

LEGAL NOTICE NO. 58

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

THE EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICES AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL
PERSONNEL ACT, 2009

REGULATIONS

MADE BY THE MINISTER UNDER SECTION 65 OF THE EMERGENCY
AMBULANCE SERVICES AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL PERSONNEL ACT,
2009, ACT NO. 8 OF 2009 AND SUBJECT TO NEGATIVE
RESOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT

THE EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICES AND EMERGENCY
MEDICAL PERSONNEL REGULATIONS, 2013

PART I

PRELIMINARY

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Emergency Ambulance Citation
Services and Emergency Medical Personnel Regulations, 2013.

2. In these Regulations—

Interpretation

“Act” means the Emergency Ambulance Services and Act No. 8 of
Emergency Medical Personnel Act; 2009

“Advanced Ambulance 1” means an ambulance used in relation
to an Ambulance Service—Advanced 1 Licence issued
under Parts III, IV and V of the Act;

“Advanced Ambulance 2” means an ambulance used in relation
to an Ambulance Service—Advanced 2 Licence issued
under Parts III, IV and V of the Act;

“air ambulance” means an aircraft used as an ambulance;

“Basic Ambulance” means an ambulance used in relation to an
Ambulance Service—Basic Licence issued under Parts III,
IV and V of the Act;

“Committee” means the Emergency Ambulance Regulatory
Committee established under section 4 of the Act;

“hospital” means a health care facility defined under the
Regional Health Authority Act or a private hospital as Chap. 29:05
defined by the Private Hospitals Act; Chap. 29:03

“land ambulance” means a motor vehicle that is lawfully authorized to be used as an ambulance;

“licensed provider” means a person who holds an Ambulance Services Licence issued under Part V of the Act;

“responsible medical practitioner” means a duly qualified medical practitioner employed by a licensed provider to be the lead medical practitioner;

“sea ambulance” means a ship or boat which has a single hull of not less than seven metres in length and which is lawfully authorized to be used as an ambulance.

Application
for licence
Schedule 1

3. (1) An application for an Ambulance Services Licence under Part V of the Act shall be made in the form set out in Schedule 1 and shall contain the following:

- (a) the name and address of the applicant;
- (b) the name under which the applicant is conducting ambulance services or proposes to conduct ambulance services; and
- (c) the type of licence applied for.

(2) Where an application is made under Part V of the Act it shall, in addition to the matters contained in subregulation (1), where available contain the following:

- (a) a description of each ambulance to be used in the business, including the make, model and year of manufacture of the ambulance;
- (b) the location and description of the place or places from which the licensed provider intends to operate including his dispatch centre;
- (c) the personnel roster showing the names of all Emergency Medical Personnel;
- (d) the name, address and telephone number of the responsible medical practitioner;
- (e) the name, facsimile, e-mail and telephone numbers of the person in charge of the day-to-day operations;
- (f) the number of ambulances and level of service to be provided in respect of each ambulance; and
- (g) the geographical area in which the licensed provider intends to provide his service.

(3) An application made under subsection (1) may be accompanied by any other information as the Minister or Committee deems reasonable and necessary.

(4) An application under this regulation shall be made in respect of any of the levels provided for in section 24(4) of the Act.

4. (1) A licensed provider shall retain a responsible medical practitioner to ensure quality control of the care provided to patients and whose functions shall include the medical supervision of Emergency Medical Technicians.

(2) A licensed provider shall notify the Committee, as soon as is reasonably practicable, where there is a change in the responsible medical practitioner retained by him.

5. (1) A licensed provider shall ensure that each ambulance is covered by full comprehensive insurance of at least two million dollars.

(2) The insurance shall cover the driver, emergency medical personnel, other health personnel and patients.

PART II

AMBULANCE SERVICES

6. (1) Where a licensed provider is issued a licenced category of Ambulance Services—Basic, the licensed provider shall ensure that—

- (a) each ambulance is dispatched with a minimum crew of at least one driver and one basic Emergency Medical Personnel;
- (b) as far as possible, there is a response time of thirty minutes from receipt of an emergency ambulance call and a return time of thirty minutes;
- (c) in each quarter, it conducts a minimum of three hours of training in equipment use and patient care to its emergency medical personnel;
- (d) the records of the training referred to in paragraph (c) on each Emergency Medical Personnel is available for inspection by the Committee;
- (e) the following records are maintained:
 - (i) approved ambulance run reports;
 - (ii) employee roster;

- (iii) time sheets;
 - (iv) call roster;
 - (v) patient record while under the care of the provider;
 - (vi) dispatch logs which show at least the time that an emergency ambulance call was received, the type of emergency ambulance call and the time that the ambulance is *en route*;
 - (vii) time of pick-up of patient;
 - (viii) time of drop-off of patient at receiving hospital and name and address of receiving hospital; and
 - (ix) maintenance schedule; and
- (f) the receiving hospital is notified of impending arrival, patient condition and care rendered to the patient.
- (2) A licensed provider shall ensure that in every ambulance there is a fire extinguisher.

Minimum
requirements
for Ambulance
Service—
Advanced 1

7. Where a licensed provider is issued a licenced category of Ambulance Service—Advanced 1, the licensed provider shall ensure that—

- (a) the provisions of regulation 6(1)(b) to (f) are satisfied;
- (b) every ambulance has on board sufficient equipment to ensure that life support consisting of at least intravenous therapy and advanced airway care are maintained;
- (c) appropriate staffing including paramedics and intermediate levels are maintained to ensure the full complement required under paragraph (d); and
- (d) two emergency medical technicians, one of whom shall be an Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate or Emergency Medical Technician—Paramedic are on board at all times.

Minimum
requirements
for Ambulance
Service—
Advanced 2

8. Where a licensed provider is issued a licenced category of Ambulance Service—Advanced 2, the licensed provider shall ensure that—

- (a) the provisions of regulation 6(1)(b) to (f) are satisfied;
- (b) every ambulance has on board sufficient equipment to ensure that life support consisting of intravenous therapy, advanced airway care, cardiac monitoring, electrical

therapy and drug therapy approved by the Committee and the responsible medical practitioner is available; and

- (c) a minimum of two emergency medical technicians, one of whom shall be an Emergency Medical Technician Paramedic, is on board at all times.

