

SB 173 License Mobile Intensive Care Paramedics

Medical Direction

Item	Commerce, Community and Economic Development	Health and Social Services
<b>Scope of Practice</b>	A paramedic may perform activities listed under 12 AAC 40.370 while under direct supervision of a sponsor physician.	A paramedic will be able to perform activities listed under 7 AAC 26.040 while under the supervision of a sponsor physician. The scope of practice will be the same as that currently specified in 12 AAC 40.370.
<b>Physician Sponsorship</b>	All paramedic applicants are required to have a letter from his/her sponsor verifying supervision of a physician sponsor. (12 AAC 40.310 (a)(3))	All paramedic applicants will be required to have a letter from his/her sponsor verifying supervision of a physician sponsor approved by the department. Sponsoring physicians will also have the option to verify their sponsorship electronically in the EMS data system. (7 AAC 26.030)
<b>Changes in Sponsorship</b>	Any changes in sponsorship must be reported to the board in writing. A paramedic is <i>NOT</i> authorized to practice until a new physician sponsor has been approved by the board.* (12 AAC 40.315 (a-b))	Any changes in sponsorship must be reported to the EMS Office in writing. A paramedic is <i>NOT</i> authorized to practice until a new physician sponsor has been approved by the EMS Office. (7 AAC 26.690)
<b>Day to Day Supervision</b>	The Physician Sponsor provides day-to-day supervision of the paramedic, not the MED board.	The Physician Sponsor provides day-to-day supervision of the paramedic. The EMS Office does not provide day to day supervision, but staff members are available every working day for consultation, questions, and technical assistance to pre-hospital providers and EMS services. (7 AAC 26 Article 6)

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<b>Statewide Clinical Oversight</b>	N/A	The EMS Medical Directors' Committee, under the facilitation of the State EMS Medical Director, provides ongoing guidance to all certified and licensed entities under the EMS Office. This includes recommendations for treatment protocols, EMS medical director training programs, and scope of practice determinations. This Committee is comprised of physicians who specialize in emergency medicine and/or serve as current medical directors for EMS services.
<b>Liability for Services Rendered</b>	AS 08.64.366 specifically addresses immunity liability of services rendered by a paramedic.	AS 18.08.086 specifically addresses immunity from liability for EMTs and will include paramedics.
<b>Report of Certain Injuries</b>	Paramedics are required to report certain injuries to DPS, a local law enforcement agency, or a village public safety officer. AS 08.64.369.	Paramedics will continue to be required to report certain injuries to DPS, a local law enforcement agency, or a village public safety officer. AS 08.64.369.
<b>Application Process</b>	Applications are submitted to Medical Board staff. The executive administrator is authorized to approve temporary permit. Board approval required for permanent license.	Applications are submitted to the State EMS Office. The Certification Manager is authorized to approve the permanent license. The requirements to be the Certification Manager include experience as a licensed paramedic and experience with the EMS system.
<b>Renewal</b>	Paramedic licenses are renewed biennially, expiring 12/31 of even years. All active licensees are notified of renewal at least 30 days before the expiration of their license (12/31 of even years) per AS 08.01.050, with a target of 90 days prior. Online and paper renewal options available.	Yes. Paramedics will continue to have licenses that are renewed biennially. Notify licensees of renewal dates prior to expiration, with a target of 90 days prior. Online and paper renewal options available.

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<b>Continuing Medical Education (CME)</b>	Yes. Paramedics are required to have not less than 60 classroom or clinical hours (or combination of) for each 12-month period the individual has been licensed in AK as a paramedic.	Yes. Paramedics will be required to have not less than 60 classroom or clinical hours (or combination of) for each 12-month period the individual has been licensed in AK as a paramedic. The EMS Office currently certifies all paramedic training programs and paramedic instructors.
<b>Quality Assurance</b>	Yes. The executive administrator reviews all initial license applications prior to submission to the board to ensure completeness.	Yes. A quality assurance review is performed on a percentage of applicants by another member of the EMS team. The reviewer must also have experience as a licensed paramedic.
<b>Training</b>	The board adopted policies re: hospital training programs as a CME program (pre-approval by board required.)	The EMS Office certifies all paramedic training programs and instructors. Additionally, the EMS Office sponsors training opportunities throughout the year, including trainings and stakeholder discussions at each Regional EMS Symposium, as well as EMS-focused trainings at the statewide preparedness educational forum every other year.
<b>Patient Care Reporting</b>	N/A	The EMS data system includes the capability to report patient care information. This data is currently entered by most EMS providers, and is used to inform the quality improvement initiatives for the EMS system.

\*Per the *Alaska State Medical Board Policies and Procedures*, the executive secretary is authorized to approve additions or changes in paramedic sponsorship for paramedics who are already currently licensed.