

	<p style="text-align: center;">SOUTHERN FOX VALLEY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEM POLICY &amp; PROCEDURES</p>				
<p>TITLE: SPECIALIZED EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES VEHICLE</p>					
<p>SECTION: OPERATIONS</p>			<p>POLICY NUMBER: D 42.2</p>		
<p>APPROVED BY: DR. ARTHUR PROUST EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR</p>					
<p>EFFECTIVE DATE: 09/01/2025</p>			<p>PAGE NUMBER: 1 OF 5</p>		

#### PURPOSE

No person, either as owner, agent or otherwise, shall furnish, operate, conduct, maintain, advertise or otherwise be engaged in the provision of emergency medical care or transportation to a sick or injured patient using a Specialized Emergency Medical Services Vehicle (SEMSV), unless currently licensed by IDPH pursuant to this policy. This requirement applies to any watercraft or off-road vehicle that is owned, leased, or contracted to provide pre-hospital care.

#### PROCEDURE:

1. An application for licensure shall be filed with IDPH by submitting a Program Plan that includes the information required in this policy. The Program Plan shall be signed by the SEMSV Medical (which is the EMS Medical Director) Director and the EMS Medical Director of the EMS System of which the SEMSV Program is a part of.
2. Each license shall be valid for a period of four years from the date of issuance, unless suspended or revoked.
3. Each license shall be issued to the program named in the application for the specific vehicle or vehicles identified in the application and shall not be assignable or transferable.
4. IDPH Administrative Code Section 515.800 Vehicle Service Provider Licensure regarding application and renewal of licensure shall apply.
5. IDPH and the EMS System shall inspect any vehicles, equipment, records or other documents covered by the licensed or applicant SEMSV Program annually to determine initial or continued compliance with the requirements of the EMS Act and this policy.
6. Watercraft Requirements
  - a. A statement signed by the EMS MD and SEMSV MD committing to the following duties and responsibilities:
    - i. Supervising and managing of the program;
    - ii. Supervising and evaluating the quality of patient care provided by the watercraft crew/off-road SEMSV personnel;
    - iii. Developing written treatment protocols and standard operating procedures to be used by the watercraft crew/off-road SEMSV during vehicle operation approved by the IDPH

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- iv. Developing and approving a list of equipment and medications for all ages and approved by IDPH to be available on the watercraft
- v. Providing periodic review, at least quarterly, of patient care provided by the watercraft crew and submission of each review to the EMS system;
- vi. Develop written policies on the use, need and special requirements of watercraft transfer and approved by IDPH;
  - 1. The EMS System will develop a committee consisting of members of the EMS agencies who operate watercraft that provide pre-hospital care with members of the EMS System Administration
- vii. Maintain current documentation of the qualifications of the watercraft crew;
- viii. Assuring appropriate staffing of the watercraft:
  - 1. Each watercraft owned or operated by an EMS service provider shall have watercraft crew members assigned to a watercraft shall be approved by the EMS MD. Upon request, the EMS MD or SEMSV MD, who shall provide IDPH with a list of all approved crew members and watercraft operators and update the list whenever a change in such personnel is made.
  - 2. For ALS operations, the watercraft shall be staffed by a crew of at least one Paramedic, PHRN, PHPA, PHAPRN, or physician, and one other EMT, A-EMT, EMT-I, Paramedic, PHRN, PHPA, PHAPRN, or physician, in addition to the watercraft operator.
  - 3. For BLS operations, the watercraft shall be staffed by a crew of at least two of the following: EMT, A-EMT, EMT-I, Paramedic, PHRN, PHPA, PHAPRN, or physician, one of whom may also be the watercraft operator.
  - 4. Each watercraft crew member shall document, appropriate to their scope of practice, completion of the following:
    - a. Education as identified by the EMS MD; and
    - b. A boat safety course conducted pursuant to Section 5-18 of the Boat Registration and Safety Act [625 ILCS 45].
- b. The EMS MD's or the SEMSV MD's list of required medical equipment and medications for use on the watercraft (see IDPH Administrative Rules Section 515.975);
- c. The EMS MD's or the SEMSV MD's standing orders (treatment protocols, standard operating procedures);
- d. A description of the communications system linking the watercraft with the SEMSV Medical Direction point;