9. (1) A licensed provider shall transport a patient to the nearest appropriate hospital of the patient's choice within the service area of the licensed provider. Patient's choice of nearest appropriate medical facility

(2) Where the patient—

- (a) is unable to make a choice as to the hospital to which he wishes to be transported; or
- (b) chooses a hospital outside of the service area of the licensed provider,

the licensed provider shall transport the patient to the nearest appropriate public hospital.

10. (1) Where a licensed provider transports a patient to a hospital, he shall ensure that the hospital to which the patient is transported is provided with a copy of a duly completed Ambulance Service Encounter Form in respect of the patient which shall become part of the patient's medical records. Reports to health care facility

(2) An Ambulance Service Encounter Form under sub-regulation (1) shall be in the form set out in Schedule 2.

Schedule 2

11. (1) A licensed provider shall keep a report of every emergency ambulance call that results in the dispatch of an ambulance with the exception of emergency ambulance calls cancelled *en route* or where no contact was made with the patient. Required emergency ambulance call reports

(2) A licensed provider shall report to the Chief Medical Officer every incident where a patient is transported by the licensed provider and—

- (a) dies *en route* to the hospital; or
- (b) where the patient has an infectious disease as defined by the Public Health Ordinance. Ch. 12. No. 4

12. A licensed provider shall not advertise to the general public the service areas, skills, procedures or personnel certification levels which he cannot, at all times, provide on every emergency ambulance call. Restriction on advertisement

Drugs register
to be kept

13. A licensed provider shall maintain a register of drugs which shall include the type of drug, the quantity, date received, and the responsible medical practitioner authorizing the purchase and usage of the drug on the ambulance.

Requirements
to secure
patients

14. A licensed provider shall secure all patients before commencing transportation to ensure their safety while being transported.

Patient
consent

15. (1) A licensed provider may only accept consent for treatment of a patient from—

- (a) the patient himself, where he is over the age of eighteen years;
- (b) the parent of a patient in respect of his—
 - (i) minor child; or
 - (ii) adult child of unsound mind;
- (c) a person standing in *loco parentis*, whether formally serving or not, a guardian or custodian, for his ward or for a person who is disabled or is of unsound mind;
- (d) a married person under the age of eighteen;
- (e) in the absence of a parent, a grandparent for his minor grandchild or for his adult grandchild of unsound mind;
- (f) a married person for a spouse of unsound mind; and
- (g) a person over the age of eighteen years for his parent of unsound mind.

(2) For the purposes of this regulation, consent to surgical or medical procedures suggested, recommended, prescribed or directed by a medical practitioner will be implied where an emergency exists and there—

- (a) is no one immediately available who is authorized or empowered to, or capable of, consent; or
- (b) has been an initial protest or refusal of consent by a person authorized and empowered to do so but there has been a subsequent material and morbid change in the condition of the patient and there is no person immediately available who is authorized or empowered to, or capable of, consent.

(3) For the purpose of this regulation, “emergency” means a situation where, in the opinion of a duly authorized medical practitioner, the proposed surgical or medical treatment or procedures are immediately necessary or imminently necessary and any delay occasioned by an attempt to obtain consent would reasonably be

expected to jeopardize the life, health or safety of the person affected or would reasonably be expected to result in disfigurement or impairment of faculties.

PART III

LAND AMBULANCE—VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT

16. The minimum structural criteria for a land ambulance are set out in Schedule 3.

Minimum
structural
criteria for land
ambulances
Schedule 3

17. (1) A licensed provider shall have on board every land ambulance in his fleet, the minimum equipment listed in Part A of Schedule 4.

Minimum
equipment
required to be
on board a land
ambulance
Schedule 4

(2) The licensed provider shall, in addition to the equipment listed in subregulation (1), have on board—

- (a) an Advanced Ambulance 1 which is a land ambulance in his fleet, the equipment listed in Part B of Schedule 4;
- (b) an Advanced Ambulance 2 which is a land ambulance in his fleet, the equipment listed in Parts B and C of Schedule 4; and
- (c) a secured storage area for approved drugs and other non-pharmaceuticals.

18. A licensed provider shall ensure that the exterior of a land ambulance has a reasonably clean appearance and that the exterior lighting of a land ambulance is kept clear of foreign matter to ensure adequate visibility.

Exterior
surfaces

19. A licensed provider shall ensure that in every land ambulance—

Interior
surfaces in
patient
compartment

- (a) the interior surface is of a non-porous material to allow easy cleaning;
- (b) carpet-type materials are not used on any surface of the compartment where the patient is located;
- (c) walls, cabinets and bench surfaces are kept free from dust, moisture or other accumulated foreign matter;
- (d) bloodstains, vomitus, faeces, urine and other similar matter are cleaned from the ambulance and all equipment in the ambulance after each drop off using a hypochlorite solution.

- (e) the window glass and cabinet doors are clean and free from foreign matter;
- (f) a receptacle for trash, litter and all used items is provided;
- (g) a hypochlorite solution is used to clean patient contact areas not otherwise soiled; and
- (h) a container specifically for the deposit of contaminated needles or syringes and a second container for contaminated or infectious waste are provided and labelled accordingly.

Linen

20. A licensed provider shall ensure that in every land ambulance—

- (a) there is a storage area for clean linen arranged in such configuration to ensure that the linen remain dry and clean;
- (b) clean or disposable linen are used on cots and pillows and are changed after each patient is transported;
- (c) soiled linen are transported in closed plastic bags or containers and removed from the ambulance as soon as possible;
- (d) blankets and linen are of a hypoallergenic material and are clean and stored in such a manner to ensure cleanliness; and
- (e) towels are clean and stored in such a manner to ensure cleanliness and are not used more than once between laundering.

