

**Personnel Certification, Recertification and Liability Coverage**

To insure the quality and consistency of EMS personnel practicing within the MCA, all individuals functioning at the level of EMT, EMT-S, or Paramedic will be required to meet the below listed criteria for initial certification, recertification, and liability coverage.

**Procedure****Provisional Status:**

The minimum criteria for an individual to be granted provisional status within the MCA is possession of a current, valid license from the Michigan Department of Community Health (the Department). Provisional status is available only once to a given individual, unless a change in the level of provider license is obtained. The EMT, EMT-S, or Paramedic functioning under provisional status is not permitted to staff an EMS vehicle as the primary care-giver. Provisional status is not available to the personnel of a new service prior to that service being approved to function within this MCA.

**Within six (6) months of being granted provisional status, the EMT, EMT-S, or Paramedic, for their level of licensure, must successfully complete the Initial Certification criteria listed below.** At the discretion of the Medical Director, if extenuating circumstances exist, provisional status may be extended beyond six months.

**Initial Certification:**

These following requirements apply to all personnel staffing an ambulance, rescue or MFR unit licensed at or above the individual's level of licensure.

If the individual is staffing an ambulance, rescue or MFR unit operating only below their level of licensure, they may only function at the level of licensure of that unit and they need only meet the requirements for the level of licensure of the unit.

**EMT**

- A. Must be a licensed EMT with the Department.
- B. Must possess a current ITLS card or equivalent\* as reviewed and approved by the Medical Control Board within six months of working within the MCA or within six months of eligibility to complete the ITLS or equivalent course, whichever time is longer.
- C. Must successfully pass MCA administered written test with a score of at least 80%. The written test must be taken within the first three (3) months of working within the MCA and must be passed within six (6) months.

**EMT-S**

- A. Must be a licensed EMT-S with the Department.
- B. Must possess a current ITLS card or equivalent\* as reviewed and approved by the Medical Control Board within six months of working within the MCA or within six months of eligibility to complete the ITLS or equivalent course, whichever time is longer.

**Personnel Certification, Recertification and Liability Coverage**

- C. Must successfully pass MCA administered written test with a score of at least 80%. Written test must be taken within the first three (3) months of working within the MCA and must be passed within six (6) months.
- D. Must demonstrate advanced airway proficiency to EMS Medical Director or his/her designee. Until this proficiency is demonstrated, the EMT-S will not perform advanced airway techniques except under the supervision of an MCA-certified EMT-S or EMT-P of at least equivalent licensure.
- E. Clearance for performing intraosseous lines will be provided through an inservice provided by the EMS agencies.

**EMT-P**

- A. Must be a licensed EMT-P with the Department.
- B. Must possess a current ITLS card or equivalent\* as reviewed and approved by the Medical Control Board within six months of working within the MCA or within six months of eligibility to complete the ITLS or equivalent course, whichever time is longer.
- C. Must successfully pass MCA administered written test with a score of at least 80%. Written test must be taken within the first three (3) months of working within the MCA.
- D. Must demonstrate advanced airway proficiency to EMS Medical Director or his/her designee. Until this proficiency is demonstrated, the Paramedic will not perform advanced airway techniques except under supervision of an MCA-certified EMT-P of at least equivalent licensure.
- E. Clearance for performing cricothyrotomy, intraosseous line placement and chest decompression will be provided through an inservice provided by the EMS agencies . Provide demonstration of approved 12-lead training upon request of the MCA (see protocol 2-20, 12-lead ECG Program).
- F. Must possess a current ACLS card.

\* International Trauma Life Support (ITLS) equivalents would include Prehospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS), Flight Nurse Advanced Trauma Course (FNATC), Trauma Nurse Core Class (TNCC), and Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS).

R.N. - See Protocol 1-16, Helicopter Credentials

Physician- See Protocol 1-16, Helicopter Credentials

**Retesting:**

If an individual fails the written test, a retest may be scheduled, but no sooner than thirty (30) days after the initial attempt.

An individual will be allowed to take the written test twice. If, after testing twice, the individual still has not passed the exam, they must discuss the certification process with the EMS Medical Director or his/her designee, if the individual wishes to continue to pursue MCA certification. After the discussion, at the discretion of the EMS Medical Director the individual may obtain authorization to repeat the written test. The authorization will be forwarded to the Washtenaw/Livingston Medical Control Authority Staff Office. The written test may be taken a maximum of three (3) times in any two (2) year period.

## **Personnel Certification, Recertification and Liability Coverage**

An opportunity to demonstrate proficiency in advanced airway management, IO line placement, cricothyrotomy, and chest decompression is not expected to be made available to an individual any sooner than thirty (30) days after a failure to demonstrate proficiency in that same area. If that individual is unable to demonstrate proficiency on a second try in one of these areas required for practice within the MCA at their level of licensure, they must discuss the certification process with the EMS Medical Director or his/her designee, if the individual wishes to continue to pursue MCA certification. After the discussion, at the discretion of the EMS Medical Director the individual may obtain authorization for a final opportunity to demonstrate proficiency in the required procedural skill.

### **Recertification:**

Upon successful completion of the initial certification process, it will be the responsibility of the individual EMT, EMT-S, or Paramedic to maintain a valid license and unexpired course certificates/cards (ITLS or equivalent, ACLS) as required for their level of certification within the MCA. Failure to maintain a valid license will result in suspension of medical oversight by the EMS Medical Director until such license has been restored. Failure to maintain current course certificates will result in the revocation of the individual's privilege to practice within the MCA at the level which requires those course certificates, i.e., a paramedic who has an expired ACLS certificate/card will only be allowed to practice as an EMT-S until he regains a current ACLS card. This may be waived only at the discretion of the EMS Medical Director and must be for a defined period of time.

MCA certification will lapse if the individual is not actively practicing for six (6) consecutive months. Individuals whose MCA certification has lapsed must submit a request to the EMS Medical Director for recertification. This request should include documentation of continued clinical practice. Lack of clinical practice may be sufficient reason for rejection of a request for recertification.

Individuals not practicing for a period of six (6) months or more in the Washtenaw/Livingston MCA may have privileges restored or, at the discretion of the EMS Medical Director, be placed on Provisional status upon their return to practice in the Washtenaw/Livingston MCA. They would then be subject to the MCA initial certification process.

### **Liability Coverage:**

Each agency will provide professional liability insurance coverage in an amount approved by the Medical Control Authority to cover its personnel. Proof will be provided to Washtenaw/Livingston Medical Control Authority upon request.

### **Personnel Lists:**

A personnel list will be updated monthly by EMS agencies and sent to the Washtenaw/Livingston Medical Control Authority office. This list will include additions and deletions of personnel, as well as current licensure levels, ACLS card expiration dates, ITLS or equivalent card expiration dates, and testing and procedure clearance status of active personnel.