

1 **16 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

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3 **163 BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (MAINE EMS)**

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5 **CHAPTER 3: GROUND AMBULANCE SERVICE AND NON-TRANSPORTING**  
6 **SERVICE LICENSES**

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8 **§1.** No ground ambulance service or non-transporting service shall operate unless it is duly  
9 licensed by the Board under these Rules.

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11 **§2. License Factors** - A ground ambulance service license or a non-transporting service license  
12 is issued for a specific:

13  
14 1. Service Type - which may be:

15  
16 A. A Non-Transporting Service; or

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18 B. A Ground Ambulance Service

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20 2. License Level - which may be:

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22 A. Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) - (only if the service is licensing as a  
23 Non-Transporting Service type); or

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25 B. Emergency Medical Technician (EMT); or

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27 C. Advanced EMT (AEMT); or

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29 D. Paramedic

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31 3. Permit Level – which may be:

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33 A. Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) (only if a service is licensing as a Non-  
34 Transporting Service type); or

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36 B. Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT); or

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38 C. Paramedic

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40 4. Ownership

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42 A. Upon request of the Board, an applicant for, or licensee of, a ground ambulance  
43 service or non-transporting service license must provide the Board with the  
44 identity and legal status (e.g., municipality, corporation, limited liability  
45 company, sole proprietorship) of the person or entity that holds or is making

46 application for the license. Failure to provide this information may result in an  
47 application being treated as incomplete  
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49 5. 9-1-1 Primary Response Area  
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51 A. A service receiving a request to respond to an emergency medical call outside of  
52 its 9-1-1 Primary Response Area shall coordinate with that 9-1-1 Primary  
53 Response Area's ground ambulance service to ensure the most appropriate  
54 response based on patient status.  
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56 B. A 9-1-1 Primary Response Area does not include the area to which the service  
57 may be made available for interfacility transfer operations.  
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59 C. A 9-1-1 Primary Response Area as determined by this section shall not be  
60 construed as prohibiting a service from responding to a request from another  
61 licensed service authorized in that 9-1-1 Primary Response Area.  
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63 6. Notwithstanding paragraph(s) one (1) through four (4) above, an applicant for a ground  
64 ambulance service may be issued a license without a 9-1-1 Primary Response Area to  
65 perform interfacility transfer operations. A service is not required to list a 9-1-1  
66 Primary Response Area to receive licensure. A service without a 9-1-1 Primary  
67 Response Area may not provide primary response to a scene location for an  
68 emergency medical call unless in the presence of extraordinary circumstances and  
69 that service meets the provision of this chapter, §2(5)(A).  
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71 7. Base Location.  
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73 A. A service must be separately licensed for each base location from which it  
74 operates, except that a service may apply for a single license to operate from  
75 multiple locations provided it has a Service-Level Medical Director and a single  
76 Quality Assurance / Quality Improvement program that is approved by the Board  
77 and the State Medical Director.  
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79 **§3. Change in License Factors.**  
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81 1. A service must apply for and receive a new license in order to change one or more  
82 licensing factors. However, a service may apply for a new permit level, or the  
83 removal of a 9-1-1 Primary Response Area, on a renewal application form.  
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85 **§4. Approval of License.**  
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87 1. Once a service's application for a new or renewed license has been accepted as  
88 complete by Maine EMS, Maine EMS shall grant, deny, or conditionally grant the  
89 license within seventy days.  
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2. The Board shall issue a license with a defined 9-1-1 Primary Response Area when a need is demonstrated based on the following criteria:
  - A. The Board finds the applicant’s proposed response time(s), enroute time(s), transport time(s), and time-tolerance(s) are sufficient to protect the health, welfare, and safety of the public within the 9-1-1 Primary Response Area based on evidence provided;
  - B. If the 9-1-1 Primary Response Area is currently served by a licensed ground ambulance or non-transporting service, the proposed times above are maintained or improved;
  - C. Public comment(s) received;
  - D. Discipline undertaken by the Board and any Letters of Guidance that have not expired for the ambulance service currently serving the 9-1-1 Primary Response Area, and the service applying to serve the 9-1-1 Primary Response Area;
  - E. An evaluation of the potential impact upon existing ground ambulance and non-transporting services; and,
  - F. The character of the ownership of a proposed service.
  
3. The Board’s decision constitutes final agency action, appealable to the Superior Court in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, 5 M.R.S. Ch. 375 Subchapter VII.

