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MINIMUM STAFFING FOR A QUICK RESPONSE SERVICE

§ 1027.32. Quick response service.

(a) *Purpose.* An EMS agency that operates a QRS uses EMS providers to respond to calls for EMS and provide EMS to patients before an ambulance arrives.

(b) *Vehicles.* A QRS is not required to use a vehicle when responding to a call. If a QRS responds to a call using a vehicle, it may use a vehicle other than an EMS vehicle, such as a bicycle, motorized cart or all-terrain vehicle.

(c) *Staffing.* The minimum staffing for a QRS is one EMS provider. If the QRS responds to a call with a BLS squad vehicle, intermediate ALS squad vehicle or ALS squad vehicle, the minimum staff shall also include an EMSVO, except that only one person is required if the EMSVO is also the EMS provider.

(d) *Providing EMS.*

(1) When a member of an ambulance crew arrives at the scene who is certified at the level for which the patient requires EMS or is a higher-level EMS provider than the EMS provider of the QRS crew exercising primary responsibility for the patient, the member of the QRS crew exercising primary responsibility for the patient shall relinquish that responsibility to that member of the ambulance crew.

(2) Members of a QRS crew who are present shall follow the direction of the member of the ambulance crew who has assumed responsibility for the overall management of the EMS that is provided to the patient or patients at the scene and leave the scene or continue to provide assistance, as requested by that member of the ambulance crew.

MINIMUM STAFFING FOR A BASIC LIFE SUPPORT (BLS) AMBULANCE

Minimum staffing is required whenever a patient is onboard the ambulance.

MINIMUM STAFFING for a BLS ambulance in Pennsylvania is:

(c) *Staffing.*

(1) The minimum staffing for a BLS ambulance crew when responding to a call to provide EMS and transporting a patient is an EMS provider at or above the EMR level, a second EMS provider at or above the EMT level and an EMSVO, except that only a two-person ambulance crew is required if the EMSVO is also one of the EMS providers and an EMS provider above the EMR level is available to attend to the patient during patient transport. Until April 11, 2016, an ambulance attendant who has not yet secured certification as an EMR may substitute for an EMR.

MINIMUM STAFFING FOR AN ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT (ALS) AMBULANCE

Minimum staffing is required whenever a patient is onboard the ambulance.

(b) *Staffing.* The minimum staffing for an ALS ambulance crew when responding to a call to provide EMS to a patient who requires EMS above the skill level of an AEMT is an EMS provider at or above the EMT level, a second EMS provider above the AEMT level and an EMSVO, except that only a two-person ambulance crew is required if the EMSVO is also one of the EMS providers and an EMS provider above the AEMT level is available to attend to the patient during patient transport. Responding ambulance crew members may arrive at the scene separately, but the ambulance shall be fully staffed at or above the minimum staffing level before transporting a patient.

References:

Pennsylvania Code Title 28. Health and Safety

The provisions of this § 1027.33 adopted October 11, 2013, effective April 10, 2014, 43 Pa.B. 6093.

The provisions of this § 1027.35 adopted October 11, 2013, effective April 10, 2014, 43 Pa.B. 6093.