



# State of Louisiana

Louisiana Department of Health  
Health Standards Section

July 6, 2018

Memo

**To: LDH-HSS Licensed Emergency Medical Transportation Services Providers**

**From: Cecile D. Castello, RN, BSN, Director**

**Subject: 2018 Regular Legislative Session, Act 557 regarding the development and maintenance of a written policy identifying equipment consistent with the scope of practice required to comply with the provisions of *La RS 40:1135.1 and 1135.2***

*In accordance with Act 557 of the 2018 Regular Legislative Session, the LDH-Health Standards Section (HSS) is issuing this notice to all licensed emergency medical transportation service providers.*

Effective August 1, 2018, **Act 557 amends and reenacts *La RS 40:1135.1(A)(3) and 1135.2(B)(1)***, relative to emergency medical response vehicles; to provide for qualifications to operate emergency medical response vehicles; to provide for qualifications to operate ambulances; to provide for a written policy; to provide for certain minimum requirements; and to provide for related matters.

**The following is provided for your information (*Words in ~~struck-through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.*):**

§1135.1. Qualifications to operate ambulances; equipment; penalty

A.

~~(3)(a) The Louisiana Department of Health shall promulgate rules and regulations establishing a list of required medical and safety equipment which shall be carried as part of the regular equipment of every ambulance. No person shall conduct, maintain, or operate an ambulance which does not carry with it, in fully operational condition, all of the equipment included in the list, which shall be consistent with the scope of practice for emergency medical technicians established in R.S. 40:1133.14. Each ambulance service provider shall develop and maintain a written policy identifying the equipment required to comply with the provisions of this Paragraph. At a minimum, the policy shall identify the basic trauma equipment, drugs, suction and oxygen equipment, cardiopulmonary resuscitation equipment, and any other equipment required by law that shall be maintained on the ambulance.~~

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~~(b) After its initial establishment, the list shall be subject to review after four years and at any time thereafter. The list shall not be changed more often than once every four years. However, nothing in this Paragraph shall prohibit the department from supplementing the list with state of the art, newly developed devices, equipment, or medications that may be carried in lieu of other items on the list.~~

§1135.2. Qualifications to operate emergency medical response vehicles; vehicle requirements; equipment; penalties

B. No person shall conduct, maintain, or operate an emergency medical response vehicle as an emergency vehicle which:

~~(1) Does not carry with it as part of its regular equipment the list of equipment, in fully operational condition, for emergency medical response vehicles as prescribed in rules and regulations promulgated by the Louisiana Department of Health. This list shall be based upon the recommendations of the American College of Surgeons as provided in R.S. 40:1135.1(A)(3). The list shall be consistent with the scope of practice for emergency medical technicians established in R.S. 40:1133.14. After initial promulgation, such list shall be subject to review after four years and anytime thereafter. The list shall not be changed more often than once every four years. However, nothing shall preclude the Louisiana Department of Health from supplementing the list with state of the art, newly developed devices, equipment, or medications that may be carried in lieu of other items on the list of equipment. Each emergency medical response vehicle provider shall develop and maintain a written policy identifying the equipment required to comply with the provisions of this Paragraph. At a minimum, the policy shall identify the basic trauma equipment, drugs, suction and oxygen equipment, cardiopulmonary resuscitation equipment, and any other equipment required by law that shall be maintained on the emergency medical response vehicle.~~

To view Act No. 557 click on the following link:

<http://www.legis.la.gov/legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=1102766>

Effective August 1, 2018, the department's **expectation is that all licensed emergency medical transportation service providers shall be in compliance with La RS 40:1135.1(A)(3) and 1135.2(B)(1).**

EMTS providers are expected to have written policies and procedures in place as required in Act 557. Staff should be educated on these policies and procedures, and vehicles should be stocked with equipment and supplies accordingly.

During Fleet Addition and Relicensure inspections, surveyors will inspect vehicle equipment and supplies according to the EMTS provider's policies and procedures that are written to be in compliance with Act 557.

The Health Standards Section is currently revising the minimum licensing standards for EMTS providers. These revisions will incorporate the information from Act 557, as well

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as other revisions into the rule. All currently licensed EMTS providers will be sent information regarding the publication of the notice of intent of the rule revisions.

If you have any questions regarding your responsibility related to this notice, please contact the LDH-HSS Emergency Medical Transportation Services Program Desk at (225) 342-2449.

Thank you.