Oxygen
administration
apparatus

21. A licensed provider shall ensure that in every land ambulance—

- (a) all oxygen administration devices such as masks, cannulas and delivery tubing are disposable;
- (b) masks, cannulas and tubing are individually wrapped and not opened until ready to be used on a patient;
- (c) used masks, cannulas and tubing are disposed of and not reused;
- (d) oxygen humidifiers, whether multi-use or disposal single-use, are filled with distilled or sterile water upon use only;
- (e) multi-use oxygen humidifiers are cleaned after each use; and
- (f) a multi-use oxygen humidifier when installed is dated with the date of such installation.

22. A licensed provider shall ensure that in every land ambulance—
Resuscitation
equipment

- (a) bag mask assemblies and masks are stored in the original container, jump kit or a closed compartment to promote sanitation of the ambulance;
- (b) a bag mask assembly is free from dust, dirt or other foreign matter;
- (c) tonsil tips and suction catheters are of the disposal type, stored in sterile packaging until used; and
- (d) tonsil tips and suction catheters are not reused.

23. A licensed provider shall ensure that in every land ambulance—
Suction unit

- (a) suction hoses are clean and free from foreign matter;
- (b) the suction reservoir of the suction unit is clean and free from dust, dirt or other foreign matter; and
- (c) a suction unit with attachments is cleaned and sanitized after each use.

24. A licensed provider shall ensure that in every land ambulance—
Splints

- (a) padded splints are neatly covered with a non-permeable material;
- (b) pneumatic trousers, if used, are clean and free from dust, dirt or foreign matter;
- (c) commercial splints and traction splints with commercial supports are free from dust, dirt or other foreign matter; and
- (d) splinting material is stored in such a manner so as to promote and maintain cleanliness.

25. A licensed provider shall ensure that in every land ambulance—
Cots,
stretchers and
spine boards

- (a) pillows, mattresses and head immobilization devices are covered with non-permeable material and in good condition;
- (b) cots, pillows, stretchers and head immobilization devices are clean and free from dust, dirt or other foreign matter;
- (c) canvas or neoprene covers on portable type stretchers are in good condition;

- (d) restraint straps or devices are kept clean and are washed immediately if soiled; and
- (e) spine boards are free from rough edges or areas that may cause splinters and where the spine board is wooden it shall be sealed.

Bandages and
dressings

26. A licensed provider shall ensure that in every land ambulance—

- (a) bandages are clean, sterile and individually wrapped and stored in a closed container or cabinet to ensure cleanliness;
- (b) dressings are sterile, individually packed, sealed and stored in a closed container or compartment;
- (c) dressings or burn sheets not commercially wrapped are sterilized in an autoclave or gas sterilizer with the date of sterilization shown on each item;
- (d) bandages or dressings which have been exposed to moisture or otherwise have become soiled are discarded and replaced; and
- (e) there are at least three restraining straps.

Obstetrical
kits

27. A licensed provider shall ensure that in every land ambulance—

- (a) obstetrical kits are sterile and wrapped with paper or plastic;
- (b) where the wrapper on an obstetrical kit is torn or the kit is opened but not used, the items in the kit which are not individually wrapped, are re-sterilized or discarded and replaced; and
- (c) obstetrical kits, not commercially wrapped, are sterilized in an autoclave or gas sterilizer with the date of sterilization shown on the item.

Oropharyngeal
appliances

28. A licensed provider shall ensure that in every land ambulance—

- (a) instruments inserted into the nose or mouth of a patient are single-use, individually wrapped and stored properly; and
- (b) oropharyngeal airways designed for multi-use are sterilized in an autoclave or gas sterilizer.

29. Where a land ambulance has been utilized in the transport of a Communicable diseases patient who is known to have a communicable disease—

- (a) the land ambulance shall be taken out of service until it is cleaned and disinfected; and
- (b) linen shall be immediately removed from the cot on which the patient lay, placed in a plastic bag or container, and sealed until properly disposed of.

30. A licensed provider shall ensure that miscellaneous equipment Miscellaneous equipment and materials such as scissors, stethoscopes, blood pressure cuffs and other items used for direct patient care are cleansed and sterilized as they become soiled.

PART IV

AIR AMBULANCE

31. (1) A licensed provider operating an air ambulance shall ensure Air Ambulance Aircraft requirements that in all operations the aircraft operator of the air ambulance meets the requirements of the Civil Aviation Act, in respect of privileges to fly Chap. 49:03 an aircraft.

(2) The licensed provider operating an air ambulance shall ensure that an aircraft used as an air ambulance, in addition to meeting the requirements of the Civil Aviation Act—

- (a) is configured in such a way that an Emergency Medical Technician has adequate access for the provision of patient care within the cabin to give cardiopulmonary resuscitation and maintain life support of the patient;
- (b) allows for the loading of a supine patient;
- (c) provides for the securing of the patient in the cabin;
- (d) has appropriate communication equipment to ensure both internal crew communications and transmission to appropriate agencies;
- (e) has interior lighting so that patient care can be given and the patient status can be monitored without interfering with the vision of the pilot;
- (f) has hooks or appropriate devices for hanging intravenous fluid bags; and
- (g) where the aircraft is a helicopter, has an external landing light.

(3) The design of an aircraft used as an air ambulance shall not compromise the physical stability of a patient in loading, unloading or in-flight operations.

Aircraft
medical crew
requirements

32. (1) Notwithstanding regulation 6(1)(a), a licensed provider operating an air ambulance shall ensure that a Basic Ambulance which is an air ambulance shall be staffed with at least one certified Emergency Medical Technician—Basic.

(2) Notwithstanding regulation 7(c), a licensed provider operating an air ambulance shall ensure that an Advanced Ambulance 1 which is an air ambulance shall be staffed with at least one certified Emergency Medical Technician—Intermediate or Emergency Medical Technician—Paramedic.

(3) Notwithstanding regulation 8(c), a licensed provider operating an air ambulance shall ensure that an Advanced Ambulance 2 which is an air ambulance shall be staffed with at least one certified Emergency Medical Technician—Paramedic.

Air ambulance
medical
equipment
requirements
Schedule 5

33. (1) The licensed provider operating an air ambulance shall ensure that a Basic Ambulance has the equipment set out in Part A of Schedule 5.