**§5. Licensing Standards**

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1. An application will not be accepted as complete unless it includes all materials required to be evaluated for licensure. To obtain a new license, a service applicant must:
  - A. Apply on forms available from Maine EMS.
  - B. Submit a fee of \$100.00
  - C. Demonstrate to Maine EMS that:
    1. The applicant has placed a notice, approved by Maine EMS, in the most widely circulated newspaper(s) serving the proposed 9-1-1 Primary Response Area, unless the applicant is applying for licensure without a 9-1-1 Primary Response Area for interfacility transport operations only. The notice must state:

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- a. The name and legal status of the entity making application;
  - b. The name of the proposed service;
  - c. The type of service proposed;
  - d. The proposed license level to be provided;
  - e. The name(s) of the geopolitical subdivision(s) within the proposed 9-1-1 Primary Response Area;
  - f. That the public is invited to make comment to Maine EMS regarding the proposed application, and that comments must be received by Maine EMS within 30 calendar days after the date of the notice's publication; and,
  - g. The current mailing address of the Maine EMS office.
2. The applicant possesses the equipment required by these Rules for the type of service and license level proposed.
  3. The applicant can provide personnel required by these Rules for the type of service and license level proposed.
  4. The applicant, if applying for a license that includes a 9-1-1 Primary Response Area, has made adequate arrangements for full-time dispatch.
  5. The applicant possesses two-way radio communications equipment and frequencies for the proposed type of service, including, but not limited to the hospital-ambulance frequencies utilized in the service area(s) pursuant to these Rules and the designated Maine EMS statewide frequency "155.385."
  6. If the application is for a new service or a change of service ownership: the applicant, if an individual is of good character, and if a partnership or corporation, its partners or principal officers are of good character. Four character references, written within the past year, must be submitted as a condition of meeting this requirement; none may be from a relative or employee of the applicant.
  7. If the application is for a non-transporting service, the non-transporting service has either;

- 180 a. Entered into written agreements with the ambulance  
181 services which will transport its patients, guaranteeing  
182 continuity of care for the patient and simultaneous  
183 dispatch of the non-transporting and ambulance  
184 services; or,  
185  
186 b. Otherwise addresses these concerns in a plan as  
187 approved by Maine EMS which includes as a  
188 component a written agreement of this nature with at  
189 least one (1) ambulance service.  
190  
191 c. An ambulance service is not required to approve of or enter  
192 into a written agreement with a non-transporting EMS  
193 service.  
194  
195 d. A service licensed without a 9-1-1 Primary Response  
196 Area may not serve as the ambulance service  
197 transporting a non-transporting EMS service's patients.  
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199 8. The applicant has established a service level Quality Assurance/Quality  
200 Improvement Committee (for approval under 32 M.R.S. §92-A) or has  
201 identified a Board-approved Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement  
202 committee in which the service will participate, and has submitted a  
203 quality assurance plan that is subject to Maine EMS approval.  
204  
205 9. The applicant meets the quality assurance/quality improvement  
206 requirements of Chapter 18 of these Rules.  
207  
208 10. The applicant has designated a service director, who shall act as the point  
209 of contact for the service.  
210  
211 11. The applicant has designated a person whose serves as the training and  
212 education point of contact for the service.  
213  
214 12. The applicant has identified the designated infection control officer for the  
215 proposed service. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §300ff-136, each employer of  
216 emergency response employees in the State of Maine must have a  
217 designated infection control officer (ICO) for the purposes of receiving  
218 notifications and responses and making requests under 42 U.S.C.  
219 Chapter 6A, Subchapter XXIV, Part G. The licensee shall provide the  
220 ICO name and contact information to Maine Emergency Medical  
221 Services, and promptly notify Maine EMS of any changes in ICO  
222 during the term of its license. Maine EMS will provide this information  
223 to the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for  
224 Disease Control, Division of Infectious Disease.

