

**Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services  
Emergency Medical Services Rule Appendix (Version 1.1)**

**Table 1 – Minimum Staffing Requirements**

	<b>Nontransporting Medical Unit</b>	<b>Ground Ambulance</b>	<b>Air Ambulance</b>
<b>BLS</b>	One ECP who may be an EMR, physician, or physician assistant	Except as provided under 50-6-322, MCA, two ECP providers, one of whom may be an EMR. A physician or physician assistant can replace one ECP	Pilot plus two ECP providers, EMT or above. A physician or physician assistant can replace one ECP
<b>BLS with limited ALS</b>	One ECP who may be an EMR, physician, or physician assistant	Except as provided under 50-6-322, MCA, two ECP providers, one of whom is at least an EMT. A physician or physician assistant can replace one ECP	Pilot plus two ECP providers, EMT or above. A physician or physician assistant can replace one ECP
<b>ALS</b>	One ECP who is at least an EMT with endorsements, physician, or physician assistant	Except as provided under 50-6-322, MCA, two ECP providers, one of whom is at least an EMT with endorsements. A physician or physician assistant can replace one ECP	Pilot plus two ECP providers, one of whom is at least an EMT with endorsement. A physician or physician assistant can replace one ECP

**Table 2 – Required Communication Tools**

Nontransporting Medical Unit Ground Ambulance			Air Ambulance	
			Rotor Wing	Fixed Wing
Written or electronic descriptions on VHF channels and their use	X	X	X	X
Proof of current legal authorization to use each of the frequencies required	X	X	X	
VHF Mobile Radio with these frequencies				
(white) 155.280 mHz		X	X	
(tan) 155.340 mHz		X	X	
(gray) 155.325 mHz		X	X	
(pink) 155.385 mHz		X	X	
(gold) 155.905 mHz		X	X	
(neon) 155.425 mHz		X	X	
VHF Portable Radio with these frequencies				
(white) 155.280 mHz	X			
(tan) 155.340 mHz	X			
(gray) 155.325 mHz				
(pink) 155.385 mHz				
(gold) 155.905 mHz	X			
(neon) 155.425 mHz	X			

**Table 3 – Required Emergency Medical Service Kits**

<b>Service Level</b>	<b>BLS</b>			<b>BLS with limited ALS</b>			<b>ALS</b>		
<b>Service Type</b>	<b>NTU</b>	<b>Ground Amb.</b>	<b>Air Amb.</b>	<b>NTU</b>	<b>Ground Amb.</b>	<b>Air Amb.</b>	<b>NTU</b>	<b>Ground Amb.</b>	<b>Air Amb.</b>
BLS Kit (make available)	(X)	X	(X)	(X)	X	(X)	(X)	X	(X)
ALS Kit (make available)				(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Transportation Equipment Kit (make available)		X	(X)		X	(X)		X	(X)
Safety and Extrication Kit		X			X			X	

**Table 4 - Basic Life Support Kit**

One 200 liter (minimum) portable oxygen tank with functioning regulator and flow meter		Glucometer
Two each adult, pediatric, and infant sized oxygen masks	Two commercially produced tourniquets	Pulse oximeter adult and pediatric sensors
Two each adult, pediatric, and infant sized nasal cannulas	Wound packing material to include plain gauze and /or hemostatic dressing	Stethoscope
Selection of adult, pediatric and infant oropharyngeal airways	Two chest seals	Adult, pediatric and neonate blood pressure cuffs
Selection of adult, pediatric and infant nasal airways	Gauze sponges in various sizes	Thermometer
A manual and/or powered portable suction device(s) with rigid oral and flexible catheter tips	Adhesive bandages	Length-based BLS tape
A neonate/pediatric bulb suction device	2 Rolls of adhesive tape	OB Kit with receiving blanket, and infant head cover
One each adult, pediatric and infant self-inflating manual ventilation device and masks	An automated external defibrillator with adult and pediatric defibrillator pads or combination pads	Trauma shears
Waterless hand sanitizer	Small, medium and large non-latex exam gloves	Two pair impact resistant eye protection with side coverage
Two surgical masks	Two N-95 masks	Two helmets capable of protecting from head injury
BLS medications according to guidelines and medical director with medication delivery devices for the administration of the medications	Pediatric weight-based medication dosing tool	Flashlight with batteries