(2) In addition to the equipment referred to in subregulation (1), the minimum medical equipment required to be on board an Advanced Ambulance 1, which is an air ambulance is set out in Part B of Schedule 5.

(3) In addition to the equipment referred to in subregulation (1), the minimum equipment required to be on board an Advanced Ambulance 2 which is an air ambulance is set out in Part C of Schedule 5.

Regulation
19–30 apply to
air
ambulances

34. The provisions of regulations 19 to 30 apply to an air ambulance *mutatis mutandis* as they apply to a land ambulance.

PART V

SEA AMBULANCE

Sea
ambulance
requirements
Chap. 50:10

35. (1) A licensed provider shall, in operating a ship as a sea ambulance, ensure that in all operations the sea ambulance meets the requirements of the Shipping Act.

(2) A licensed provider shall, in operating a sea ambulance, ensure that a ship used as a sea ambulance, in addition to meeting the requirements of the Shipping Act—

- (a) is configured in such a way that an Emergency Medical Technician has adequate access for the provision of patient care within the cabin to give cardiopulmonary resuscitation and maintain life support of the patient.
- (b) allows for the loading of a supine patient;
- (c) provides for the securing of the patient in the cabin;
- (d) has appropriate communication equipment to ensure both internal crew communications and transmission to appropriate agencies;
- (e) have interior lighting so that patient care can be given and the patient status can be monitored without interfering with the vision of the master; and
- (f) has hooks or appropriate devices for hanging intravenous fluid bags.

(3) The design of a ship used as a sea ambulance shall not compromise the physical stability of the patient in the loading or unloading of the ship.

(4) The ship shall be no less than 15 metres in length.

36. (1) Notwithstanding regulation 6(1)(a), a licensed provider shall, in operating a sea ambulance, ensure that a Basic Ambulance which is a sea ambulance is staffed with at least one currently certified Emergency Medical Technician—Basic.

Ship medical
crew
requirements

(2) Notwithstanding regulation 7(c), a licensed provider shall, in operating a sea ambulance, ensure that an Advanced Ambulance 1 which is a sea ambulance is staffed with at least one certified Emergency Medical Technician—Intermediate or Emergency Medical Technician—Paramedic.

(3) Notwithstanding regulation 8(c), a licensed provider shall, in operating a sea ambulance, ensure that an Advanced Ambulance 2 which is a sea ambulance is staffed with at least one certified Emergency Medical Technician—Paramedic.

Sea ambulance
medical
equipment
requirements
Schedule 6

37. (1) A licensed provider shall, in operating a Basic Ambulance as a sea ambulance, ensure that the sea ambulance has the equipment set out in Part A of Schedule 6.

(2) In addition to the equipment referred to in subregulation (1), the minimum medical equipment required to be on board an Advanced Ambulance 1 which is a sea ambulance is set out in Part B of Schedule 6.

(3) In addition to the equipment referred to in subregulation (1), the minimum equipment required to be on board an Advanced Ambulance 2 which is a sea ambulance is set out in Part C of Schedule 6.

Regula-
tions 19–30
apply to sea
ambulances

38. The provisions of regulations 19 to 30 apply to a sea ambulance *mutatis mutandis* as they apply to a land ambulance.

PART VI

MISCELLANEOUS

Offences

39. (1) A person who contravenes any of the provisions of these Regulations commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of twenty-five thousand dollars.

(2) Where the offence under these Regulations is committed by a body corporate, the body corporate is liable, on summary conviction, to a fine of fifty thousand dollars.

SCHEDULE 1

[Regulation 3(1)]

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

THE EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICES AND EMERGENCY
MEDICAL PERSONNEL ACT, 2009

THE EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICES AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL
PERSONNEL REGULATIONS, 2013

APPLICATION FOR AN AMBULANCE SERVICES LICENCE

1. Name of applicant
2. Address of applicant
3. Trading/Business name of applicant
4. Type of licence applied for (*tick appropriate box*)

☐ Ambulance Services (Basic) Licence	☐ Land Ambulance
☐ Ambulance Services (Advanced 1) Licence	☐ Air Ambulance
☐ Ambulance Services (Advanced 2) Licence	☐ Sea Ambulance
5. Indicate the number of ambulances to be utilized, level of service to be provided, and the following information in respect of each:
Number of ambulances

(a) Name of manufacturer	(a) Name of manufacturer
(b) Model	(b) Model
(c) Year of manufacture	(c) Year of manufacture
(a) Name of manufacturer	(a) Name of manufacturer
(b) Model	(b) Model
(c) Year of manufacture	(c) Year of manufacture
6. Indicate the location and description of the place or places from which you intend to operate.
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7. List and name all Emergency Medical Technicians, their certification numbers and the expiration date of their licences.

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8. List the names of all drivers on staff and their Driver's Permit numbers.

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9. Responsible Medical Practitioner:

Name

Telephone Number

Medical Board Registration Number

Address

Signature of applicant *Date*

SCHEDULE 2

[Regulation 10(2)]

AMBULANCE SERVICE ENCOUNTER FORM—MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

(Information can be put in one or more forms. Computer readable forms can be used)

1. PATIENT INFORMATION

Date
Time of emergency ambulance call
Caller Name
Caller Number
Patient Name
Age D.O.B. day/month/year Sex
Occupation Ethnicity
Address Telephone No.
Emergency Contact Name Telephone No.

2. MEDICAL INFORMATION

Chief Complaint
History of Chief Complaint
Past History
System Review
Medications
Allergies
Last meal

3. VITAL SIGNS

	Time	Time	Time	Time
	(or more columns)			
Pulse				
BP				
Respiration				
O2 sat Pulse Oximeter				
CO2 Capnogram				
Temperature				
Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS)				
	(can include GCS chart)			

4. EXAMINATION

Skin

Eyes

Chest

Abdomen

Pelvis

Spine

Extremities

Other

Burn %(can include burn body diagram)

5. TESTS DONE

	Time	Time	Time	Time
		(or more columns)		
Glucose (Diascan)				
ECG				
Other				
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6. TREATMENT

Oxygen

IVs

Resuscitation

Defibrillation

Medications

Immobilisation collar

Splint

Spine Board

7. NARRATIVE/NOTES

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8. VEHICLE/CREW INFORMATION

Vehicle/Ambulance No. EMT name

Time emergency ambulance call received EMT name

Time departed Attendant

En Route time Driver

Time arrived at destination Other

Destination address

On site time

Time departed

En Route time

Arrival time to medical facility

Time returned to base

Mileage out Mileage in

Responsible EMT name Signature

9. AMBULANCE COMPANY INFORMATION (can put on separate form)

Billing Charge Cash Receipt No.