- 225 13. The applicant, if applying for a license or permit to the Advanced EMT  
226 (AEMT) or Paramedic levels, has a service-specific medical director.  
227
- 228 14. If the applicant lists a service-level medical director, the application must  
229 include a medical director agreement.  
230
- 231 15. The applicant has in the case of a proposed service requesting a license or  
232 permit to administer drugs/medications entered into a written contract  
233 with a single hospital which has a pharmacy, several hospitals with  
234 either individual or central supply points, or some other source approved  
235 by the Board which will provide a system of control and accountability  
236 of drugs/medications pursuant to these Rules.  
237
- 238 16. If the applicant intends to provide Paramedic Inter--Facility Transfers  
239 (PIFT), a separate application must be submitted to and approved by  
240 Maine EMS before the service performs such transfers. Personnel  
241 providing PIFT treatment on behalf of the service must successfully  
242 complete a Maine EMS-approved PIFT course prior to performing such  
243 treatment.  
244
- 245 17. The applicant has submitted a safety program that addresses its patients,  
246 personnel, and the general public during operations.  
247
- 248 D. If applying for licensure with a 9-1-1 Primary Response Area, the applicant must  
249 define their proposed en-route time(s), response time(s), transport time(s), and  
250 time tolerance(s) for each geopolitical subdivision(s) in the proposed service  
251 area, based on and including the following;  
252
- 253 1. Population count within the proposed service area;  
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  - 255 2. Square miles within the proposed service area;  
256
  - 257 3. Availability of ambulance and crew;  
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  - 259 4. Number of anticipated requests for each type and level of ground  
260 ambulance transport service in the proposed service area;  
261
  - 262 5. Available routes of travel within the proposed service area;  
263
  - 264 6. Dispatch agreement/response plan, including details about the level of  
265 response;  
266
  - 267 7. Geographic features and environmental conditions within the proposed  
268 service area; and,  
269

270 8. Healthcare entities within the proposed service area and Healthcare  
271 Receiving Facilities that will likely receive transports from the proposed  
272 service area.

273  
274 E. If the 9-1-1 Primary Response Area is currently served by a licensed ground  
275 ambulance service AND:

276  
277 1. The current ground ambulance service is voluntarily relinquishing that 9-1-  
278 1 Primary Response Area, the applicant must provide a signed and  
279 notarized letter from the service director of the ground ambulance  
280 service currently licensed for that 9-1-1 Primary Response Area  
281 indicating their intent to relinquish that area; OR,

282  
283 2. If the current ground ambulance service is NOT voluntarily relinquishing  
284 that 9-1-1 Primary Response Area, the applicant must provide:

285  
286 a. A signed and notarized letter from the geopolitical  
287 subdivision(s) within a pre-existing 9-1-1 Primary  
288 Response Area who are seeking to replace the  
289 authorized ground ambulance service; and,

290  
291 b. A Consultancy Report.

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293 i. The applicant must provide a report from a  
294 third-party, disinterested consultant, with  
295 experience evaluating the efficiency and  
296 delivery of emergency medical services that:

297  
298 1. Indicates changing ground ambulance  
299 services is in the best interest of the  
300 residents of the geopolitical  
301 subdivision(s);

302  
303 2. Acknowledges and defends that the  
304 change(s) will maintain and/or improve  
305 patient care quality;

306  
307 3. Acknowledges and defends that the  
308 change(s) will improve system  
309 efficiencies and use of resources; and,

310  
311 4. Acknowledges and defends that the  
312 change(s) maintain and/or enhance  
313 response efficiencies.

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315 ii. The above report must be dated within sixty  
316 (60) business days of the application's  
317 acceptance by Maine EMS as complete.  
318

319 2. A service license is issued for a period of up to 12 months, with a November 30  
320 expiration.  
321

322 3. Notwithstanding the notice requirements of §5(1)(C)(1), Maine EMS may issue a  
323 temporary service license for up to 60 days to an applicant if Maine EMS determines  
324 that issuance of the temporary license will avert the disruption of emergency medical  
325 services in the 9-1-1 Primary Response Area(s) listed in the applicant's application.  
326

327 **§6. Renewal of Service License**  
328

329 1. A licensee shall submit an application for renewal prior to the expiration date of the  
330 license.  
331

332 A. An application will not be accepted as complete unless it includes all materials  
333 required to be evaluated for licensure.  
334

335 1. The application shall not require a service applying for licensure renewal to  
336 comply with this chapter §4(2) and §5(1)(D).  
337

338 B. A service may apply for a renewal license for up to ninety (90) days after the  
339 date of expiration. The ninety-day period does not postpone the expiration date  
340 of the license. A service with an expired license cannot act as an ambulance or  
341 non-transporting service until a renewed license has been issued. An application  
342 submitted more than 90 days after the license expiration date shall be considered  
343 an application for a new license and subject to all requirements governing new  
344 applications.  
345

346 C. In order to obtain a license renewal, a service must:  
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348 1. Apply on forms available from Maine EMS.  
349

350 2. Submit a fee of \$100.00.  
351

352 3. If the applicant intends to provide Paramedic Inter-Facility Transfers  
353 (PIFT), a separate application must be submitted to and approved by  
354 Maine EMS before the service performs such transfers. Personnel  
355 providing PIFT treatment on behalf of the service must successfully  
356 complete a Maine EMS-approved PIFT course prior to performing such  
357 treatment.  
358