**Table 5 - Advanced Life Support Kit**

<b>Services operating with EMTs holding IV/IO endorsements or above</b>		
IV drip sets for medications and crystalloid fluids	Pressure IV infusing device	Pediatric IV fluid delivery device for administering a fluid bolus
<b>Services operating with EMTs holding medication endorsements or above</b>		
Medications consistent with service medical director guidelines	Devices and supplies needed to administer medications consistent with service medical director guidelines	Pediatric length-based ALS tool
<b>Services operating with EMTs holding an airway endorsement or above</b>		
Supraglottic airway devices consistent with agency medical director guidelines		
<b>Services operating with paramedics</b>		
Automated, semi-automated and/or manual cardiac monitor capable of defibrillation, pulse oximetry, waveform capnography, 12 lead acquisition, 3 or 4 lead monitoring, blood pressure monitoring and transcutaneous pacing for all ages	Two sets of adult or adult/pediatric combination defibrillation/pacing pads	One set of infant defibrillator pads
Adult, pediatric and infant direct and/or video-assisted laryngoscopy equipment	Two of each size endotracheal tubes consistent with service medical director guidelines	Adult and pediatric Magill forceps
Adult and pediatric chest decompression needles		

**Table 6 – Safety and Extrication Equipment Kit**

Minimum 5- pound ABC fire extinguisher	ANSI class 2 or 3 vests or outerwear	Nonflammable reflective and/or illuminated roadside warning devices
One Phillips screwdriver	One straight blade screwdriver	One device to break vehicle side window glass
One adjustable wrench	One plier	Two pairs leather gloves

**Table 7 – Transportation Equipment Kit**

*Onboard oxygen supply 1000 Liter minimum	*Pelvic immobilization device	Fluid for wound irrigation
*Regulator and flowmeters for onboard oxygen supply system	*Traction splint that fits pediatric through adult patients	Supplies for collection or absorption of patient vomit, urine and feces
*Permanently mounted and/or portable suction with rigid oral and flexible catheter tips	*Extremity splints for neonates through adult patients	Products for sanitation according to agency sanitation policy
*One ambulance stretcher w/two straps for lower body and four-point chest restraining straps, and capability to elevate head		
Disposable seated patient carrier/ stair chair	Materials or devices that can be utilized to provide spinal motion restriction of the cervical, thoracic, and lumbar spine for neonates to adult	*Biohazard bags
*Pediatric restraint device for the stretcher		Trash bags
*Extra stretcher linen	Extrication board/device	Triage marking system
*Blankets	Cold packs/hot packs	
Towels	*Sharps container	

\* = required for air ambulance.

**Table 8 – Essential Patient Care Information**

Patient first and last name	Initial heart rate	Treatment administered
Date of service	Initial blood oxygen saturation	Time treatment administered
Chief complaint	Glasgow Coma Score	Patient response to treatment
Complaint onset time and date	Medications administered, dose and route	EMS agency name
Initial blood pressure	Time medications administered	First and last name of ECP in charge of patient care
Initial respiratory rate	Patient response to medication	

