

## **202 KAR 7:545. License classifications.**

RELATES TO: KRS 311A.030, 311A.190

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 311A.020, 311A.025, 311A.030, 311A.190

NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 311A.020 requires the Board of Emergency Medical Services to exercise all administrative functions in the regulation of the ambulance services and medical first response agencies, except those regulated by the Board of Emergency Medical Services or the Cabinet for Health and Family Services. KRS 311A.030 requires the board to promulgate administrative regulations to establish requirements for various classes of ambulance and emergency medical service agencies. This administrative regulation establishes requirements for each class of ambulance service and medical first response agencies.

### **Section 1. License Classifications.**

(1) In accordance with KRS 311A.030(1), license classifications for ambulance providers shall include:

- (a) A Class I ground ambulance agency operating at the Advanced Life Support (ALS), Basic Life Support (BLS), or Adult Critical Care Transport level to provide emergency and nonemergency care and transportation.
- (b) A Class II ground ambulance agency operating at the BLS level only to provide nonemergency care and transportation.
- (c) A Class III ground ambulance agency operating at the ALS level to provide critical care, specialty care, emergency or nonemergency care, and transportation between health care facilities. Based on the Certificate of Need and scope of care policy, a Class III ground ambulance agency shall be designated as one (1) or more of the following types:
  1. A Class III Adult Critical Care agency providing critical care transport services to patients ages twelve (12) and above;
  2. A Class III Pediatric Specialty Care agency providing specialty care transport services to patients under the age of twenty-one (21); or
  3. A Class III Neonatal Specialty Care agency providing specialty care transport services to patients less than twenty-nine (29) days of age.
- (d) A Class IV ground ambulance agency operating at the ALS or BLS level to provide emergency and nonemergency care and transportation for restricted locations, such as industrial sites or other sites that do not provide services outside the designated geographic service area.
- (e) A Class VI agency providing medical first response without patient transport at the BLS or ALS level.
  1. Each BLS First Response agency shall be licensed separately as a Class VI BLS agency unless a mutual aid agreement is executed with a licensed Class I ambulance agency that provides 911 response services for the geographic service area.
  2. A nonlicensed BLS First Response Agency may execute a mutual aid agreement with multiple nonlicensed BLS First Response Agencies that serve the same geographic service area.
  3. A mutual aid agreement shall automatically renew at the conclusion of a calendar year.
  4. A nonlicensed BLS First Response Agency or a Class I ALS agency may terminate a mutual aid agreement thirty (30) days after written notice is provided to the other party.
  5. A mutual aid agreement between a Class I ALS agency and a nonlicensed BLS First Response agency serving the same geographic area shall be updated as changes to the agreement occur and shall include provisions for:

- a. Medical direction;
  - b. BLS protocols;
  - c. Response protocol;
  - d. Geographic service areas to be served;
  - e. Circumstances causing dispatch of the nonlicensed BLS first response agency;
  - f. Training;
  - g. Quality assurance processes; and
  - h. Liability Insurance if applicable.
6. A nonlicensed BLS First Response agency shall not provide BLS care outside of the geographic service area of the Class I ALS agency.
7. A nonlicensed BLS First Response agency unable to secure a written mutual aid agreement with a Class I ALS agency within its geographic service area, may operate within the jurisdiction as a nonlicensed BLS First Response agency if the agency has written correspondence from at least one (1) Class I 911 agency within its geographic service area denying the agency's request to enter into a mutual aid agreement. The correspondence denying the mutual aid request shall be maintained on file at the agency.
8. A license to provide BLS care shall not be issued solely through the execution of a mutual aid agreement between a Class I agency and a nonlicensed BLS First Response agency;
- (f) A Class VII rotor wing air ambulance service providing ALS emergency or nonemergency air transportation;
  - (g) A fixed wing class VII service provides ALS or BLS emergency or nonemergency air transportation; and
  - (h) A Class VIII agency providing BLS or ALS pre-hospital care above the first-aid level at special events, sports events, concerts, or large social gatherings.
    - 1. A Class VIII agency shall not transport patients beyond the grounds of an event and shall be bound by the geographic service area of its Certificate of Need.
    - 2. A Class VIII agency shall not transport patients independently to a hospital.
    - 3. If transport of a patient is required, a Class VIII agency shall contact 911 for transport by a Class I agency licensed for the geographic service area.
- (2) The KBEMS office shall license agencies in accordance with subsection (1) of this section.
- (3) An agency shall obtain a license from the board within ninety (90) days of issuance of a Certificate of Need from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services.
- (4) An agency that does not receive a license within ninety (90) days of the issuance of its Certification of Need shall not be granted a license by the board.
- (5) An agency shall not hold more than one (1) license per level of classification in one (1) defined geographic service area unless each license was obtained prior to January 1, 2018.

Section 2. Public Notice of Negative Action. The board office shall publish on the KBEMS Web site or similar publication of the board, the name of any licensed agency that is fined, placed on probationary status, placed on restricted status, suspended, or had a license revoked.

(44 Ky.R. 1734, 2041, 2195; eff. 5-4-2018.)