



**SOUTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL, INC.**

611 OLD POST ROAD FAIRFIELD, CONNECTICUT 06430 (203) 255-4411

ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT TRAINING GUIDELINES

1. Advanced life support training in Southwestern Connecticut is based on the Department of Transportation's national standard curricula and state and regional Guidelines.
2. The Council's Medical Advisory Committee recognizes the following advanced life support training levels:
 - A. EMT-MAST: Capable of using pneumatic antishock garments.
 - B. EMT/MRT-DEFIBRILLATION: Capable of performing cardiac defibrillation.
 - C. INTERMEDIATE: Capable of using pneumatic anti-shock garments and esophageal airways, and is able to insert intravenous lines.
 - D. PARAMEDIC: Capable of performing all skills outlined in the DOT national standard paramedic course curriculum.
3. Advanced trained and authorized EMTs shall provide emergency care according to regionally defined guidelines in direct communications with an emergency department physician (medical direction). Advanced level EMTs may also provide emergency care in accordance with approved written standing orders where appropriate.
4. All advanced trained and authorized EMTs must document performance in a manner acceptable to the sponsor hospital medical director for review at any time. The responsibility of documentation rests with the individual EMT.
5. Paramedics and Intermediates must attend 48 hours of continuing medical education and inservice training on ALS and related skills every 24 months. This training must include basic level EMT skill requirements. All advanced EMTs will be qualified at the end of their initial training for two years. Upon documentation of



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sufficient field utilization, completion of approved refresher training, and examination by the sponsor hospital medical director or his/her designee, advanced EMTs will be requalified for the ensuing two year period.

EMTs authorized at the MAST level must attend a minimum of two (2) hours didactic training annually (4 hours every 24 months) above and beyond EMT/MRT BLS training.

MRTs/EMTs using an AED must demonstrate proficiency annually to the sponsor hospital medical director or his/her designee.

(More frequent practice sessions may be required by the sponsor hospital.)

For EMTs using a manual defibrillator, a minimum of two hours of didactic training is required annually. (Frequent practice sessions may be required by the sponsor hospital.)

COURSE LOCATIONS

1. Clinical aspects of ALS training must be performed at a hospital or with an approved paramedic service that has a formal agreement with the training program.
2. MAST, Defibrillation, and didactic portions of EMT-Intermediate courses may be taught at a hospital or at a location that meets educational requirements for space, equipment and educational atmosphere.
3. Paramedic courses must be conducted at a college, university or sponsor hospital location.

SERVICE SELECTION CRITERIA

1. In order to be recommended to provide advanced life support service (as stated in 19a-179-12(a) of the Connecticut EMS Regulations), an EMS service must:
 - A. Be currently providing all elements of basic life support.



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- B. Agree to provide advanced life support service at the level requested with at least one qualified person per shift, twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year.
- C. Provide a personnel roster verifying paragraph "B".
- D. Enter into a formal agreement with a sponsor hospital in which the service agrees to abide by all appropriate ALS protocols and provide supplies and equipment as defined by the regional Medical Advisory Committee.
- E. An EMT-D service must have direct ambulance-to-hospital voice capability by radio and be part of the regional emergency medical communications system.

An MRT-D service must have the ability to respond to EMS calls with a two-way radio, compatible with the first responder service dispatcher. The dispatcher must have the ability to coordinate with the Paramedic responder service.

- F. Have sufficient financial resources to provide the necessary equipment, training and retraining for the level requested.
- G. Meet minimum staffing requirements as stated in section 19a-179-10(b) of the Connecticut EMS regulations.
- H. Agree to participate in a system of regional data collection for program evaluation.
- I. Agree to participate in an ongoing system of case reviews in conjunction with the sponsor hospital. Reviews are to be conducted in continuing medical education sessions at least quarterly. The responsibility for these reviews lies with the sponsor hospital medical director.
- J. Show the area to be served (PSA or geographic location), the service's response time, the population to be served, and estimates of ALS calls to provide sufficient ALS runs.
- K. Agree to provide field internship for future trainees.



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- L. Provide a letter from a sponsor hospital in which the hospital(s) agree to provide medical direction to the level indicated.
- M. Provide a letter from the chief executive officer of the local government in which the service is to be provided in support of the service.

These guidelines apply to all services wishing to provide advanced life support within this region.

STUDENT SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Students must be eighteen years of age (with the exception of AED courses), have current state certification and photo identification.
2. To enroll in an EMT-Intermediate course, a Paramedic course, or an EMT-D program using a manual defibrillator, a person must be certified as an EMT-B for one year, be active with a service no less than one year or be able to document 75 nonscheduled calls. There will be no exception to this requirement. In addition, students must attain their eighteenth birthday by completion of the course.
3. In order to enroll in a MAST training program, the applicant must be 18 years of age by course completion and hold a valid EMT-B certification. There are no other minimum requirements for this training.
4. In order to enroll in a defibrillation training program using a semiautomatic or automatic defibrillator, the applicant must hold a valid EMT-B or MRT certification. There are no other minimum requirements for this training.
5. Students must pass an entrance examination if required by the sponsor hospital.
6. In exception of the above, the sponsoring medical director will, on request, review a student's application.



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IDENTIFICATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY
OF ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT PERSONNEL

1. Persons will be authorized to perform advanced life support skills if they have:
 - A. Been approved to receive medical control and quality assurance by the medical director of the appropriate sponsor hospital(s).
 - B. Submitted a properly completed personnel roster on a form provided by the regional council office.
2. To insure that only properly trained and approved personnel are authorized to perform advanced life support, regional medical identification cards will be issued to paramedics and intermediates. Each technician will be issued an ID card with a personal code. The code consists of a sequence of letters followed by four numbers. The letters represent the person's level of training as follows:

INT
PM

INTERMEDIATE
PARAMEDIC

The numbers run in sequence beginning with 0001. For example, INT-0073 identifies a person who has been authorized at the EMT-Intermediate level and whose sequence number is seventy three. At each level of authorization, no two people will be assigned the same number.

3. For technicians approved for defibrillation and/or MAST, a personnel roster, including a medical identification number, authorization expiration, and affiliation, will be sent to the service and the sponsor hospital.
4. Records of all personnel authorized to perform advanced life support in the region will be kept in a binder. Each person will be listed by name, number and service for immediate verification by the physician giving medical control. These records are to be kept in the emergency departments of all hospitals in the region.

