

10 Ambulance Vehicle Driver Training

Adopted: 17 March
Changed:

Effective: 02 April 2019
Effective:

10.1 Purpose and Expected Results

Safe transportation of the crew and patient is a primary function of the Emergency Squad. Driver training is a means to achieve consistently safe motor vehicle operation.

10.2 Circumstances of Applicability

Driver or potential driver requires training on operation of emergency vehicles.

10.3 Requisites

- Availability of emergency response vehicles and equipment for training
- Approved instructor-trainer

10.4 Procedure Description

To qualify for driver status, a driver must successfully complete the driver-training course, including the necessary classroom and practical experience.

Drivers will be certified on a vehicle-by-vehicle basis. The training officer will generate a list (or lists) cross-referencing certified vehicle driver and which vehicles each is driver is qualified to operate. Such list (or lists) will be openly available.

There will be a list of Certified Drivers generated at the adoption time of adoption of this Standard Operating Guideline. Those members who have been accepted drivers in the past and that are currently driving will not be required to complete the trainer course, but will be included on the list.

10.4.1 Driver Training Curriculum

The Emergency Squad Captain shall designate appropriate personnel to conduct The Ambulance Driver Certification Program. As a minimum, the course will include the following:

1. The duties of the ambulance driver.
2. NYS V&T Laws, Squad SOG's, Definitions of "True Emergency" and "Due Regard"
3. Ambulance start-up, shutdown, and operation of all controls.
4. Basic driving skills (pylons).
5. Enter and exit of ambulance bay.
6. Operation of ambulance in light traffic
7. Routes and alternate routes to local hospitals
8. Scene safety assessment
9. On-scene and at-hospital parking
10. Loading/unloading stretcher. Appreciation for patient perspective
11. Stair Chair operation; lifting techniques

10 Driver Training

12. Cognitive and competency test
13. Location and names of equipment on ambulance
14. Radio Communications
15. Structure fire protocols
16. Accident procedures and reporting

Additionally, the driver-trainee will ride along on a minimum of five (5) transports to area hospitals. The driver-trainee will assist the ambulance crew and drive the ambulance on the return trip. It is also strongly recommended that the driver-trainee be accompanied on their initial emergency response (both to the scene and to the hospital) by a certified driver as co-pilot to complete their hands-on training.

The trainer will complete the necessary documentation (such as shown in 10.5 Driver Training Checklist) and submit it to the Squad captain. The captain will add the driver's name to the certified list.

The trainer will periodically review the certified drivers list and refresh drivers as needed (period to be determined by Squad Captain).

10.4.2 Violations

The Squad Captain shall take action by suspending or revoking driver privileges for any reported serious problems such as, but not limited to:

- If an accident occurs which is deemed the fault of the driver.
- Flagrant disobedience of vehicle and traffic laws.

Reestablishment of driver privileges will be determined by the Squad Captain and the driver training Officer.

10.4.3 New Equipment

When new equipment is purchased or brought into service by the Emergency Squad, the Squad Captain or the training officer will indoctrinate all ambulance drivers. All ambulance drivers must be instructed on the new equipment prior to operating it.

10.4.4 Exceptions

Part or all of the above requirements may be waived upon mutual agreement of the Squad Captain and the driver-training officer based on the trainee's prior experience/skills. Such actions and the justification(s) shall be documented in the training records for the affected personnel.

10.5 Driver Training Checklist

**Owego Volunteer Emergency Squad
Driver Training Program**

Driver Trainee: _____

Date Started: _____

Date Completed: _____

Trainee has been instructed in:

Visual inspection of Rigs	YES	NO
Equipment in Rigs	YES	NO
Correct procedure for operating rigs		
- Starting and Shutting down	YES	NO
- Shore line	YES	NO
- Location and use of all emergency lights	YES	NO
Proper use of radios	YES	NO
Proper use of Rigs during		
- Emergency situations	YES	NO
- Non-emergency situations	YES	NO
Cleaning of rig and getting it back in service	YES	NO
Routes to Hospitals	YES	NO
Alternate routes to hospitals	YES	NO
V&T laws pertaining to emergency service	YES	NO
***NOTHING IS A TRUE EMERGENCY UNLESS SPECIFICALLY TOLD SO**		
Practical skills		
- Parking	YES	NO
- Backing - use spotter	YES	NO
- Cones (optional)	YES	NO
- Backing into station - use spotter	YES	NO
- Trainee MUST ride on stretcher 3-5 miles	YES	NO

10 Driver Training

Reviewing Trainer: Instruct trainee to start engine and pull out of station. Once outside, have them stop and explain all of the emergency lights and the siren box operations. Did they:

Pull out of the station cautiously?	YES	NO
Put transmission in park?	YES	NO
Set emergency brake?	YES	NO
Correctly identify all emergency light switches?	YES	NO
Correctly explain all siren box operations?	YES	NO

Reviewing Trainer: Advise the trainee of the location of the simulated house call and that they are to proceed at a normal speed without emergency lights. They are to receive no further instructions, except as indicated.

