care report (PCR) utilized and process for transfer of patient care documents in the field.
- Type of communication devices utilized and interface with ALS provider and transport.
- Additional procedures for EMT King Airway Optional Skills Program:
 - Accreditation for EMTs to practice optional skills is limited to those whose certificate is active and are employed within the ICEMA region by an authorized provider.
 - Training in the use of perilaryngeal airway adjuncts to include not less than five (5) hours with skills competency demonstration every 2 years for accredited EMTs in continuing programs.
 - Comply with state regulations for EMT Optional Skills training and demonstration of competency.

V. PROCEDURES FOR SPECIALTY PROGRAMS

- A patient care report is required for all patient contacts by EMS personnel (BLS or ALS) that result in a patient assessment. Patients refusing care or declining further care after treatment must sign a refusal of care and/or Against Medical Advise form.
- If paper forms are utilized, EMS Providers are required to submit an approved Electronic Patient Care Report (ePCR) by the end of shift or within 24 hours of the close of the event (whichever is less).
- Radio communication failure protocols will not be used. Prior to base contact protocols will be followed. If further treatment is needed, radio contact with the base hospital should be established as soon as possible.
- All patient care reports will be reviewed by the EMS Provider as part of their Continuous Quality Improvement program.

VI. DRUG AND EQUIPMENT LISTS

- Equipment and supplies carried and utilized by specialty program personnel shall be consistent and compatible with the drugs and equipment normally carried by ALS units.
- Equipment and supplies shall be based on the appropriate level of personnel utilized for the particular event.

VII. REFERENCES

Number	Name
6030	AED Service Provider - Public Safety
6110	Tactical Medicine Program
6120	Emergency Medical Dispatch Center Requirements