

Designation of Funds in the Special Account for Land Reclamation Financial Guarantees

The Land Reclamation Financial Guarantee (LRFG) program was authorized under section 19.2 of the Surface Mining Conservation and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) (52 P.S. § 1396.19b). The LRFG program is intended to assist surface mining operators in meeting their SMCRA bonding obligations. The special account established to financially assure bonding obligations under the LRFG program is funded by a transfer of the remaining Conversion Assistance money into a special account for the LRFG program. There is currently more than \$13 million available to support the LRFG program.

Section 86.162b of 25 Pa. Code (relating to Land Reclamation Financial Guarantees) establishes a portion of the funds in the LRFG account be used to underwrite the LRFG and the balance of the funds will be held in reserve. The reserve will assure availability of funds to cover reclamation liabilities when there is a mine permit bond forfeiture and to underwrite sum-certain financial guarantees required under the Bioenergy Crop Bonding authorized by the act of July 5, 2012 (P. L. 918, No. 95).

The Department of Environmental Protection (Department) has designated \$10 million to underwrite LRFGs. Section 86.162b(f) of 25 Pa. Code establishes an operator limit of 30% of the amount of money designated in the special account to underwrite the LRFGs. The operator limit will be \$3 million by this designation. The amount of the LRFG cannot exceed 50% of the required bond amount on a permit. Participants pay 1.5% of the amount of the LRFG each year. Section 86.162b(f)(3) of 25 Pa. Code establishes a program limit which is determined by dividing the designated amount in the LRFG account by the historical rate of mine operator bond forfeiture plus a margin of safety. The Department has determined a historical rate of bond forfeiture of 8% and a margin of safety of 25%. The current designation of \$10 million to underwrite the LRFG sets the program limit at \$100 million.

For background information and supporting documentation regarding the LRFGs, contact the Bureau of Mining Programs, Division of Monitoring and Compliance, P. O. Box 8461, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8461, (717) 787-5103.

JOHN QUIGLEY,
Secretary

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Sewage Advisory Committee Meeting Cancellation

The September 22, 2015, meeting of the Sewage Advisory Committee (Committee) has been cancelled and will be rescheduled for a date to be determined later this year.

Questions concerning the next scheduled meeting of the Committee can be directed to John Diehl, (717) 783-2941, jdiehl@pa.gov. The agenda and meeting materials for the next meeting will be available through the Public Participation Center on the Department of Environmental Protection's (Department) web site at <http://www.dep.state.pa.us> (select "Public Participation").

Persons in need of accommodations as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 should contact the Department at (717) 787-3720 or through the

Pennsylvania AT&T Relay Service at (800) 654-5984 (TDD) to discuss how the Department may accommodate their needs.

JOHN QUIGLEY,
Secretary

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Ambulatory Surgical Facilities; Requests for Exceptions

The following ambulatory surgical facility (ASF) has filed a request for exception under 28 Pa. Code § 51.33 (relating to requests for exceptions) with the Department of Health (Department), which has authority to license ASFs under the Health Care Facilities Act (35 P.S. §§ 448.101—448.904b). The following request for exception relates to regulations governing ASF licensure at 28 Pa. Code Chapters 51 and 551—571 (relating to general information; and ambulatory surgical facilities).

<i>Facility Name</i>	<i>Regulation</i>
Peters Township Surgery Center	28 Pa. Code § 551.21 (relating to criteria for ambulatory surgery)

The request previously listed is on file with the Department. Persons may receive a copy of a request for exception by requesting a copy from the Department of Health, Division of Acute and Ambulatory Care, Room 532, Health and Welfare Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120, (717) 783-8980, fax (717) 772-2163, ra-paexcept@pa.gov. Persons who wish to comment on an exception request may do so by sending a letter by mail, e-mail or facsimile to the Division at the address listed previously. Comments received by the Department within 10 days after the date of publication of this notice will be reviewed by the Department before it decides whether to approve or disapprove the request for exception.