D. Demonstrate, as may be required by Maine EMS, that it meets the licensure requirements called for in these Rules.

**§7. Personnel Requirements for Ground Ambulance Service or Non-Transporting Service Licensees**

1. A ground ambulance service or non-transporting service will be licensed at the level at which it agrees to provide, on all emergency medical calls, at least one emergency medical services person who is licensed and able to provide care at or above the service license level, except:

A. When the service’s response is in accordance with a Maine EMS-approved Response Assignment Plan.

2. The phrase “able to provide care” means that the EMS person who is licensed at or above the service license level must be in the ambulance. If the higher-level EMS person is in the ambulance, he or she is able to render care. The higher-level EMS person must assess the patient prior to transport and determine that the lower-level EMS person can appropriately provide care during transport. In addition, the higher-level EMS person who is driving the vehicle needs to have the ability to communicate constantly with the lower-level EMS person who is caring for the patient. If the patient’s needs change, the higher-level EMS person must switch roles with the lower-level EMS person.

3. A ground ambulance service or non-transporting service must notify Maine EMS of the addition of any licensed EMS person to its roster of responding personnel prior to that person responding on behalf of the service and must report the termination or resignation of any EMS provider from its service within 5 days of the termination or resignation of the provider. Notification to Maine EMS may be made electronically or by mail.

4. A ground ambulance service or non-transporting service may obtain Maine EMS permission to provide on some calls, based on personnel availability, a higher level of care than that for which it is licensed. In order to obtain this permission, a service must:

A. Apply on forms available from Maine EMS

B. Submit a fee of \$100. This fee is waived if the service is simultaneously applying for this permission and for a service license and is submitting the fee required for licensure.

C. Show that it can satisfy the requirements of these Rules (except that for numbers of personnel, the applicant must demonstrate that at least one Maine EMS licensed provider, licensed at the permit application level being sought, is affiliated with the applicant service).

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- D. Renew its permission request when it applies for license renewal, demonstrating to Maine EMS that it continues to satisfy the requirements set forth in these Rules.
  - E. Apply for new permission to provide a higher level of care by notifying Maine EMS.
5. A ground ambulance service or non-transporting service shall not advertise (in newspapers, telephone directories, on television or commercial radio, on billboards or vehicles, or by other means of public promotion) themselves as providing a level of care other than that at which they are licensed under this section. A board permit to provide a higher level of care is not a license for advertising purposes. The Board may prohibit advertising language from any medium listed above if it deems such language to be potentially deceptive or confusing to the public with regard to the services offered.
6. A ground ambulance service or non-transporting service shall not allow persons less than 18 years of age to participate in medical response operations or medical response observation, except when Maine EMS has approved the service’s supervision plan for such persons and in accordance with Maine Department of Labor rules governing employment for minors.
7. A ground ambulance service or non-transporting service must establish a written driver training program and/or standard operating procedure(s) for the operation of Ambulances and Emergency Medical Service Vehicles licensed by Maine EMS, that at a minimum includes the following:
- A. Use of Seatbelts
  - B. Emergency Vehicle Response to:
    - 1. Emergency Medical Call(s); and,
    - 2. Non-Emergency Medical Call(s)
  - C. Operator Requirements for Program Participation:
    - 1. Must hold a valid state driver’s license
  - D. Initial Training:
    - 1. Initial training must consist of the following, and the Operator is not permitted to operate independently during patient transport and/or in emergent mode until the requirements of this section have been met:

- 451 a. The Operator has completed a review of all applicable  
452 sections of 29-A M.R.S;  
453  
454 b. Completion of on-road driving skills with a service's  
455 designee, to include:  
456  
457 i. Emergent mode; and,  
458  
459 ii. Non-emergent mode.  
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461 c. An evaluation of the Operator's proficiency,  
462 knowledge, and proper operation of the specific  
463 vehicle(s) and equipment;  
464  
465 i. A satisfactory evaluation must be achieved by  
466 the Operator to meet this requirement  
467  
468 d. Successful completion of an Ambulance Vehicle  
469 Operator Course, or a course that has been approved by  
470 the Board as an equivalent, according to 32 M.R.S.  
471 §86(6).  
472

473 E. Service Administrator Review  
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- 475 1. The Service Director or designee must review all Operator's motor vehicle  
476 driving history on an annual basis.  
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478 F. Record Keeping  
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- 480 1. Services will maintain a record of such training and will make it available  
481 to Maine EMS upon request.  
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- 483 G. §7(7) of this chapter is effective six (6) months after publication of this amended  
484 rule by the Secretary of State's Office.  
485