Ambulance Company acceptance and payment note

Name Relationship to patient

Signature Date

SCHEDULE 3

(Regulation 16)

MINIMUM STRUCTURAL CRITERIA FOR A LAND AMBULANCE

An emergency ambulance shall meet the minimum criteria below—

- (a) base unit of the ambulance shall have the following:
 - (i) the gross weight shall be not less than 3,000 kg in weight;
 - (ii) the length shall be no less than 16 metres;
 - (iii) maximum effective tyres;
 - (iv) power steering;
 - (v) power brakes;
 - (vi) heavy duty cooling system;
 - (vii) heavy duty brakes;
 - (viii) heavy duty rear and front shock absorbers;
 - (ix) front end stabilizer;
 - (x) driver and passenger seat belts;
 - (xi) padded dash;
 - (xii) door locks for all doors;
 - (xiii) inside mirror;
 - (xiv) inside control handles on rear and side doors; and
 - (xv) lights which are light-emitting diode (LED);
- (b) the background colour of the ambulance shall be white;
- (c) emblem and markings on the ambulance shall be displayed prominently on both sides of the vehicle and on its bonnet; with letters at least 15 cm high;
- (d) a mirror image of the word “AMBULANCE” shall be on the bonnet of the ambulance;
- (e) the following interior patient compartment dimensions:
 - (i) the compartment length shall provide a minimum of fifteen centimetres clear space at the head and ten centimetres at the foot of a one hundred and eighty centimetres litter and the minimum inside length shall be two hundred and eighty centimetres;
 - (ii) the minimum inside width of one hundred and fifty centimetres; and
 - (iii) the minimum inside height of the patient compartment shall be a minimum distance of one hundred and fifty centimetres from the floor to ceiling;
- (f) access to vehicle in respect of—
 - (i) the driver compartment shall have—
 - (A) a door on each side of the vehicle in the driver’s compartment;
 - (B) a separation from the patient to afford privacy for radio communications and to protect the driver from an unruly patient, while providing both verbal and visual communication between driver and attendant through a sliding shatterproof glass partition at the upper portion of the separation partition; and

- (C) a bulkhead strong enough to support an attendant's seat in the patient area at the top of the patient's head and to withstand deceleration forces of the attendant in the case of accident;
- (ii) the patient compartment shall have—
 - (A) a door on the left side of the patient's compartment near the patient's head which permits a technician to position himself at the patient's head and quickly remove him from the side of the vehicle should the rear door become jammed;
 - (B) a rear door which swings clear of the opening to permit full access to the patient's compartment;
 - (C) holding devices incorporated on the patient compartment doors to prevent the door closing unintentionally from wind or vibration and such holding device should not protrude into the access area when the doors are open;
 - (D) a spare wheel storage which is situated so as to permit the wheel to be removed without disturbing the patient;
- (g) interior lighting—
 - (i) the driver compartment shall have lighting which is available both to the driver as well as an attendant riding in the driving compartment in order to read maps and records;
 - (ii) the patient compartment shall have—
 - (A) adequate illumination throughout the compartment with illumination at the level of the patient adequate for observation of vital signs, such as skin colour and papillary reflex and for care in transit; and
 - (B) light controls at the entrance door, at the head of the patient and in the driver's compartment;
- (h) illumination devices—
 - (i) there shall be at least one flood light mounted not less than one hundred and eighty centimetres above the ground and unobstructed by open doors located on each side of the vehicle and one flood light above the rear doors of the vehicle;
 - (ii) there shall be a minimum of two alternating flashing red lights on the top of the ambulance so as to provide 360° conspicuity;
 - (iii) two red reflectorized or chemically indiced illumination device and side reflectorized strips on both sides of the vehicle;
 - (iv) one set of battery jumper cables, with a minimum 04 guage copper, 600 amp rating;
- (i) seats—
 - (i) in the driver compartment there shall be a seat for both the driver and attendant both with armrests on each side of the driver's compartment;
 - (ii) in the patient compartment there shall be two fixed padded seats 45 centimetres wide and 45 centimetres high, one at the head of the patient and behind the driver and the other located on the curb side of the vehicle;

- (j) the following safety features shall be provided:
 - (i) crash-stable fasteners to secure a primary and secondary litter;
 - (ii) where litter is floor supported on its own wheels it shall be capable of being secured in its position in all conditions and such restraint shall permit quick attachment and detachment for the quick transfer of patients;
 - (iii) a restraining device to prevent longitudinal or transverse dislodgement of the patient during transit or to restrain an unruly patient to prevent further injury or aggravation to existing injury;
 - (iv) self-adjustable, quick-release, retractable safety belts for both driver and attendants in addition to all seated patients;
 - (v) two exterior rear view mirrors, one for each side of the vehicle to provide maximum rear vision from the driver's seated position;
 - (vi) an interior rear view mirror to give the driver a view of occurrences in the patient compartment;
 - (vii) two electrical windshield wipers and washers in addition to defrosting and defogging systems; and
 - (viii) sun visors for both driver and attendant;
- (k) environmental equipment requirements—
 - (i) air-conditioning shall have a capacity sufficient to lower the temperature in the driver compartment and the patient compartment to 25°C within a reasonable period while driving in an ambient temperature of 30°C;
 - (ii) the entire body, side, end roof, floor and patient compartment doors shall be insulated to minimize conduction of heat, cold or external noise entering the vehicle interior; and
 - (iii) insulation shall be vermin and mildew-proof, fire-proof, non-hygroscopic, non-setting type;
- (l) a spare wheel with appropriate size, inflated, mounted with jack and wheel lug wrench;
- (m) cabinets shall be screwed or bolted to the floor or body so that they can be removed in the event that body work is needed on base vehicle;
- (n) two-way mobile equipment with a reliable system operating range of at least a twenty mile radius from the base station antenna shall be provided;
- (o) siren shall be provided;
- (p) an intercommunication facility shall be provided to allow for communication between the driver's position and the patient compartment and between the driver and the receiving hospital;
- (q) a roof top mounted coaxial cable antenna shall be installed to the cab compartment of the ambulance; and
- (r) all windows, windshield and door glass shall be shatterproof.