- e. A description of the EMS System's method of providing emergency medical services using the SEMSV Program;
  - f. A description and map of the service area for each vehicle;
  - g. The identification number and description of all vehicles used in the program; and
  - h. The procedure for transferring care to a transport provider.
  - i. All watercraft will meet the requirements of IDPH Administrative Code 515.970
  - j. Each watercraft shall be equipped with medical equipment and medications that are appropriate for the various types of missions to which it will be responding, as authorized by the EMS MD in agreement with the SEMSV MD and approved by IDPH.
    - i. Opioid antagonist, including, but not limited to, Naloxone, appropriate for the licensed level of care of the watercraft.
  - k. For ALS operations, the EMS MD or the SEMSV MD shall submit for approval a list of supplies available for each mission used. The EMS MD or the SEMSV MD shall decide on the medical equipment and medications taken on any particular mission based on patient type (adult, child, infant, neonate), medical condition (high risk infant, cardiac, burn, etc.) and anticipated treatment needs en route.
  - l. The SEMSV Program shall have a designated dispatch center assigned and available 24 hours per day every day of the year to receive and dispatch all requests for watercraft services.
  - m. The communications and dispatch center shall have the ability to communicate with the watercraft for nonmedical purposes through approved telecommunications or on a separate designated radio frequency.
  - n. IDPH shall approve the EMS System's Watercraft Program Plan if it meets all requirements outlined in IDPH Administrative Code Sections 515.965 and 515.970.
7. Off-Road SEMSV Requirements
- a. In addition to the requirements specified in IDPH Administrative Section 515.900, an SEMSV Program utilizing off-road SEMSV vehicles shall submit a program plan that includes the following:
    - i. An off-road SEMSV Program shall be supervised and managed by the EMS MD or SEMSV MD (see IDPH Administrative Code Section 515.320(e)(1) through (4));
    - ii. A statement signed by the EMS MD and the SEMSV MD containing the EMS MD's commitment to the following duties and responsibilities:
      - 1. The supervision and management of the program;

2. Supervising and evaluating the quality of patient care provided by the off-road SEMSV crew;
  3. Providing medical advice and expertise on the use, need and special requirements of off-road SEMSV transfer;
  4. Submitting documentation assuring the qualifications of the off-road SEMSV crew; and
  5. Assuring appropriate staffing of the off-road SEMS vehicle:
    - a. For ALS operations, the vehicle shall be staffed by a minimum of one Paramedic, PHRN, PHPA, PHAPRN, or physician and one other EMT, A-EMT, EMT-I, Paramedic, PHRN, PHPA, PHAPRN, or physician, one of whom may also be the driver of the off-road SEMSV; and
    - b. For BLS operations, the vehicle shall be staffed by a minimum of two of the following: EMTs, A-EMTs, EMT-Is, Paramedics, PHRNs, PHPAs, PHAPRNs, or physicians, one of whom may also be the driver of the off-road SEMSV;
  6. Provide a list of required medical equipment and medications authorized by the EMS MD or SEMSV MD for use on the off-road SEMSV, dependent upon the various types of missions to which it will be responding, to IDPH for approval (see IDPH Administrative Code Section 515.995);
  7. Provide standing orders (treatment protocols, standard operating procedures) authorized by the EMS MD or SEMSV MD, to IDPH for approval
  8. A description of the communications system linking the off-road SEMSV with the SEMSV Medical Direction point;
  9. A description and map of the service area for each vehicle;
  10. The identification number and description of all vehicles used in the program;
  11. An agreement/contract with a licensed ground provider for transportation of patients; and
  12. A description of the EMS System's method of providing emergency medical services using the SEMSV Program.
- b. The off-road SEMSV shall have sufficient space for the vehicle operator, a patient in a supine position, and personnel rendering medical care alongside the patient.

- c. Each vehicle shall have a locking mechanism to secure the patient transport litter/stretchers to the off-road SEMSV.
- d. Each vehicle shall have safety restraints for all persons in the vehicle.
- e. Each off-road SEMSV shall be equipped with medical equipment and medications for the various types of missions to which it will be responding, as specified by the EMS MD or the SEMSV MD.
- f. Opioid antagonist, including, but not limited to, Naloxone, appropriate for the licensed level of care of the SEMSV.
- g. For ALS operations, the EMS MD or the SEMSV MD shall submit for approval a list of supplies available for each mission. The EMS MD or SEMSV MD shall decide what medical equipment and medications are taken on any particular mission based on patient type (adult, child, infant, neonate), medical condition (high risk infant, cardiac, burn, etc.) and anticipated treatment needs en route.
- h. The SEMSV Program shall have a designated dispatch center assigned and available 24 hours per day every day of the year to receive and dispatch all requests for off-road SEMSV services.
- i. The communications and dispatch center shall have the ability to communicate with the off-road SEMSV for nonmedical purposes through approved telecommunications or on a separate designated radio frequency.