



Virginia Beach Department of Emergency Medical Services



TRAINING

ALS TRAINING and CERTIFICATION POLICY

PURPOSE: The purpose of this policy is to provide standardization and uniformity in the training, certification and release to general supervision of ALS providers for the City of Virginia Beach.

APPLICABILITY:

This policy is directed toward the eligibility, selection, training, certification, and continuing education of the Intermediate and Paramedic who desires to practice as an ALS provider with the Department of EMS and the Emergency Response System. For the purpose of this document reference to the Department of EMS shall signify any member of the Emergency Response System. This policy is to be utilized in conjunction with the Department Minimum Training and Certification Policy and TEMS Field Internship Guidelines

PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS:

I. ALS Course Sponsorship (Affiliation) and Field Internship

The Department shall publish an application and process for personnel applying for ALS course sponsorship (affiliation) and applying for an ALS field internship (including ALS release internship) with the Department. Sponsorship denotes affiliation as an active operational member approved by the Department in a student status at a Department approved and OEMS accredited ALS training institute. Sponsorships shall be granted on a semester basis.

The Fire Department shall submit an application process to EMS to recommend Fire Department personnel to sponsorship and ALS field internship.

II. Scholarship

The Department will publish applications and criteria for scholarships to be awarded to non-probational active operational volunteer rescue squad members in good standing to complete ALS training certification programs of study. These scholarships shall be awarded on a semester basis, funds available, to a Department approved and OEMS accredited ALS program.

Students completing the second semester of Intermediate must have satisfactorily completed all first and second semester course, clinical, and field internship requirements and have passed the National Registry Intermediate exams to be considered for scholarship to the Paramedic program classes.

III. Contracts

All students and interns shall sign a standardized contract obligating them to repay the Department's costs should they fail to meet requirements outlined in the contract. City of Virginia Beach employees shall not be required to sign a contract.

A. Default

If any contractual term is not fulfilled the contract may be defaulted. Payment for defaulted contracts will be due immediately.

IV. Preceptors

A. Preceptors will be assigned based on availability, ALS program and regional requirements.

1. ALS field internship (student)

The Department will assign the student to pre-scheduled student shifts for their ALS field internship to meet their educational objectives and competencies. These students may be assigned to any ALS provider released under general supervision at an equal or higher certification level. Students may only function in a student capacity while enrolled.

2. ALS internship under strict supervision (intern)

The Department will assign the ALS intern on strict supervision to a shift supervisor and ALS FTO preceptor and provide the objectives and benchmarks for successful recommendation to release under general supervision.

V. Progress, Reporting and Course Completion Requirements

Progress of students sponsored in ALS courses and field will be monitored on a regular basis by their instructor, ALS Field Clinical Coordinator and assigned shift Captain. Progress of interns will be monitored on a regular basis by their ALS Field Clinical Coordinator and assigned preceptor and shift Captain. The ALS Field Clinical Coordinator will maintain a tracking mechanism, evaluations and reports. Students and interns shall submit evaluations to both their educational institution as required and the ALS Field Clinical Coordinator at training. It shall be the sole responsibility of the student and intern to submit evaluations as required.

VI. ALS Certification and Testing Fees

The Department of EMS will provide the testing fee for the first National Registry Intermediate assessments and the first National Registry Paramedic certification exams for each sponsored student. Students who fail the certification exams two consecutive times will be dropped from the program and any contract will be defaulted.

VII. Regional Testing

- A. Regional testing will be required based on current regional policy.
- B. The Department will not provide funding for any required remediation.

VIII. ALS Release Process

The Department will publish a process and application for certified Department ALS members to function under strict supervision as an ALS intern in order to qualify for ALS release under general supervision. This process will be in addition to regional EMS requirements.

When the ALS intern has completed the objectives of the ALS release process the EMS Chief, in consultation with the Medical Director, will make the final decision regarding ALS release to function under general supervision. The ALS Intern must meet with the EMS Chief or his designee before being released.

IX. ALS Continuing Education and Recertification

- A. It is the ALS provider's responsibility to meet the certification and recertification requirements of the certifying body. The ALS provider shall provide copies of their current Virginia certification and CPR and all required certification cards to the Department.

X. Supervision and Sponsorship Withdraw

The EMS Chief and/or Operational Medical Director may withdraw sponsorship of a student or the privilege to function under strict supervision of an ALS intern at any time. The EMS Chief's decision is final and may not be grieved.

ORDERED:



1/20/2017

EMS Chief

Signature on file 1/20/2017

Stewart W. Martin, MD