SCHEDULE 4

[Regulation 17(1)]

PART A

MINIMUM MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR BASIC AMBULANCE—LAND AMBULANCE

The following are the minimum ambulance medical equipment required to be onboard an ambulance:

- (a)
 - (i) minimum of two plastic or aluminum frame folding stretcher litters;
 - (ii) one multi-level, elevating, wheeled cot with elevating back with two patient restraining straps at least 5 cm wide, one on the chest and one on the thigh; and
 - (iii) one secondary patient transport litter with at least two patient restraining straps.
- (b) Suction devices—
 - (i) an engine, vacuum operated or electrically powered, complete suction aspiration system with a wide bore tubing shall be installed permanently on board to provide for the primary patient;
 - (ii) a portable hand-operated manual suction device; and
 - (iii) an assortment of suction catheters (minimum of two each).
- (c) Bag mask ventilation units—
 - (i) one adult hand-operated bag mask ventilation unit with valves which can be operated in all weathers and equipped to be capable of delivering ninety to one hundred per cent oxygen to the adult patient;
 - (ii) one paediatric hand-operated bag mask ventilation unit with valves which can be operated in all weathers and equipped to be capable of delivering ninety to one hundred per cent oxygen to the patient with a safety pop-off mechanism with override capability;
 - (iii) one infant hand-operated bag mask ventilation unit with valves which can be operated in all weathers and equipped to be capable of delivering ninety to one hundred per cent oxygen to the patient with a safety pop-off mechanism with override capability; and
 - (iv) sizes 1-5 masks to be used in conjunction with the ventilation units in subparagraphs (i) to (iii).
- (d) Oropharyngeal airways in adult, child and infant sizes which shall be clean and individually wrapped and shall be in the following sizes:
 - (i) 90 mm;
 - (ii) 80 mm;
 - (iii) 43 mm.
- (e) Fixed and portable oxygen equipment—
 - (i) portable equipment should be a minimum “D” size or 360 litres cylinder having adequate tubing and semi-rigid valveless, transparent, single use, individually wrapped non-rebreather masks and nasal cannulas in adult and paediatric sizes;

- (ii) a "No Smoking" sign with minimum two point five centimetres letters shall be displayed in the patient compartment;
 - (iii) all oxygen cylinders shall be affixed to a wall or floor with crash stable, quick release fittings; and
 - (iv) litre flow gauge shall be non-gravity dependent.
- (f) Bite stick shall be either commercially available or made of three tongue depressors taped together and padded.
- (g) Six sterile dressings of a minimum size of 12 cm x 20 cm compactly folded and packaged.
- (h) Thirty-six 10 cm x 10 cm sterile gauze pads.
- (i) Four 7.5 cm x 350 cm of individually wrapped bandages, self-adhering tape.
- (j) 10 cm x 10 cm sterile and wrapped aluminium foil or four 4" x 4" commercial sterile occlusive dressing.
- (k) 2.5, 3 and 7.5 centimetres side hypoallergenic adhesive tape.
- (l) Two sterile burn sheets.
- (m) Splints—
 - (i) lower extremity, traction type splint; and
 - (ii) two 35 cm x 7.5 cm and two 90 cm x 7.5 cm padded, wooden type splints or other approved commercially available splints for arm or leg fractures.
- (n) Spine boards—
 - a long board of at least 45 cm x 180 cm.
- (o) Other equipment—
 - (i) cervical collars in small, medium and large sizes;
 - (ii) four triangular bandages;
 - (iii) nine foot straps;
 - (iv) one large bandage shears;
 - (v) one sterile obstetrical kit containing gloves, scissors or surgical blades, umbilical cord clamps or tapes, dressing, towels, perinatal pad, bulb syringe and receiving blanket for delivery of infant;
 - (vi) poison kit, syrup of ipecac and activated charcoal;
 - (vii) blood pressure manometer, cuff and stethoscope;
 - (viii) portable non-mercurial blood pressure set;
 - (ix) stethoscopes;
 - (x) emesis basin, bedpan and urinal;
 - (xi) two dependable flashlights or electric lanterns;
 - (xii) at least one fire extinguisher;
 - (xiii) working gloves; and
 - (xiv) minimum of 1000 cc of sterile water or normal saline for irrigation.

[Regulation 17(2)(a)]

PART B

MINIMUM MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR ADVANCED AMBULANCE 1—LAND AMBULANCE

In addition to the equipment set out in Part A of this Schedule, the following are the minimum medical equipment required to be on board an Advanced Ambulance 1:

1. four butterfly or scalp vein needles between 19 and 25 gauge;
2. four 14, 16, 18 and 22 gauge IV cannulae;
3. two macro drip sets;
4. two micro drip sets;
5. three 21 or 23 gauge needles and three 25 gauge needles;
6. three tourniquets;
7. adult, child and infant sizes of laryngoscope blades;
8. six disposable endotracheal tubes from 2.5 to 9.0 with at least one each size available;
9. an intubations stylet for the neonate patient;
10. equipment for drawing blood samples;
11. two 1ml, 3 ml, 10 ml, 20 ml syringes and one 50 ml syringe;
12. twelve alcohol and iodine preps for preparing IV injection sites;
13. one roll of 1.25 centimetre wide tape;
14. five band-aids;
15. a minimum of four litres of Ringers Lactate, normal saline or a combination thereof;
16. one 14 gauge and one 18 gauge intraosseous needles;
17. a battery powered portable monitor-defibrillator unit with EKG output for ambulances providing advanced cardiac life support; and
18. such drugs as approved by the responsible medical practitioner.