486 **§8. Availability for Emergency Response**  
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- 488 1. Any ground ambulance service offering response to emergency medical calls in the  
489 service's 9-1-1 Primary Response Area must be available twenty-four hours a day,  
490 every day, with full-time dispatch capability, and written mutual aid arrangements as  
491 necessary, and must also provide a detailed plan to its primary dispatch agency  
492 indicating its mutual aid agencies and the order of contact of those mutual aid  
493 agencies.  
494

- 495 A. Failure of a ground ambulance service to comply with these emergency response  
496 requirements will be reviewed by Maine EMS to determine if corrective action is

497 required. Maine EMS shall notify the service of any required corrective action  
498 and shall set a reasonable amount of time for the service to carry out this action.  
499

500 2. A non-transporting service providing response to emergency medical calls must submit  
501 with its initial license application a letter of understanding if the service's hours of  
502 availability will be other than twenty-four hours a day, every day. This letter of  
503 understanding must be approved by Maine EMS and signed by an authorized  
504 representative of the non-transporting service, and an authorized representative of the  
505 transporting service. Changes to the letter of understanding may be accomplished by  
506 written agreement of the aforementioned parties.  
507

508 3. Non-transporting services must have a full-time dispatch capability, written mutual aid  
509 arrangements as necessary and assure an annual average response time during their  
510 hours of availability of twenty minutes or less from the "call for emergency medical  
511 assistance" to "arrival at scene" and shall not deny treatment resulting from an  
512 emergency medical call if treatment is indicated.  
513

514 **§9. Patient Care Report**

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516 1. For each request for service, or for each patient when more than one patient is involved  
517 in a call, a service must complete and submit an electronic Maine EMS patient care  
518 report, as specified by Maine EMS, within twenty-four hours.  
519

520 **§10. Pilot Projects**

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522 1. For the purpose of evaluating the workability and appropriateness of incorporating a  
523 particular emergency medical treatment technique or a type of equipment into any  
524 licensure level, the Board may elect to exempt a service from the requirements of the  
525 relevant licensure level so as to permit the service to utilize the designated techniques  
526 or equipment on an experimental basis. Such authorizations may be continued at the  
527 discretion of the Board. Such authorizations should not be construed as levels of  
528 licensure.  
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530 **§11. Vehicles – General**

531  
532 1. Except as otherwise exempted by 32 M.R.S. §82, no vehicle shall be operated as an  
533 ambulance (from within Maine) or emergency medical services vehicle unless it is  
534 licensed or authorized in accordance with these Rules.  
535

536 2. A vehicle license or authorization is valid for a period of one year, starting from the  
537 month the service license is issued.  
538

539 A. Maine EMS will prorate the vehicle licensing fee for a service licensing a new  
540 vehicle within its one-year service license period to ensure concurrent expiration  
541 dates for service and vehicle licenses.  
542

- 543 3. A vehicle license or authorization is issued to a particular service and for a particular  
544 vehicle, except as permitted in Chapter 3 §12 of these Rules. If a service is required  
545 to relicense under Chapter 3 §2 because of a change of ownership, then all of the  
546 service’s vehicle licenses and authorizations end, and the service must apply for new  
547 vehicle licenses and/or authorizations. The fee for licensing a vehicle is \$60.00.  
548
- 549 4. When a service acquires a new or used vehicle under Chapter 3 §12 of these Rules, it  
550 shall apply to Maine EMS on forms available from Maine EMS and shall pay the  
551 applicable vehicle licensing fee. Within 45 days, Maine EMS shall issue, or decline  
552 to issue, a license for the vehicle.  
553
- 554 5. Vehicles licensed under this chapter must:
- 555
- 556 A. Display the name of the service operating the vehicle on the left (driver) and  
557 right (passenger) side of the vehicle in letters no less than 6 inches high or  
558 display a logo that adequately identifies the service. Vehicles temporarily  
559 transferred to a service under the provision of Chapter 3 §12 are exempt from  
560 this requirement  
561
- 562 B. Be exclusively leased or owned and operated by a service licensed by Maine  
563 EMS or by an agency designated by Maine EMS.  
564
- 565 6. Upon request by Maine EMS, a service shall make its licensed and/or authorized  
566 vehicle(s) available for inspection to ensure that each vehicle is safe, clean, and  
567 otherwise in conformity with these Rules. If a licensed or authorized vehicle does not  
568 pass inspection and its continued operation presents a hazard to health or safety, the  
569 Board may suspend its license to provide emergency medical services at once  
570 consistent with Maine Law (See 5 M.R.S. §10004 and 4 M.R.S. §184). Alternatively,  
571 if the continued operation of the licensed and/or authorized vehicle at the level which  
572 the service is permitted pursuant to Chapter 3 §7(3) of these rules presents a hazard to  
573 health or safety, the Board may immediately suspend the service’s permit consistent  
574 with Maine Law (*see* 5 M.R.S. §10004 and 4 M.R.S §184) and allow the service to  
575 operate at the next lowest level for which it is properly equipped. If the deficiencies  
576 are not such as to require the vehicle’s immediate removal from service or the  
577 immediate suspension of the service’s permit, then Maine EMS shall notify the  
578 service of the deficiencies and set a reasonable amount of time in which the service  
579 may continue to provide emergency medical services while bringing it into  
580 conformity with the law and Rules. If the licensed and/or authorized vehicle is not  
581 brought into conformity within the time set, Maine EMS may refuse to renew, or seek  
582 revocation of, the licensed and/or authorized vehicle’s license to provide emergency  
583 medical services.  
584

