

**KALAMAZOO COUNTY MEDICAL CONTROL AUTHORITY
PREHOSPITAL EMS SYSTEM OPERATIONAL GUIDE
Requirements for Ambulance Services Requesting Medical Control**

- I. **Purpose:** This protocol is intended to describe the requirements and procedures for ambulance services desiring to operate within Kalamazoo County and requesting medical control from KCMCA. KCMCA has a compelling interest in assuring the highest quality emergency medical services for the citizens and visitors of Kalamazoo County.
- II. **Advanced Life Support Requirement:** Only ambulance services licensed at the advanced life support level will be considered for medical control.
- III. **Emergency Service to Local Unit(s) of Government:** Applications for medical control will only be considered from ambulance services who have secured a written contract for emergency (911) services with one or more local units of government within Kalamazoo County and upon the written request of such local units of government. Medical control will only be approved for geographical areas under contract to local units of government.
- IV. **National Accreditation Standards:** It is KCMCA's expectation that all ambulance services will operate in accordance with the standards for national accreditation as established by the Commission on the Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS) or other comparable accrediting organization accepted by KCMCA. In the event of suspension, revocation or lapse in accreditation, agency will immediately contact KCMCA in writing of accrediting body's action as well as written plan to redeem or maintain accreditation.
- V. **Application Process**
 - A. Applicants must contact in writing KCMCA to express interest in conducting ambulance service operations within Kalamazoo County.
 - B. Applicant meets with KCMCA staff for overview of process and system orientation.
 - C. Applicant submits the following information to KCMCA:
 - i. KCMCA EMS Agency Application
 - ii. Comprehensive plan to meet CAAS (or other accrediting organization accepted by KCMCA) standards
 - iii. Comprehensive plan to meet KCMCA protocols
 - iv. Supporting documentation
 - D. KCMCA staff reviews and investigates application.
 - E. KCMCA staff request additional information from applicant as needed
 - F. KCMCA staff conducts credentialing evaluations of proposed

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personnel to include written and oral protocol examinations and skill assessments in accordance with applicable KCMCA protocols

- G. Application presented to KCMCA Board of Directors
- H. Application approved or rejected by KCMCA Board of Directors
- I. Applications rejected will be returned to applicant with explanation of basis for rejection of application
- J. Applications approved for medical control will be endorsed by KCMCA Medical Director for Michigan licensing.
- K. The applicant must submit to KCMCA a comprehensive, detailed plan describing how the applicant will meet these standards. Upon review, KCMCA may accept or reject such plan.
- L. Applications from ambulance services licensed in Michigan will only be considered when the applicant (or parent organization) is accredited by CAAS or other comparable accrediting organization accepted by KCMCA. Formal accreditation must be extended to the Kalamazoo County area serviced by the ambulance service at the time the organization is next re-accredited.
- M. Applicants not currently licensed in Michigan (or those who are not partly or wholly owned by a Michigan-licensed ambulance service) must be accredited by CAAS or other comparable accrediting organization accepted by KCMCA, within 18 months of beginning operations within Kalamazoo County. A single 12-month extension may be granted by KCMCA when delays in achieving accreditation are determined by KCMCA to be attributed to the accrediting organization.

VI. Compliance with KCMCA Requirements: The applicant must submit to KCMCA a comprehensive, detailed plan describing how the applicant will comply with all KCMCA protocols. Such plan must include provisions for the following:

- A. Complying with Paramedic and EMT credentialing protocols
- B. Complying with Emergency Medical Dispatching protocols
- C. Complying with KCMCA Mandatory Equipment Lists
- D. Complying with KCMCA Quality Improvement protocols

VII. ALS Agency Participation: ALS agencies seeking medical control from KCMCA will participate in meeting and activities associated with the following:

- A. Kalamazoo County Medical Control Authority (KCMCA)
- B. Region 5 Medical Control Authority Network (RMCAN)
- C. Cardiac Arrest Registry for Enhanced Survival (CARES)
- D. 5th District Medical Response Coalition (5DMRC)

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- VIII. Suspension of Requirements:** KCMCA reserves the right to suspend these requirements when deemed in the best interest of public health and safety.

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