



Compliance with Governor Executive Orders, Ambulance Construction Criteria and Requirements for Ambulance Vehicles on Reserve or Loan

This fact sheet addresses a few changes to administrative rules in response to revised construction standards for ambulance vehicles as well as in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please e-mail ems.trauma@state.or.us should you have additional questions.

Compliance with Governor's Executive Order and Guidance **OAR 333-250-0380 and OAR 333-265-0083**

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Authority has adopted administrative rules clarifying that during a Governor-declared emergency, it is a violation for either a licensed ambulance service agency or a licensed EMS provider to fail to comply with provisions of a Governor's executive order or any guidance issued by the Oregon Health Authority as a result of implementing such order.

- The Authority may investigate and take licensing action against an ambulance service agency that fails to comply with such orders and guidance.
- Additionally, an EMS provider's failure to comply with such orders may be considered conduct or practice contrary to recognized standards of ethics and as such an EMS provider could be subject to an investigation and possible disciplinary action.
- The Authority notes that while ORS 682.220 allows the Authority to investigate the off-duty conduct of an EMS provider to the extent that such conduct may reasonably raise questions about the ability of an EMS provider to perform his or her duties, the Authority does not intend to investigate off-duty conduct unless such conduct may affect the health, safety or welfare of EMS providers or patients.

These rules are effective March 11, 2021.

Ambulance Vehicle Construction Standards **OAR 333-255-0060**

In response to revised construction standards adopted by the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS) and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and to ensure EMS provider and patient safety, the Authority is revising its ambulance construction criteria to align with these national standards, including standards for remounting an ambulance.

- Effective July 1, 2022, an ambulance service agency that enters into an agreement with an ambulance vehicle manufacturer to purchase a new ambulance must ensure that the ambulance is constructed to comply with one of the following standards:
 - CAAS, Ground Vehicle Standards, Version 2.0, Dated July 1, 2019; or
 - NFPA, Standard for Automotive Ambulances, NFPA 1917, 2019 Edition.

- Effective July 1, 2022, an ambulance service agency that chooses to remount an ambulance must ensure that the ambulance remount complies with one of the following standards:
 - Section F of the CAAS, Ground Vehicle Standards, Version 2.0, Dated July 1, 2019; or
 - Chapter 10 of the NFPA, Standard for Automotive Ambulances, NFPA 1917, 2019 Edition.

For clarity, the term "previously owned" has been replaced with "previously operated" and the term defined as, "A used or previously licensed ambulance that has been placed back into service; or gifted to, purchased by, or reassigned to a licensed ambulance service, and is subject to initial licensure in accordance with OAR 333-255-0010."

Ambulance Reserve Vehicles and Ambulance Vehicles for Loan OAR 333-255-0065

Reserve ambulance

Based on inquiries from the industry, rules have also been added that clarify requirements for reserve vehicles and language added to clarify whether an ambulance can be loaned to another licensed ambulance service agency.

- An ambulance may be placed in reserve but must meet all of the requirements of OAR chapter 333, division 055 with the exception of the equipment standards under OAR 333-255-0072.
- Prior to a reserve ambulance being placed back into service, the ambulance must be inspected by agency personnel to ensure compliance with OAR chapter 333, division 055 including equipment requirement.

Loaning an ambulance

A licensed ambulance service that is prevented from deploying an ambulance due to mechanical problems or other hardships may temporarily use an ambulance from another ambulance service through a loan.

- The receiving and loaning ambulance agencies must enter into a written agreement that identifies terms of the loan.
- The agreement must include at a minimum:
 - Names of contact persons for each ambulance service;
 - The ambulance VIN, make, model, year and license plate number;
 - The level of transport service that will be provided;
 - Responsibilities of each agency for providing, replacing or repairing equipment; and
 - Requirements for proof of insurance.
- The ambulance service receiving the loaned ambulance must notify the Authority within three business days of receipt of the loaned ambulance and is responsible for ensuring the ambulance complies with OAR chapter 333, division 055.

These rules are effective March 11, 2021.