



EMS Information Bulletin 2017-05

DATE: May 1, 2017

SUBJECT: Critical Care Transport and Air Ambulance Transport Approved Educational Programs

TO: Regional EMS Directors
Regional EMS Education Coordinators
PA EMS Agencies

FROM: Bureau of Emergency Medical Services
PA Department of Health
(717) 787-8740

Under 28 Pa. Code §§ 1027.39(d) and 1027.40(f), (relating to critical care transport ambulance service and air ambulance service), expansion of an EMS provider's scope of practice includes EMS skills in addition to those skills included in the EMS provider's general scope of practice that were published at 45 Pa.B. 5463 (August 29, 2015). To perform these expanded skills, an EMS provider must receive education to perform these skills by having successfully completed a critical care transport (CCT) educational program or air ambulance transport educational program approved by the Department of Health (Department). Minimum requirements to become an approved CCT educational program or air ambulance transport educational program, and a list of approved CCT educational programs and air ambulance transport educational programs, will be updated on the Department's website, upon review and acceptance by the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services.

CCT ambulance services and air ambulance services seeking approval for an educational program may secure a document to submit a program for review to the Department at www.health.pa.gov as follows:

- My Health > Emergency Medical Services > EMS in PA > EMS Education Information
 - Pennsylvania Air Ambulance/Ground Critical Care Transport Educational Program Course Sponsor Checklist (PDF)

CCT ambulance services and air ambulance services need to follow the submission instructions on the document in its entirety prior to submitting the document to the Department.

An EMS provider that has a current certification by the Board for Critical Care Transport Paramedic Certification (BCCTPC) as a Flight Paramedic (FP-C) or ground Critical Care Transport Paramedic (CCP-C) is deemed to have met the requirements for expansion of his or her applicable scope of practice and is not required to take an additional course.

Additionally, Pennsylvania certified Prehospital registered Nurses (PHRNs) with current specialty certification as a Certified Flight Registered Nurse (CFRN) or Certified Transport Registered Nurse (CTRN) or; PHRNs with current certification as a Certified Emergency Nurse (CEN) or Certified Critical Care Registered Nurse (CCRN), who have completed additional education as outlined in the attached “Critical Care Transport PHRN Additional Education Requirements” matrix, are deemed to be in compliance to serve on a Pennsylvania licensed ground critical care transport ambulance or air ambulance.

Please do not hesitate to contact your regional EMS council office in the event of any questions.

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

CRITICAL CARE TRANSPORT AND AIR AMBULANCE TRANSPORT APPROVED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Under 28 Pa. Code §§ 1027.39(d) and 1027.40(f), (relating to critical care transport ambulance service and air ambulance service), expansion of an EMS provider's scope of practice includes EMS skills in addition to those skills included in the EMS provider's general scope of practice that were published at 45 Pa.B. 5463 (August 29, 2015). To perform these expanded skills, an EMS provider must receive education to perform these skills by having successfully completed a critical care transport (CCT) educational program or air ambulance transport educational program approved by the Department of Health (Department). Minimum requirements to become an approved CCT educational program or air ambulance transport educational program, and a list of approved CCT educational programs and air ambulance transport educational programs, will be updated on the Department's website, upon review and acceptance by the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services.

CCT ambulance services and air ambulance services seeking approval for an educational program not appearing below may secure a document to submit a program for review to the Department at www.health.pa.gov as follows:

- My Health > Emergency Medical Services > EMS in PA > EMS Education Information
 - Pennsylvania Air Ambulance/Ground Critical Care Transport Educational Program Course Sponsor Checklist (PDF):
- Follow the submission instructions on the document in its entirety prior to submitting the document to the Department.

An EMS provider that has a current certification by the Board for Critical Care Transport Paramedic Certification (BCCTPC) as a Flight Paramedic (FP-C) or ground Critical Care Transport Paramedic (CCP-C) is deemed to have met the requirements for expansion of his or her applicable scope of practice and is not required to take an additional course.