**Table 9 – Required Ground Ambulance Specifications**

An audible backup warning devices	A body free of damage or rust that interferes with the physical operation of the ground ambulance vehicle or creates a hole in the driver's compartment or the patient compartment	Functional open door securing devices on a patient loading door
A brake system meeting the ground ambulance vehicle manufacturer's specifications	Operable windshield defrosting and defogging equipment	Patient compartment upholstery free of cuts or tears and capable of being disinfected
A battery with no leaks, corrosion, or other visible defects	At least one 5-lb. ABC dry, chemical, multi-purpose fire extinguisher in a quick release bracket, either disposable with an indicator of a full charge or with a current inspection tag	A three-point occupant restraint system installed for each seat in the driver's compartment
Hoses, belts, and wiring with no visible defects	a heating system capable of achieving and maintaining a temperature of not less than 68° F in the patient compartment within 30 minutes	For all ambulances ordered on or after October 1, 2025, a minimum of 4-point restraint system installed for each seat in the patient compartment
An electrical system capable of maintaining a positive amperage charge while the ground ambulance vehicle is stationary and operating at high idle with headlights, running lights, patient compartment lights, environmental systems, and all warning devices turned on	A method to monitor and alert personnel if carbon monoxide levels exceed ten parts per million accumulation at the head of the patient stretcher. If the ambulance service uses a disposable carbon monoxide detector, it must also write on the detector the date of its placement; and keep replaced detectors for a period of three	A wheeled, multi-level stretcher that is suitable for supporting a patient at each level; at least 69 inches long and 20 inches wide; adjustable to allow a patient to recline and to elevate the patient's head and upper torso to an angle at least 70° from the horizontal plane; equipped with a mattress that has a protective cover free of holes or cracks; equipped

	years. An ambulance service is not required to maintain a carbon monoxide detector in a diesel powered or solely electric ambulance	with a five-point restraint system to secure a patient during transport; and equipped to secure the stretcher to the interior of the vehicle during transport consistent with manufacturer's specifications
Functioning exhaust pipe, muffler, and tailpipe under the ground ambulance vehicle and securely attached to the chassis	Interior patient compartment wall and floor coverings that are in good repair and capable of being disinfected; and are maintained in a sanitary manner	A crash stable side or center mounting stretcher fastener of the quick release type that is attached according to the stretcher manufacturer's standards
A front bumper that is positioned at the forwardmost part of the ground ambulance vehicle extending to the ground ambulance's chassis' outer edges	Padding over exit areas from the patient compartment and over sharp edges in the patient compartment	A windshield free from unrepaired starred cracks and line cracks that extend more than one inch from the bottom or sides of the windshield or that extend more than two inches from the top of the windshield
A fuel cap of a type specified by the manufacturer specifications	Secured interior equipment and other objects	A windshield-washer system that applies enough cleaning solution to clear the windshield
A steering system to include power-steering belts free from frays, cracks, or slippage; A power-steering system that is free from leaks; and fluid in the power steering system that fills the reservoir between the full level and the add level indicator on the dipstick	When present, hangers or supports for equipment mounted not to protrude more than two inches when not being used	Operable windshield wipers with a minimum of two speeds
Bracing extending from the center of the steering wheel to the steering wheel ring that is not cracked	An air cooling system capable of achieving and maintaining a 20° F difference between	A functional hood latch for the engine compartment

	the air intake and the cool air outlet	
Front and rear shock absorbers that are free from leaks	A patient loading door that permits the safe loading and unloading of a patient occupying a stretcher	Wheels that meet and are mounted according to manufacturer's specifications
Tires on each axle that: are properly inflated, are of equal size, equal ply ratings, and equal type that are free of bumps, knots, or bulges have no exposed ply or belting; and have tread groove depth equal to or more than 4/32 inch	Side-mounted rear vision mirrors and wide-vision mirror mounted on, or attached to, the side mounted rear vision mirrors or other optical devices allowing monitoring of the area surrounding the ground ambulance vehicle	A ground ambulance service shall ensure that a ground ambulance vehicle is equipped to provide, and capable of providing, voice communication between the ambulance attendant and the dispatch center and the ambulance attendant and a source from which the ambulance attendant may request and receive on-line medical direction
Patient loading door lamps and side spot lamps	Patient compartment interior lamps	Intact windows and windshield
Turn signal and hazard lamps	Tail and brake lamps	Head lamps
Back-up lamps	Side marker and parking lamps	Emergency Warning Lights
Siren	Spot lamp	Horn