585 **§12. Ground Vehicles – Licensing and Authorization Requirements**  
586

- 587 1. Ground Ambulance Vehicles  
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589 A. If control of a ground ambulance vehicle passes from one ambulance service to  
590 another, or from an ambulance manufacturer or its representative to an  
591 ambulance service, through any means, the ground ambulance vehicle must be  
592 licensed to the recipient service prior to the recipient service's operation of that  
593 vehicle as an ambulance. If temporary control of a licensed ground ambulance  
594 vehicle, which is owned by a licensed service, is passed to another ambulance  
595 service, the ground ambulance vehicle transferred under this subsection will be  
596 considered licensed pursuant to these Rules.

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598 B. Emergency Medical Services Vehicles

599  
600 1. Any vehicle operated by a licensed service that is not already licensed as a  
601 fire department vehicle or ambulance, may be authorized by Maine  
602 EMS as an emergency medical services vehicle, consistent with 29-A  
603 M.R.S. §2054 provided that vehicle:

- 604  
605 a. Is operated in emergency response mode on public  
606 ways solely for the purpose of carrying personnel and  
607 equipment to the scene of an emergency medical call.  
608
- 609 b. Meets Maine's periodic motor vehicle inspection  
610 requirements.  
611
- 612 c. Is operated in accordance with all applicable Maine  
613 Laws, including, but not limited to Title 29-A.  
614
- 615 d. Is made available for inspection when requested by  
616 Maine EMS in order to ensure conformity with the  
617 Rules.  
618
- 619 e. Displays the name of the service operating the vehicle  
620 on the left (driver) and right (passenger) side of the  
621 vehicle in letters no less than 6 inches high or displays a  
622 logo that adequately identifies the service. Vehicles  
623 temporarily transferred to a service are exempt from  
624 this requirement.  
625
- 626 f. Is exclusively leased or owned and operated by a  
627 service licensed by Maine EMS or by an agency  
628 designated by Maine EMS.  
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630 **§13. Ground Ambulance Design Requirements**

631  
632 1. A ground ambulance vehicle must meet the following standards to be licensed:  
633