[Regulation 17(2)(b)]

PART C

MINIMUM MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR ADVANCED AMBULANCE 2—LAND AMBULANCE

In addition to the equipment set out in Parts A and B of this Schedule, the following are the minimum medical equipment required to be on board an Advanced Ambulance 2:

1. Nasotracheal tubes
2. Cricothyroidotomy needles
3. Cricothyroidotomy surgical pack
4. Thoracostomy needles
5. Cardiac monitor capable of providing hard copy of ECG
6. External Cardiac Pacing.

SCHEDULE 5

(Regulation 33)

PART A

MINIMUM MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR BASIC AMBULANCE—AIR AMBULANCE

The following are the minimum medical equipment required to be on board a Basic Ambulance which is used as an air ambulance:

1. Suction devices—
 - (a) a portable suction device, battery operated, with wide bore tubing and six ounce reservoir and a “Y” or “T” valve to control suction which can provide continuous suction for fifteen minutes;
 - (b) an assortment of suction catheters (minimum of two each); and
 - (c) rigid suction catheter.
2. Bag Mask Ventilation Units—
 - (a) one adult hand-operated bag mask ventilation unit with valves which can be operated in all weathers and equipped to be capable of delivering ninety to one hundred per cent oxygen to the adult patient;
 - (b) one paediatric hand-operated bag mask ventilation unit with valves which can be operated in all weathers and equipped to be capable of delivering ninety to one hundred per cent oxygen to the patient with a safety pop-off mechanism with override capability;
 - (c) one infant hand-operated bag mask ventilation unit with valves which can be operated in all weathers and equipped to be capable of delivering ninety to one hundred per cent oxygen to a patient with a safety pop-off mechanism with override capability; and
 - (d) sizes 1–5 masks to be used in conjunction with the ventilation units in paragraphs (a) to (c).
3. Oropharyngeal airways in adult, child and infant sizes which shall be clean and individually wrapped and shall be in the following sizes:
 - (a) 90 mm;
 - (b) 80 mm; and
 - (c) 43 mm.
4. Fixed and portable oxygen equipment—
 - (a) portable equipment should be a minimum “D” size or 360 litres cylinder having adequate tubing and semi-rigid valveless, transparent, single use, individually wrapped non-rebreather masks and nasal cannulae in adult and paediatric sizes;
 - (b) a “No Smoking” sign with minimum 2.5 cm letters shall be displayed in the patient compartment;
 - (c) all oxygen cylinders shall be affixed to a wall or floor with crash stable, quick release fittings; and
 - (d) litre flow gauge shall be non-gravity dependent.
5. Bite stick shall be either commercially available or made of three tongue depressors taped together and padded.

6. Six sterile dressings of a minimum size of 12 cm x 20 cm compactly folded and packaged.
7. Thirty-six 10 cm x 10 cm sterile gauze pads.
8. Four 7.5 cm x 350 cm of individually wrapped bandages, self-adhering tape.
9. 45 cm x 60 cm sterile and wrapped aluminium foil or four 10 cm x 10 cm commercial sterile occlusive dressing.
10. 2.5, 5 and 7.5 centimetres side hypoallergenic adhesive tape.
11. Two sterile burn sheets.
12. Splints—
 - (a) lower extremity, traction type splint;
 - (b) two 35 cm x 7.5 cm and two 90 cm x 7.5 cm padded, wooden type splints or other approved commercially available splints for arm or leg fractures; and
 - (c) pneumatic splints are not acceptable.
13. Spine boards—

a long board of at least 45 cm x 180 cm shall be available on general purpose units.
14. Other equipment—
 - (a) cervical collars in small, medium and large sizes;
 - (b) four triangular bandages;
 - (c) nine foot straps;
 - (d) one large bandage shears;
 - (e) one sterile obstetrical kit containing gloves, scissors or surgical blades, umbilical cord clamps or tapes, dressing, towels, peri-natal pad, bulb syringe and a receiving blanket for delivery of infant;
 - (f) poison kit, syrup of ipecac and activated charcoal;
 - (g) blood pressure manometer, cuff and stethoscope;
 - (h) portable non-mercurial blood pressure set;
 - (i) stethoscopes;
 - (j) emesis basin bedpan and urinal;
 - (k) two dependable flashlights or electric lanterns;
 - (l) at least one fire extinguisher;
 - (m) working gloves; and
 - (n) minimum of 1000 cc of sterile water or normal saline for irrigation.

PART B

MINIMUM MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR AN ADVANCED AMBULANCE 1—AIR AMBULANCE

In addition to the equipment set out in Part A of this Schedule, the following are the minimum medical equipment required to be on board an Advanced Ambulance 1 which is used as an air ambulance:

1. two butterfly or scalp vein needles between 19 and 25 gauge;
2. two 14, 16, 18 and 22 gauge IV cannulae;
3. two macro drip sets;
4. two micro drip sets;
5. three 21 and 23 gauge needles and three 25 gauge needles;
6. three tourniquets;
7. adult, child and infant sizes of laryngoscope blades;
8. six disposable endotracheal tubes from 2.5 cm to 9.0 cm with at least one of each size available;
9. an intubations stylet for the neonate patient;
10. equipment for collection and temporary storage of two blood samples;
11. two 1 ml, 3 ml, 10 ml, 20 ml syringes and one 50 ml syringe;
12. twelve alcohol and iodine preps for preparing IV injection sites;
13. one roll of 1.25 cm wide tape;
14. five band-aids;
15. a minimum of 4 litres of Ringers Lactate, normal saline or a combination thereof;
16. one 14 gauge and one 18 gauge intraosseous needles;
17. a battery powered portable monitor-defibrillator unit with EKG output for ambulances providing advanced cardiac life support; and
18. such drugs as approved by the responsible medical practitioner.