**Table 10 – Major and Minor Defects for Ground Ambulances**

Inspection Item	Major Defect	Minor Defect
EXTERIOR:		
Emergency warning lights	Three or more non-functioning emergency warning lights	Cracked, broken, or missing lens and/or inoperative lamps
Ground ambulance vehicle body	<p>Damage or rust to the exterior of the ground ambulance vehicle, which interferes with the operation of the ground ambulance vehicle</p> <p>Damage resulting in a hole in the driver's compartment or the patient compartment</p> <p>Holes that may allow exhaust or dust to enter the patient compartment</p> <p>Bolts attaching body to chassis loose, broken, or missing</p>	Damage resulting in cuts or rips to the exterior of the ground ambulance vehicle
Marking		Missing or non-compliant lettering
Mirrors or other optical devices allowing monitoring of the area surrounding the ground ambulance vehicle	Exterior rear vision or wide vision mirrors missing and/or or an optical device not functioning according to manufacturer's specifications	<p>Cracked mirror glass Loose mounting bracket bolts or screws</p> <p>Broken mirrors</p> <p>Loose or broken mounting brackets</p> <p>Missing mounting bracket bolts or screws</p>

Windshield	Shattered or obstructed windshields	Unrepaired starred cracks or line cracks extending more than 1 inch from the bottom or side of the windshield  Unrepaired starred cracks or line cracks extending more than 2 inches from the top of the windshield
Windows		Placement of nontransparent materials which obstruct view  Cracked or broken windows
Fuel caps	Fuel caps missing or of a type not specified by the manufacturer	
Bumpers	Missing bumper	Loose bumper
Patient compartment doors	Completely or partially missing window panel  Two means of egress missing or inoperative	Inoperative open door securing devices  Cracked window panels
Padding over exit areas		Missing padding over exits in the patient compartment  Deterioration of padding
Fire extinguisher	Absent or non-functional extinguisher  Less than a 5-pound extinguisher	Not at full charge  Expired inspection tag

Exhaust system	Exhaust fumes in the patient or driver compartment	Muffler not securely attached to the chassis and tailpipe  Exhaust pipe brackets not securely attached to the chassis and tailpipe  End of tailpipe pinched or bent
Wheels	Loose or missing lug nuts Broken lugs  Cracked or bent rims	
Tires	Front tire less than 4/32  Tires on each axle are not of equal size, equal ply ratings, and equal type  Bumps, knots, or bulges on any tire  Exposed ply or belting on any tire  Flat tire on any wheel	Tires not properly inflated
EXTERIOR LIGHTING:		
Head lamps	Both lamps of either type inoperable	High or low beam inoperative  Inoperative dimmer switch
Brake lamps	Both inoperative	One inoperative
Parking lamps		Inoperative
Back-up lamps		Inoperative  Cracked, broken, or missing lens

Tail lamps	Both inoperative	One inoperative  Cracked, broken, or missing lens
Turn signal lamps		Any turn signal lamp inoperative  Cracked, broken, or missing lens
Side marker lamps		Inoperative  Cracked, broken, or missing lens
Hazard lamps		Inoperative
Loading lamps		Inoperative  Cracked, broken, or missing
		lens
ENGINE COMPARTMENT AND BATTERY:		
Engine compartment		Inoperative hood latch  Deterioration of hoses, belts, or wiring  Air cooling and heater hoses not secured  Fluid leaks other than engine cooling system
Battery	Not secured  For a vehicle powered by an electric motor, not meeting manufacturer's guidelines for use	Deterioration of battery hold-down clamps  Corrosive acid buildup on battery terminals