- 634 A. Federal/state safety requirements. It must meet the applicable federal and Maine  
635 safety requirements including the State's periodic motor vehicle inspection  
636 requirements listed in the current edition of the Maine State Police Motor  
637 Vehicle Inspections Manual.  
638
- 639 B. Interior size. It must meet the chassis manufacturer's specifications and must  
640 have a minimum inside height of 60 inches at the center of the patient  
641 compartment, a minimum width of 48 inches at the center of the patient  
642 compartment, a walkway parallel to the length of the primary cot adequate to  
643 allow an attendant to walk from head to foot of the cot; and a minimum inside  
644 patient compartment length of 122 inches at the cot level.  
645
- 646 C. Interior storage accommodations. The interior of the patient compartment must  
647 provide adequate stowage space for medical supplies, devices, and installed  
648 systems. For purposes of this paragraph, "stowage" is defined as the storing,  
649 packing, or arranging of ambulance contents in a secure manner so as to protect  
650 the contents from damage and the personnel from injury. Interior compartment  
651 doors, latches and operating mechanisms must operate in accordance with the  
652 manufacturer's design.  
653
- 654 D. Seat belts. Seat belts shall be provided in all permanent seat positions in the  
655 vehicle, including the squad bench. For purposes of this paragraph, "squad  
656 bench" is defined as a permanent, non-removable seat that is located in the  
657 patient compartment and which can serve as a seat for crew members or as a  
658 surface on which a patient may lie down.  
659
- 660 E. Patient restraint. The ambulance must be equipped with a multilevel patient  
661 stretcher designed for ambulances, mounted in, and detachable from the vehicle.  
662 The head of the stretcher must elevate. At least three strap-type restraining  
663 devices (chest, hip, lower extremity), not less than 2 inches wide, shall be  
664 provided for each stretcher, cot, or litter. Additionally, the head of the cot shall  
665 be furnished with upper torso (over the shoulder) restraints designed to prevent  
666 motion of the patient during severe braking or in an accident. Restraining straps  
667 shall incorporate metal-to-metal quick release buckles. The use of all lateral and  
668 shoulder straps is required while transporting a patient.  
669
- 670 F. Stretcher fasteners. The installed stretcher fastener device(s) for wheeled  
671 stretchers shall meet the performance requirements of the following two  
672 standards, which this rule incorporates by reference:  
673
- 674 1. *Ambulance Litter Integrity, Retention, and Patient Restraint Fasteners*,  
675 (J3027), July 14, 2014, edition, which is available at cost from SAE  
676 International, 400 Commonwealth Drive, Warrendale, PA 15096; or,  
677
  - 678 2. Chapter 6 (6.22) "Patient Cot Retention" of *Standard for Automotive*  
679 *Ambulances* (NFPA 1917), 2019 edition, published May 24, 2018,

680 which is available at cost from the National Fire Protection Association,  
681 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA.

682  
683 3. Provision shall be made for the required portable stretchers to be secured in  
684 safe positions for transport. Stretcher fasteners must be installed  
685 according to the stretcher fastener manufacturer's directions. All  
686 ambulances licensed after July 1, 2030 will need to meet these  
687 requirements.

688  
689 G. Patient compartment environmental equipment. The patient compartment shall  
690 be adequately heated, air-conditioned, and ventilated to provide for patient  
691 comfort.

692  
693 H. Communications equipment shall be adequate to allow the vehicle to contact on  
694 the regional radio frequency the hospitals to which it regularly takes patients.  
695 The ambulance shall also be able to maintain two-way communications contact  
696 with a full-time dispatching facility. All vehicles licensed or authorized by Maine  
697 EMS shall be capable of communications utilizing the designated Maine EMS  
698 statewide frequency, 155.385

699  
700 I. Attendants/driver communication. The driver and the attendants, in their working  
701 positions, must be able to speak to one another.

702  
703 J. Warning devices. All ambulances shall be equipped with a functional siren and  
704 with functional emergency warning lights, rotating, or flashing, visible from 360  
705 degrees at all times. Colors of ambulance lights are fixed by 29-A M.R.S. §2054.

706  
707 K. Patient compartment illumination. Normal white illumination shall be provided  
708 in the patient area so as to provide a minimum of 35-foot candles of illumination  
709 measured on at least 90 percent of the cot's surface area.

710  
711 L. Name of service. Ground vehicles must display the name of the service licensing  
712 the vehicle on the left (driver) and right (passenger) side of the vehicle in letters  
713 no less than 6 inches high or display a logo that adequately identifies the service.  
714 Vehicles temporarily transferred to a service under the provision of Chapter 3  
715 §12 are exempt from this requirement.

716  
717 M. Main oxygen supply. The ambulance shall have a hospital type piped medical  
718 oxygen system capable of storing and supplying a minimum of 3,000 liters ("M"  
719 size tank). The oxygen pressure regulator must be a medical oxygen pressure  
720 reducing and regulator valve with an inlet filter at the cylinder and shall have a  
721 line relief valve set at 1378 kPa (200 psi) maximum, and a gauge range of 0 to  
722 17225 kPa (0 to 2500 psi). The flow meter must be a pressure compensated type.

723  
724 N. Suction aspirator permanently mounted. The ambulance vehicle shall have an  
725 electrically or (engine) vacuum-powered suction unit capable of providing a free



726 air flow of at least 20 L.P.M. and achieving a minimum of 300 mm Hg within 4  
727 seconds after the suction tube is closed.

728  
729 O. Exterior compartments and doors. Exterior compartments, exterior compartment  
730 doors and exterior patient/passenger doors must be equipped with latches,  
731 gaskets and operating mechanisms which operate in accordance with the  
732 manufacturer's design.