Drive at proper speed?	YES	NO
Use direct route?	YES	NO
Use directional signals satisfactorily?	YES	NO
Have complete control of vehicle at all times?	YES	NO

Reviewing Trainer: Upon arrival at the scene, determine if trainee is familiar with:

Hospital emergency room locations?	YES	NO
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Reviewing Trainer: Have the trainee return to the station and there, demonstrate the mechanical operation of the following:

Power Stretcher	YES	NO
Manual Stretcher	YES	NO
Hux-a-mat	YES	NO
Stair Chair	YES	NO

10 Driver Training

Reviewing Trainer: Did the trainee satisfactorily identify the locations of equipment listed below? If no please comment on the deficiencies.

Blood pressure Cuffs	Yes	No
Stethoscopes	Yes	No
Board Splints	Yes	No
Inflatable splints	Yes	No
Vacuum splints	Yes	No
Hare splints	Yes	No
Sager splints	Yes	No
Mast pants	Yes	No
Hux-O-Mat (Reeves Stretcher)	Yes	No
Pediatric. Backboard	Yes	No
All O2 locations	Yes	No
Maternity Kit	Yes	No
Burn Kit	Yes	No
Cravats	Yes	No
Hot and Cold packs	Yes	No
Bandage supplies	Yes	No
Extra Linen	Yes	No
KED	Yes	No
Backboards (long and short)	Yes	No
Backboard straps kit	Yes	No
Stair-chair	Yes	No
Maps	Yes	No
Binoculars	Yes	No
Portable radio	Yes	No
Flares	Yes	No
Hand held lights	Yes	No
Fire Extinguishers	Yes	No
Camera	Yes	No
Autopulse	Yes	No
Stair-chair	Yes	No

Reviewing Trainer: Instruct the trainee that the vehicle is to be washed and cleaned after each call or when the vehicle leaves the station.

Observer: _____

ROUTINE DRIVING OBSERVATION

Trainee checks that all doors are closed before putting unit in gear.	YES	NO
Trainee displays a professional and courteous driving attitude.	YES	NO
Trainee observes and practices obeying motor vehicle laws.	YES	NO
Trainee uses the 4-second rule of following vehicles in front of unit.	YES	NO
Trainee accelerates smoothly.	YES	NO
Trainee does not overdrive the unit.	YES	NO
Trainee passes other vehicles correctly.	YES	NO
Trainee returns to correct lane after passing other vehicles safely.	YES	NO
Trainee makes a complete stop all controlled intersections.	YES	NO
Trainee makes eye contact with all stopped vehicles at intersections.	YES	NO
Trainee shows awareness of danger from other vehicles coming from the left and right-hand passing lanes.	YES	NO

EMERGENCY DRIVING OBSERVATION

Trainee proceeds with "Due Regard" through intersections.	YES	NO
Trainee gives ample time for other motorists to react to the approach of the ambulance on an emergency response	YES	NO
Trainee correctly uses warning systems on the unit.	YES	NO
Trainee correctly uses the siren before and at intersections.	YES	NO
Trainee does not pass on the right when driving in emergency mode.	YES	NO

Observer: _____

ROUTINE DRIVING OBSERVATION

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Trainee observes and practices obeying motor vehicle laws. YES NO

Trainee uses the 4-second rule of following vehicles in front of unit. YES NO

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Trainee correctly uses the siren before and at intersections. YES NO

Trainee does not pass on the right when driving in emergency mode. YES NO

10 Driver Training

Trainee does not panic in congested traffic. YES NO
Drive Back 3 of 5 Hospital Transported To: RPH Wilson BGH Lourdes

Observer: _____

ROUTINE DRIVING OBSERVATION

Trainee checks that all doors are closed before putting unit in gear.	YES	NO
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Trainee observes and practices obeying motor vehicle laws.	YES	NO
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Drive Back 4 of 5 Hospital Transported To: RPH Wilson BGH Lourdes

Observer: _____

ROUTINE DRIVING OBSERVATION

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Trainee does not pass on the right when driving in emergency mode. YES NO

Trainee does not panic in congested traffic. YES NO

To be read and signed by the applicant:

I currently hold a valid New York State Driver's license. I understand that all emergency vehicles must yield to a stopped school bus, must proceed cautiously when violating traffic control devices, and generally must be operated in accordance with the Motor Vehicle Laws of New York State. I further understand that each operator is responsible for the action of the vehicle he operates, and that my qualification or disqualification as an operator of this vehicle may be reviewed by the Chief Operating Officer of the Owego Volunteer Emergency Squad.

_____ Date: _____
Driver Trainee's Signature

To be signed by Reviewing Trainer:

As a result this proficiency test, I recommend the following action be taken on the applicant's qualification as an operator Owego Volunteer Emergency Squad's vehicles.

_____ Approval

_____ Non-Approval

_____ Date: _____
Reviewing Trainer's Signature

If non-approval, give reasons, recommendations and/or comments.

To be signed by the officer:

I have reviewed all training documentation. By signing this document I am agreeing with the recommendation of the Trainer.

_____ Date: _____
Squad Officer's Signature