Additionally, Pennsylvania certified Prehospital Registered Nurses (PHRN)s with current specialty certification as a Certified Flight Registered Nurse (CFRN) or Certified Transport Registered Nurse (CTRN) or; PHRNs with current certification as a Certified Emergency Nurse (CEN) or Certified Critical Care Registered Nurse (CCRN), who have completed additional education as outlined in the attached "Critical Care Transport Education Matrix for PHRN's," are deemed to be in compliance to serve on a Pennsylvania licensed ground critical care transport ambulance or air ambulance.

COURSE TITLE	COURSE OWNER	FORMAT	COURSE OWNER CONTACT INFORMATION
Critical Care Paramedic Course (Air & Ground Approval)	UMBC Emergency Health Services	Classroom (Proprietary)	UMBC Department of Emergency Health Services Professional and Continuing Education (PACE) 1000 Hilltop Circle; Sherman Hall, A-Wing; Room 303 Baltimore, MD 21250 (410) 455-3584 or danette@umbc.edu
Ground Critical Care Transport Program for Paramedics (Ground Approval)	Superior Ambulance Service	Classroom (Proprietary)	Superior Ambulance Service P.O. Box 247, 921 East Main Street Ext. Grove City, PA 16127 (724) 458-5350 Douglas L. Dick, Chief
Critical Care Transport Review (Ground Approval)	Distance CME	Live, On-Line (Proprietary)	Distance CME 93 Old York Road Jenkintown, PA 19046 (267) 417-0009
Critical Care Ground Transport Course for the ALS Provider (Ground Approval)	EmergencyCare	Classroom (Proprietary)	EmergencyCare Education 1926 Peach Street Erie, PA 16502 Phone: (814) 870-1040 Fax: (814) 870-1910 Contact: James Kifer, Education Coordinator
JeffSTAT Critical Care Paramedic Course	JeffSTAT EMS Training Center	Classroom (Proprietary)	JeffSTAT EMS Training Center 833 Chestnut Street, Suite 940 Philadelphia, PA 19107 (215) 503-9279 Contact: Cathleen W. Vandenbraak Cathleen.vandenbraak@jefferson.edu
JeffSTAT Combined Critical Care Paramedic Course and Prehospital Nurse Course (Air & Ground Approval)	JeffSTAT EMS Training Center	Classroom (Proprietary)	JeffSTAT EMS Training Center 833 Chestnut Street, Suite 940 Philadelphia, PA 19107 (215) 503-9279 Contact: Cathleen W. Vandenbraak Cathleen.vandenbraak@jefferson.edu
Critical Care Paramedic Program (Ground Approval)	Montgomery County EMS Training Institute	Classroom (Proprietary)	Montgomery County EMS Training Institute 1175 Conshohocken Road Conshohocken, PA 19528 (610) 278-2666 or EMSTraining@Montcopa.org

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

CRITICAL CARE TRANSPORT PHRN ADDITIONAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

When PA certified Prehospital Registered Nurse (PHRN) possesses	The PHRN is required to	Notes
No current specialty nursing certification in air or ground critical care transport nursing (CFRN/CTRN); emergency nursing (CEN); or critical care nursing (CCRN)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete a Department approved education course in air medical or ground critical care transport. 2. Submit documentation of successful course completion to the agency medical director. 	A list of Department approved courses can be found on the Bureau of EMS website under EMS in PA > EMS Education Information
Current specialty nursing certification as a Certified Flight Registered Nurse (CFRN) or Certified Transport Registered Nurse (CTRN)	Submit documentation of current CFRN or CTRN certification to the agency medical director.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A PHRN with CTRN certification who intends to practice as a flight nurse is required to complete a Department approved <u>bridge course</u> in topics specific to the air medical transport environment, e.g. aircraft characteristics, flight physiology, etc. 2. The <u>bridge</u> can be a stand-alone course or one that is part of the EMS agency's orientation program for new PHRN's.
Current specialty nursing certification as a Certified Emergency Nurse (CEN) or Certified Critical Care Registered Nurse (CCRN)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete a Department approved <u>bridge course</u> in topics related to air or ground critical care transport. 2. Submit documentation of successful course completion to the agency medical director. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The <u>bridge</u> can be a stand-alone course or one that is part of the EMS agency's orientation program for new PHRN's. 2. A list of Department approved courses can be found on the Bureau of EMS website under EMS in PA > EMS Education Information

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