

**Kalamazoo County Medical Control Authority
System Protocols
PREHOSPITAL CARE PROVIDER CREDENTIALING**

Date: April, 2014

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I. Purpose:

A. This policy defines prerequisite and on-going requirements for pre-hospital care provider privileges within Kalamazoo County.

II. General Requirements

- A. All prehospital care providers must be employed by a KCMCA recognized agency in Kalamazoo County at the licensure level for which the provider will be functioning.
- B. Establishment or advancement of KCMCA privileges may only be initiated through a letter of recommendation from the employing agency.
- C. All EMT or higher licensed individuals must attend KCMCA system orientation at the first available session. All Paramedics entering the KCMCA system must attend county orientation prior to practicing paramedic level skills.
- D. Credentialed EMT and paramedic providers must participate successfully in education and evaluation, online training, and online communication as defined by KCMCA.
- E. Prehospital care providers must remain in good standing with KCMCA by meeting all license, certification, minimum competency, and training requirements (Table 1).
- F. KCMCA does not recognize grace periods or pending status for any license or certification without written permission from the Medical Director.

III. Recognized Credentials and Specific Requirements

A. Medical First Responder (MFR)

- 1. Description:
 - a) The MFR provides immediate response to medical emergencies or functions as a second crew member on a BLS ambulance.
- 2. Scope of Practice:
 - a) The MFR provides Basic Life Support (BLS) care as defined by KCMCA State Protocols. The MFR may also aid ALS crews by providing additional assistance with care, or documentation.
- 3. Specific Requirements:
 - a) Compliance as described in Table 1

B. Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) I

- 1. Description:
 - a) An EMT I functions as a second crew member on a BLS ambulance.
- 2. Scope of Practice:
 - a) Provides BLS care as defined by KCMCA protocols
- 3. Specific Requirements:
 - a) Attend KCMCA system orientation
 - b) Successful completion of skill competency assessment as defined by KCMCA.
 - c) Credentialing requirements as defined by Table 1.

C. Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) II

- 1. Description:
 - a) An EMT II can function as the lead crew member of a BLS ambulance or a second crew member on an ALS ambulance.
- 2. Scope of Practice:
 - a) Provides BLS care as defined by KCMCA protocols care.
 - b) Functions as a second provider on an ALS vehicle under the direction of a paramedic II or higher credentialed provider.
- 3. Specific Requirements:
 - a) Attend KCMCA system orientation
 - b) Successful completion of skill competency assessment as defined by KCMCA.
 - c) Credentialing requirements as defined by Table 1

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D. Probationary Paramedic

1. Description:
 - a) The probationary paramedic is the initial entry point for any licensed Paramedic in the State of Michigan who wishes to practice within the KCMCA, and
 - b) Enters into a KCMCA approved probationary paramedic program.
 - c) Special consideration for previous experience or exceptional performance may be considered for accelerated probationary status at the discretion of the Medical Director.
2. Scope of Practice:
 - a) While partnered with a Paramedic Field Instructor (PFI) the probationary paramedic functions within the parameters of the probationary paramedic program. The probationary paramedic may provide paramedic level care including attending to a patient as a single paramedic. The level of function of the probationary paramedic is at the discretion of the PFI.
 - b) While partnered with a Paramedic II the probationary paramedic functions at the basic life support (BLS) level with allowable exceptions.
 - (1) Should the Paramedic II be directly supervising activity, the probationary paramedic may perform IV and patient assessment skills.
3. Specific requirements:
 - a) Successful completion of KCMCA system orientation and skill competency evaluation.
 - b) Remain an active participant in good standing with the probationary paramedic program.
 - c) Demonstrate pursuit of minimum county certifications for Paramedic I (see Table 1).
 - d) Credentialing requirements as defined by Table 1.

E. Paramedic I

1. Description:
 - a) Paramedic I status is awarded to individuals who have completed the KCMCA approved probationary paramedic program and have met all requirements as defined by KCMCA protocol.
2. Scope of Practice:
3. A paramedic I has full system privileges and may staff an ALS ambulance with someone of the same credential level or higher.
4. Specific Requirements:
 - a) Successful completion of the probationary paramedic program.
 - b) Successful oral interview with the Medical Director or his/her designee.
 - c) Credentialing requirements as defined by Table 1.

F. Paramedic II

1. Description:
 - a) The paramedic II is an experienced paramedic who has demonstrated the ability to function independently in critical situations.
2. Scope of Practice:
 - a) The paramedic II may be partnered with an EMT II or higher credentialed individual in the KCMCA EMS system.
3. Specific Requirements:
 - a) Current paramedic I with a minimum one year of field experience.
 - b) Special consideration for previous experience or exceptional performance may be considered for accelerated status at the discretion of the Medical Director.
 - c) Successful oral interview with the Medical Director or her/his designee
 - d) Current licensure, certifications, and competencies as described in Table 1.

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G. Paramedic Field Instructor (PFI)

1. Description:
 - a) The PFI is an experienced paramedic II who has demonstrated the ability to function independently in critical situations and demonstrates the desire and ability to teach others.
2. Scope of Practice:
 - a) The PFI functions with all privileges of a paramedic II.
 - b) The PFI provides oversight to probationary paramedics as a function of a KCMCA approved probationary paramedic program.
3. Specific Requirements:
 - a) Current Paramedic II with a minimum one year in position.
 - (1) Special consideration for previous experience or exceptional performance may be considered for accelerated status at the discretion of the Medical Director.
 - b) Successful oral interview for PFI status with the Medical Director or his/her designee
 - c) Current licensure, certifications, and competencies as described in Table 1

H. Critical Care Paramedic (CCP)

1. Description:
 - a) The provider with CCP credentials may provide treatment and inter-facility transport of patients whose care exceeds the scope of practice for paramedics.
2. Scope of Practice:
 - a) The CCP will function to the limits defined by the protocols for specialty care transport.
3. Specific Requirements:
 - a) Current paramedic II credentials.
 - b) KCMCA approved CCP training course completion and current certification.

IV. Agency Responsibilities

- A. It is the exclusive responsibility of the employing agency to maintain records and ensure compliance with the KCMCA credentialing protocol for all credentialed employees.
- B. An agency will provide evidence of compliance as requested by KCMCA within two business days of inquiry.
- C. It is the exclusive responsibility of the agency to provide employees with the communication technologies required to participate with KCMCA.

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Table 1: Credential Requirements							
	MFR	EMT I	EMT II	Probationary paramedic	Paramedic I	Paramedic II	PFI
Michigan License Requirement	MFR	EMT	EMT	EMT-Paramedic	EMT-Paramedic	EMT-Paramedic	EMT-Paramedic
ICS 100	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
ICS 200	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
ICS 700	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
ICS 800							
Basic Cardiac Life Support (BCLS) (Healthcare Provider)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Basic Disaster Life Support (BDLS)				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Approved terrorism awareness course					Yes	Yes	Yes
Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)					Yes	Yes	Yes
ITLS or PHTLS Or other approved equivalent			Yes*		Yes	Yes	Yes
PEPP, PALS, EPC (2yr renewal) or other approved equivalent			Yes*		Yes	Yes	Yes
Patient encounters			5 patient encounters as 3 rd rider	10 patient encounters	75 Initially; +12 Per Quarter (ALS attending)**	250 Initially; +12 Per Quarter (ALS attending)**	400 Initially; +12 Per Quarter (ALS)
Successfully completes annual KCMCA competency testing			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

* Consideration will be made for completion of equivalent CE coursework within same timeframe.

** May include calls performed at non-KCMCA services