Persons with a disability who wish to obtain a copy of a request and/or provide comments to the Department and require an auxiliary aid, service or other accommodation to do so should contact the Director, Division of Acute and Ambulatory Care at (717) 783-8980, for speech and/or hearing impaired persons V/TT (717) 783-6154, or the Pennsylvania AT&T Relay Service (800) 654-5984 (TT).

KAREN M. MURPHY, PhD, RN,
Secretary

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 15-1625. Filed for public inspection September 4, 2015, 9:00 a.m.]

Expanded Scope of Practice for Emergency Medical Services Providers of Air Ambulance Services

Under 28 Pa. Code § 1027.40(f) (relating to air ambulance service), the Department of Health (Department) is publishing the expanded scope of practice for authorized paramedics (P), prehospital registered nurses (PHRN), prehospital physician extenders (PHPE) and prehospital emergency medical services physicians (PHP) when functioning for an emergency medical services (EMS) agency

that has been licensed as an air ambulance service under 35 Pa.C.S. § 8129 (relating to emergency medical services agencies).

Under 28 Pa. Code § 1027.40(f), expansion of the applicable EMS providers' scopes of practice includes EMS skills in addition to those skills included in these EMS providers' general scopes of practice that were published at 45 Pa.B. 5463 (August 29, 2015). To perform these expanded skills, EMS providers must receive education to perform these skills by having successfully completed an air ambulance transport educational program approved by the Department. Minimum requirements to become an approved air ambulance transport educational program, and a list of approved air ambulance transport educational programs, will be continuously updated on the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services' web site.

Skills identified may be performed by these EMS providers only if the provider has successfully completed training (cognitive, affective and psychomotor) on the specified skill, which includes training to perform the skill on adults, children and infants, as appropriate. These providers may only perform skills that are indicated through either Statewide or other Department-approved protocols or that are ordered online by a medical command physician.

A PHRN who is appropriately credentialed by the EMS agency medical director may perform other services authorized by The Professional Nursing Law (63 P.S. §§ 211—225.5) when authorized by a medical command physician through either online medical command or through the applicable Statewide or Department-approved EMS protocols.

A PHPE who is appropriately credentialed by the EMS agency medical director may perform services within the scope of practice of a physician assistant under the Medical Practice Act of 1985 (63 P.S. §§ 422.1—422.51a) or the Osteopathic Medical Practice Act (63 P.S. §§ 271.1—271.18), whichever applies to the physician assistant, when authorized by a medical command physician through either online medical command or through applicable Statewide or Department-approved EMS protocols. When a PHPE functions in this capacity, the physi-

cian supervision requirements applicable to a physician assistant under the Medical Practice Act of 1985 or the Osteopathic Medical Practice Act do not apply.

A PHP who is appropriately credentialed by the EMS agency medical director may perform skills within a P's scope of practice and other skills within the practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine, whichever applies to the physician. A PHP may not perform a skill that the PHP has not been educated and trained to perform.

To administer medications in addition to those permitted by applicable medical treatment protocols, PHRNs, PHPEs and PHPs must also receive approval to do so by the EMS agency medical director of the advanced life support ambulance service under which they are functioning.

Under 28 Pa. Code § 1023.1(a)(1)(vi) and (vii) (relating to EMS agency medical director), the EMS agency medical director must make an initial assessment of each EMS provider at or above the advanced emergency medical technician (AEMT) level, and another within 12 months of each prior assessment, to determine whether the EMS provider has the knowledge and skills to competently perform the skills within the EMS provider's scope of practice, and a commitment to adequately perform other functions relevant to the EMS provider providing EMS at that level. EMS providers at or above the AEMT level may only perform skills that the EMS agency medical director has credentialed them to perform.

The number listed in the first column in the following chart matches the number of the skill listed in the notice published for the scope of practice for EMS providers at 45 Pa.B. 5463.