Electrical system	Does not operate engine, lighting, safety, or medical systems	
Engine cooling system	Does not comply with manufacturer's specifications	Leaks in system Inadequate fluid in reservoir
Engine intake air cleaner		Does not comply with manufacturer's specifications
DRIVER'S COMPARTMENT:		
Air cooling system	Does not achieve and maintain a 20° F difference between the air intake and the cool air outlet	Unsecured hoses
Instrument panel	Speedometer inoperable	Other inoperative gauges, switches, or illumination
Horn		Inoperative
Siren	Inoperative	
Steering wheel bracing	Steering wheel bracing cracked	
Windshield-washer system	Inoperative windshield-washer system	
Windshield defroster/defogger	Inoperative windshield defroster/defogger	Ventilation system openings partially blocked
Windshield wipers	Inoperative wiper on either side	Inoperative speed control Split or cracked wiper blade
Windshield	Windshield that is obstructed Placement of nontransparent materials that obstruct view	
Equipment		Inability to secure equipment
Occupant restraint system	Absence of an occupant restraint system or inoperative occupant restraint system in the driver's compartment	Frayed material on the occupant restraint system

Spot lamp in driver's compartment		Inoperative
Exhaust system	Exhaust fumes in the driver or patient compartment	
PATIENT COMPARTMENT:		
Air cooling system	Does not maintain a 20° F difference between the air intake and the cool air outlet	Unsecured hoses
Heating system	Does not maintain a minimum temperature of 68 degrees in 30 minutes	Unsecured hoses
Equipment	Inability to secure oxygen tanks  Inability of fixed oxygen tank to hold pressure  Non-medical grade oxygen or other gas  Any unsecured equipment	Inability to secure other equipment  Inability of portable oxygen tank to hold pressure
Interior wall and floor coverings and seat upholstery	Visible blood, body fluids, or tissue	Unrepaired cuts or holes in seats  Missing pieces of floor covering  Upholstery, floor, walls, or ceiling not capable of being disinfected

Occupant restraint systems and securing belts	More than one inoperative occupant restraint system in the patient compartment	Frayed material on the occupant restraint system or securing belt
	Absence of securing belts on a stretcher	One inoperative occupant restraint system in the patient compartment
	Absence of shoulder belts on a stretcher	
Stretcher fastener	Does not comply with manufacturers specification	
Hangers		Supports or hangers protruding more than 2" when not being used
Edges		Presence of exposed sharp edges
Patient Compartment interior lamps	All lamps inoperative	Inoperative individual lamps Missing lens
Stretcher	Absent	
Exhaust system	Exhaust fumes in the patient compartment	
COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT:		
Communication capability between ambulance personnel and the dispatch center	Lack of operative communication equipment	
Communication capability between the ambulance attendant in the patient compartment and the physician providing on-line medical direction	Lack of operative communication equipment	
GENERAL SYSTEMS:		

Frame	Cracks in frame	
Suspension	Broken suspension parts U-bolts loose or missing	Bent suspension parts Leaking shock absorbers Cracks or breaks in shock absorber mounting brackets
Parking brake	Inoperative	
Vehicle brakes	Inoperative	Fluid leaks
Steering system	Inoperative	Power steering belts slipping Power steering belts cracked or frayed Fluid leaks Fluid does not fill the reservoir between the full level and the add level indicator on the dipstick

**Table 11: Suggested Supplemental Training for Registered Nurses**

Depending on the EMS Service's level of license, and the registered nurse's education and experience, the EMS service manager and service medical director may consider these and other topics for supplemental training:

1. procedures for the initiation of life support therapies or interventions in the field;
2. prehospital documentation requirements;
3. extrication techniques;
4. communication technology;
5. scene assessment, safety, and control;
6. use and troubleshooting of equipment;
7. safe lifting, safe loading, and safe driving;
8. patient triage and transportation guidelines;
9. hazardous material training;
10. air ambulance safety; and
11. incident command and control.