PART C

MINIMUM MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR ADVANCED AMBULANCE 2—AIR AMBULANCE

In addition to the equipment set out in Parts A and B of this Schedule, the following are the minimum medical equipment required to be on board an Advanced Life Support Air Ambulance 2.

1. Nasotracheal tubes
2. Cricothyroidotomy needles
3. Cricothyroidotomy surgical pack
4. Thoracostomy needles
5. Cardiac monitor capable of providing hard copy of ECG
6. External Cardiac Pacing.

SCHEDULE 6

(Regulation 37)

PART A

MINIMUM MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR BASIC AMBULANCE—SEA AMBULANCE

The following are the minimum medical equipment required to be on board a Basic Ambulance which is used as a sea ambulance:

1. Suction devices—
 - (a) a portable suction device, battery operated, with wide bore tubing and six ounce reservoir and a “Y” or “T” valve to control suction which can provide continuous suction for fifteen minutes;
 - (b) an assortment of suction catheters (minimum of two each); and
 - (c) rigid suction catheter.
2. Bag mask ventilation units—
 - (a) one adult hand-operated bag mask ventilation unit with valves which can be operated in all weathers and equipped to be capable of delivering ninety to one hundred per cent oxygen to the adult patient;
 - (b) one paediatric hand-operated bag mask ventilation unit with valves which can be operated in all weathers and equipped to be capable of delivering ninety to one hundred per cent oxygen to the patient with a safety pop-off mechanism with override capability;
 - (c) one infant hand-operated bag mask ventilation unit with valves which can be operated in all weathers and equipped to be capable of delivering ninety to one hundred per cent oxygen to a patient with a safety pop-off mechanism with override capability; and
 - (d) sizes 1–5 masks to be used in conjunction with the ventilation units in paragraphs (a) to (c).
3. Oropharyngeal airways in adult, child and infant sizes which shall be clean and individually wrapped and shall be in the following sizes:
 - (a) 90 mm;
 - (b) 80 mm; and
 - (c) 43 mm.
4. Fixed and portable oxygen equipment—
 - (a) portable equipment should be a minimum “D” size or 360 litres cylinder having adequate tubing and semi-rigid valveless, transparent, single use, individually wrapped non-rebreather masks and nasal cannulas in adult and paediatric sizes;
 - (b) a “No Smoking” sign with minimum one inch letters shall be displayed in the patient compartment;
 - (c) all oxygen cylinders shall be affixed to a wall or floor with crash stable, quick release fittings; and
 - (d) litre flow gauge shall be non-gravity dependent.
5. Bite stick shall be either commercially available or made of three tongue depressors taped together and padded.

6. Six sterile dressings of a minimum size of 12 cm x 20 cm compactly folded and packaged.
7. Thirty-six 10 cm x 10 cm sterile gauze pads.
8. Four 7.5 cm x 350 cm of individually wrapped bandages, self-adhering tape.
9. 45 cm x 60 cm sterile and wrapped aluminium foil or four 10 cm x 10 cm commercial sterile occlusive dressing.
10. 2.5, 5 and 7.5 centimetres side hypoallergenic adhesive tape.
11. Two sterile burn sheets.
12. Splints—
 - (a) lower extremity, traction type splint;
 - (b) two 35 cm x 7.5 cm and two 90 cm x 7.5 cm padded, wooden type splints or other approved commercially available splints for arm or leg fractures; and
 - (c) pneumatic splints are not acceptable.
13. Spine boards—

a long board of at least 45 cm x 180 cm shall be available on general purpose units.
14. Other equipment—
 - (a) cervical collars in small, medium and large sizes;
 - (b) four triangular bandages;
 - (c) nine foot straps;
 - (d) one large bandage shears;
 - (e) one sterile obstetrical kit containing gloves, scissors or surgical blades, umbilical cord clamps or tapes, dressing, towels, peri-natal pad, bulb syringe and a receiving blanket for delivery of infant;
 - (f) poison kit, syrup of ipecac and activated charcoal;
 - (g) blood pressure manometer, cuff and stethoscope;
 - (h) portable non-mercurial blood pressure set;
 - (i) stethoscopes;
 - (j) emesis basin bedpan and urinal;
 - (k) two dependable flashlights or electric lanterns;
 - (l) at least one fire extinguisher;
 - (m) working gloves; and
 - (n) minimum of 1000 cc of sterile water or normal saline for irrigation.

PART B

MINIMUM MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR AN ADVANCED AMBULANCE 1—SEA AMBULANCE

In addition to the equipment set out in Part A of this Schedule, the following are the minimum medical equipment required to be on board an Advanced Ambulance 1 which is used as a sea ambulance:

1. two butterfly or scalp vein needles between 19 and 25 gauge;
2. two 14, 16, 18 and 22 gauge IV cannulae;
3. two macro drip sets;
4. two micro drip sets;
5. three 21 and 23 gauge needles and three 25 gauge needles;
6. three tourniquets;
7. adult, child and infant sizes of laryngoscope blades;
8. six disposable endotracheal tubes from 2.5 cm to 9.0 cm with at least one of each size available;
9. an intubations stylet for the neonate patient;
10. equipment for collection and temporary storage of two blood samples;
11. two 1 ml, 3 ml, 10 ml, 20 ml syringes and one 50 ml syringe;
12. twelve alcohol and iodine preps for preparing IV injection sites;
13. one roll of ½ inch wide tape;
14. five band-aids;
15. a minimum of 4 litres of Ringers Lactate, normal saline or a combination thereof; and
16. one 14 gauge and one 18 gauge intraosseous needles.

PART C

MINIMUM MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR ADVANCED AMBULANCE 2—SEA AMBULANCE

In addition to the equipment set out in Parts A and B of this Schedule, the following are the minimum medical equipment required to be on board an Advanced Ambulance 2 which is used as a sea ambulance:

1. Nasotracheal tubes
2. Cricothyroidotomy needles
3. Cricothyroidotomy surgical pack
4. Thoracostomy needles
5. Cardiac monitor capable of providing hard copy of ECG
6. External Cardiac Pacing.

Dated this 3rd day of April, 2013.

F. KHAN
Minister of Health