733  
734 2. All ambulances newly manufactured after July 1, 2021, must at a minimum comply  
735 with one of the following standards, which this rule incorporates by reference:

736  
737 A. National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) NFPA 1917 (2019)

738  
739 1. *Standard for Automotive Ambulances* (NFPA 1917), 2019 edition,  
740 published May 24, 2018, which is available at cost from the National  
741 Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA.

742  
743 B. Federal Specification for Star-Of-Life Ambulances (KKK-A-1822F through  
744 Change notices 13) July 2020

745  
746 1. Federal Specifications for Star-Of-Life Ambulances (KKK-A-1822F  
747 (August 2007) with change notices; #8 July 2015, #9 July 2016, #10  
748 July 2017, #11 July 2018, #12 July 2019, & #13 July 2020), which is  
749 available at cost from the Office of Motor Vehicle Management,  
750 Vehicle Publishing Division

751  
752 C. Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services, Ground Vehicle Standards  
753 2.0 (July 1, 2019)

754  
755 1. Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services, Ground Vehicle  
756 Standards 2.0 (July 1, 2019) is available at cost from Commission on  
757 Accreditation of Ambulance Services  
758 1926 Waukegan Road – Suite 300, Glenview, IL 60025.

759

760 **§14. Ground Ambulance Vehicle Equipment Requirements**

761  
762 1. A ground ambulance service must possess, at a minimum, the equipment listed in  
763 Chapter 17 of these Rules, for the type of service and license level. A ground  
764 ambulance service must maintain a system to ensure the availability of this equipment  
765 on any call.

766  
767 2. Upon request of Maine EMS, a ground ambulance service shall make its equipment  
768 available for inspection in order to ensure conformity with the Rules.

769

770 **§15. Vehicle Operation**

771

- 772 1. A licensed ground ambulance vehicle or authorized emergency medical services  
773 vehicle shall operate in a non-emergency response mode to a location to which the  
774 ambulance or emergency medical services vehicle has been dispatched except when:  
775
- 776 A. Dispatch or responding personnel do not have adequate information to  
777 determine the existence or condition of persons at a scene who may require  
778 emergency medical treatment; or,  
779
  - 780 B. The ambulance or emergency medical services vehicle is responding in  
781 accordance with a Maine-EMS-approved Response Assignment Plan.  
782
- 783 2. A licensed ambulance shall operate in a non-emergency response mode from the scene  
784 of a call to a hospital or during the transfer of a patient from a hospital or healthcare  
785 facility to another place unless the EMS provider responsible for the care of the  
786 patient determines that a threat to the patient's life or limb exists and necessitates  
787 emergency response mode.  
788

789 **§16. Non-Transporting Service Requirements**

- 790
- 791 1. A non-transporting service must possess, at a minimum, the equipment listed in  
792 Chapter 17 of these Rules and must maintain a system to ensure the availability of  
793 this equipment on any call.  
794
    - 795 A. All medical equipment and medical supplies required must be latex free.  
796
    - 797 B. The Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) set of equipment is the minimum set  
798 of required equipment for a non-transporting service.  
799
    - 800 C. If a non-transporting service is licensed at the Emergency Medical Technician  
801 (EMT), Advanced EMT or Paramedic level, that service, while responding on an  
802 emergency medical call will be equipped on those calls with the equipment and  
803 supplies required by these Rules.  
804
    - 805 D. If the service is permitted to a given level, it must possess at least one set of  
806 equipment and supplies required for that level pursuant to these Rules.  
807
- 808 2. Upon request of Maine EMS, a non-transporting service shall make its equipment  
809 available for inspection in order to ensure conformity with the Rules.  
810

811 **§17. Termination of Service Licensure**

- 812
- 813 1. Any ground ambulance service or non-transporting service intending to terminate its  
814 license must make written notification to Maine EMS at least 30 days prior to the  
815 service termination date. The service shall notify the public at least 30 days prior to  
816 the service termination date by placing an advertisement in the most widely circulated  
817 newspaper(s) serving the 9-1-1 Primary Response Area. The notice must state:

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- A. The name of the service;
- B. The date of service termination; and,
- C. The names of the geopolitical subdivision(s) affected by the service’s termination.

**§18. Duty to Report**

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1. A licensee or an applicant for licensure under this chapter shall notify the Board in writing within 10 days of a:

- A. Change of name or address;
- B. Criminal conviction;
- C. Revocation, suspension, or other disciplinary action taken in this or any other jurisdiction against any occupational or professional license held by the applicant or licensee; or,
- D. Material change in the conditions or qualifications set forth in the original application for licensure submitted to the Board.

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