Policy: 2022 - A
EMS Education Programs –out of state courses (clinical/field and skills proficiency)

April 4, 2022

Background
EMS Education Programs are responsible for meeting the national education training standards to include providing appropriate physical resources for classroom, laboratory facilities and clinical and field internship rotations.

Traditionally, courses have been conducted in a classroom setting, however today's technology provides opportunities for students to acquire training through distance learning, hybrid or on-line courses. Courses of this type can be taken anywhere, and many programs are offering these courses to students seeking Texas licensure who reside outside of the state of Texas.

This policy establishes guidelines for EMS Education Programs that plan on offering courses to students seeking Texas licensure who reside outside of Texas. The policy is established to ensure appropriate oversight by the program, medical director, and in the clinical/field setting and/or skills proficiency testing site. It also assures the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) that other states are aware of and have approved the program offering courses in their respective state.

Paramedic programs with CAAHEP accreditation or under a letter of review from CoAEMSP have met this policy if the paramedic out of state course is accepted by CAAHEP/CoAEMSP. These programs must submit the appropriate documentation for other levels of courses not covered by accreditation such as emergency medical responder, emergency medical technician and advanced emergency medical technician.

Rule Reference
25TAC, §157.32

Policy
An EMS Education Program providing courses to students seeking Texas licensure and residing outside of Texas must meet the following criteria. These items must be submitted to your local DSHS Regional Office for review and approval prior to submitting the Initial Course notification/change form.

- Documentation from the out of state EMS Office acknowledging the program and/or course to be conducted clinical and field internships to include ride-a-long where EMS skills will be performed by the student in their respective state.
- Documentation from the out of state EMS agency and the clinical setting medical director regarding oversight in the clinical/field setting.
- Clinical and Field agreements for all out of state locations.
- Documentation from the education program's (TX) medical director regarding responsibilities and oversight for out of state courses.
- Facility/equipment agreement(s) and/or explanation of how equipment is provided for skills proficiency training and testing (if applicable).
- Quality Improvement/Assurance Plan that explains how the education program will continuously monitor all students while conducting clinical/ field rotations outside of Texas.
- Self-study update to include:
    - Grievance/Complaint Resolution Plan outlining the process to file, investigate and administer disciplinary action as it relates to out of state courses and students.
    - Preceptor Training Program that includes required training and accountability for out of state preceptors associated with the program.

- Education program should research with their own legal counsel any liability issues by conducting courses or allowing hospital and ambulance internships to be conducted in another state.

Joseph W. Schmider

Joseph W. Schmider, Director
Emergency Medical Services Program
Office of EMS/Trauma System Coordination

Approval: April 4, 2022

Policy: 2022 - A