Persons with a disability who require an alternate format of this notice (for example, large print, audiotape, Braille) should contact Richard L. Gibbons, Bureau Director, Department of Health, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services, Room 606, Health and Welfare Building, 625 Forster Street, Harrisburg, PA 17120-0710, (717) 787-8740. Speech or hearing impaired persons may call by using V/TT (717) 783-6154 or the Pennsylvania AT&T Relay Service at (800) 654-5984 (TT).

	<i>Category</i>	<i>Skill</i>	<i>Air Ambulance Provider (P, PHRN, PHPE or PHP)</i>
8	Airway/ventilation/oxygenation	Chest tube thoracostomy, monitoring of existing tube in a closed system (for example water seal or suction)	Yes
9	Airway/ventilation/oxygenation	Chest tube thoracostomy, acute insertion	Yes ¹
12	Airway/ventilation/oxygenation	Biphasic positive airway pressure (BiPAP) for patients acutely on BiPAP for <48 hours	Yes
24	Airway/ventilation/oxygenation	Endotracheal Intubation—paralytic assisted, rapid sequence induction (RSI)	Yes ¹
25	Airway/ventilation/oxygenation	Ventilation—Maintenance of previously initiated neuromuscular blockade	Yes
28	Airway/ventilation/oxygenation	Laryngeal mask airway (LMA)	Yes

	<i>Category</i>	<i>Skill</i>	<i>Air Ambulance Provider (P, PHRN, PHPE or PHP)</i>
49	Airway/ventilation/oxygenation	Ventilators that are portable and capable of being transported with a patient and are multi-modal, with a blender, that are used on patients requiring pressure control, pressure support or other advanced setting, or when there is an anticipated need by a healthcare provider involved with the care of the patient to actively titrate ventilator settings during transport, regardless of ventilation mode.	Yes ¹
62	Cardiovascular/circulation	Transvenous or Epicardial pacing, Management of	Yes ¹
64	Cardiovascular/circulation	Hemodynamic monitoring/assist (pulmonary artery catheter, central venous pressure)	Yes ¹
65	Cardiovascular/circulation	Intra-aortic balloon pump or invasive cardiac assist device or extracorporeal membrane oxygenation—monitoring/assist	Yes ¹
67	Cardiovascular/circulation	Thrombolytic therapy—initiation	Yes ¹
68	Cardiovascular/circulation	Thrombolytic therapy—monitoring	Yes ¹
75	IV Initiation/maintenance/fluids	Sub-cutaneous indwelling catheters—access of existing catheters	Yes
77	IV Initiation/maintenance/fluids	Venous central line (blood sampling)—obtaining	Yes
79	IV Initiation/maintenance/fluids	Arterial line—monitoring/assist	Yes
80	IV Initiation/maintenance/fluids	Blood/Blood-by-products products administration (initiation and continuation)	Yes ¹
92	Medication administration routes	Enteral Feeding Devices, Management of	Yes ¹
101	Medications	Medications for air ambulance providers as published in <i>Pennsylvania Bulletin</i> by the Department	Yes
103	Medications	Over-the-counter (OTC) medications (<i>Note: aspirin and glucose covered elsewhere</i>)	Yes
110	Patient Assessment/management	Portable blood analysis devices, use of (glucometer covered elsewhere)	Yes
119	Patient Assessment/management	Intracranial monitoring/assist	Yes ¹
124	Patient Assessment/management	Urinary catheterization	Yes

Yes—The skill is in the scope of practice for Ps, PHRNs, PHPEs and PHPs who are authorized to function for an EMS agency that has been licensed as an air ambulance service.

¹ Ps who are authorized to function for an EMS agency that has been licensed as an air ambulance service may assist a PHRN, PHPE or PHP with this skill with an air ambulance when in the direct physical presence of, and supervised by, the higher level provider.

KAREN M. MURPHY, PhD, RN,
Secretary

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