I Legislative Rule

THE MEDICAL LICENSING BOARD OF WEST VIRGINIA

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF A. JAMES MANCHIN SECRETARY OF STATE

West Virginia Department of Health

THIS DATE 12 - 30 - 82Administrative Law Division

MOBILE INTENSIVE CARE PARAMEDIC RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section 1. General

- 1.01. Scope. These regulations establish the general rules for training requirements, applicant requirements, student qualifications, certification, recertification, reciprocity certification, denial, suspension, revocation and due process.
- 1.02. Authority. These regulations are issued under the authority of West Virginia Code, Chapter 30, Article 1, Section 4, as amended.
- 1.03. <u>Effective Date</u>. These regulations were promulgated on January 15, 1979, and became effective on June 8, 1979.
- 1.04. <u>Filing Date</u>. These regulations were filed in the Office of the Secretary of State on January 8, 1979.

Section 2. Application and Enforcement

These rules and regulations shall apply to all persons, institutions, agencies, corporations, partnerships and governmental agencies engaged in the education, the testing and the certification of mobile intensive care paramedics. The administration of these rules and regulations is vested with the West Virginia department of health, office of emergency medical services.

Section 3. Definitions

- 3.01. Office of Emergency Medical Services. The official agency of the West Virginia department of health.
 - 3.02. Board. This means the medical licensing board of West Virginia.
- 3.03. Mobile Intensive Care Parademic. A person who has been specially trained in emergency medical care in a program certified and approved by the

Obsolete U4/18 June 8,1979 to March 30,1986 office of emergency medical services of the West Virginia state department of health and who is certified by the West Virginia medical licensing board as qualified to render the services enumerated in Chapter 30, Article 3B, Section 3.

- 3.04. Emergency Medical Technician—Paramedic. A person who has been specifically trained in emergency medical care in an advanced training program as prescribed in the United States Department of Transportation's national training course emergency medical technician—paramedic module course guide and who has been certified by the West Virginia medical licensing board.
- 3.05. Emergency Medical Technician. An individual who has completed a course on the emergency care and transportation of the sick and injured approved and certified by the West Virignia department of health, office of emergency medical services and has been certified by the West Virginia department of health.
- 3.06. <u>Course Coordinator</u>. An individual who is responsible for the coordination of a paramedic training program. Qualifications and responsibilities of this individual are set forth by the office of emergency medical services.
- 3.07. Applicant. Any person applying for training in a paramedic training course.
- 3.08. Mobile Intensive Care Paramedic Trainee. A qualified person who is enrolled in a paramedic training course approved by the West Virginia department of health, office of emergency medical services.
- 3.09. <u>Foreign Paramedic</u>. Any person who is currently certified as a mobile intensive care paramedic or its equivalent in a state other than West Virginia.
 - 3.10. Mobile Intensive Care Paramedic Graduate. Any person who has

successfully completed an approved paramedic training course and who has successfully passed the state certifying examination.

- 3.11. Medical Director. A permanently licensed physician in the state of West Virginia who has been designated by the West Virginia department of health, office of emergency medical services to provide for the medical direction and the medical control for a mobile intensive care paramedic.
- 3.12. Prehospital Advisor. A currently registered professional nurse; or a currently licensed professional nurse; or a currently certified mobile intensive care paramedic designated by the medical director to assist in the provision of paramedical services.
- 3.13. No person shall function or hold himself out as a paramedic unless he is currently certified pursuant to this regulation, nor shall any person function or hold himself out as a paramedic trainee unless that person is enrolled in an approved paramedic training course, nor shall any person function or hold himself out to be a graduate paramedic unless that person has successfully completed a paramedic training course approved by the West Virginia department of health and who has successfully passed the state certifying examination.

Section 4. Requirements for Applicants

Applicants for a paramedic training course must meet the following requirements:

- 4.01. High school graduate (GED accepted). Copy of high school diploma or GED certificate required.
- 4.02. Currently certified by the West Virginia department of health and/or national registry as an emergency medical technician.
- 4.03. Recommended as a candidate for paramedic training by a licensed physician who has direct knowledge of the candidate's abilities inclusive of

the ability to give and to receive verbal and written instructions.

- 4.04. Eighteen years of age. (Copy of birth certification required).
- 4.05. Applicant must submit to a personal interview by the course coordinator.
- 4.06. Applicant must submit two character references (not related to the applicant).

Section 5. Paramedic Training Course Requirements

No paramedic training course shall be approved by the department of health, office of emergency medical services that does not conform with the standards set forth in this regulation.

- 5.01. The course is designed to be conducted under the supervision and the direction of a physician licensed to practice medicine in the state of West Virginia. The physician will be responsible for insuring an accurate and thorough presentation of the medical content of the course and for the evaluation of students successfully completing the training program.
- 5.02. The clinical training of the paramedic course shall be conducted in a facility which has adequate critical care facilities and personnel.
- 5.03. A course outline must be submitted in duplicate to the office of emergency medical services for comment and approval in advance of the anticipated paramedic training course. The course outline must indicate the location of the training course, the dates for each lesson and the names and the titles of the participating instructors. The course outline must be accompanied by a letter from the hospital(s) indicating the availability of the necessary facilities and staff required for the clinical training segment.
- 5.04. A class shall be limited to twenty-five students unless prior written approval is granted by the office of emergency medical services.

5.05. Faculty members must be currently licensed or certified in their respective professions.

Section 6. Certification

Certification may be issued by the medical licensing board pursuant to the standards set forth in these regulations. A paramedic trainee shall become eligible to take the certifying examination provided that:

- 6.01. The paramedic trainee has completed all sessions of the paramedic course as determined by the course medical director.
- 6.02. The paramedic trainee has successfully completed the required clinical training or shown competency in skills required to the satisfaction of the course medical director.
- 6.03. The paramedic trainee has the written recommendation by the course medical director attesting to the fact that he has satisfied all educational requirements.
- 6.04. The paramedic candidate must attain a passing score on both the written and the practical sections of the state certifying examination.
- 6.05. Upon successful completion of the state certification examination the mobile intensive care paramedic graduate may be issued a temporary license by the office of emergency medical services which shall be valid for the period of time until the board meets to permanently certify the paramedic graduate. Maximum temporary permit period shall not exceed 120 calendar days. A temporary permit may be reissued at the discretion of the office of emergency medical services.
- 6.06. The board may certify the qualified paramedic graduate for a period of two (2) years.
- 6.07. The certificate shall be renewed every two (2) years by the medical licensing board provided the mobile intensive care paramedic possesses the credentials to meet the recertification requirements set forth in

these rules and regulations.

6.08. A certificate and card bearing the paramedic's identification number and other pertinent data shall be issued to the paramedic upon initial certification and recertification as required by application.

Section 7. Recertification Requirements

The paramedic shall meet the following requirements to be eligible for recertification by the medical licensing board.

- 7.01. The paramedic must earn a minimum of continuing medical education credits every two (2) years as established by the office of emergency medical services. Such inservice training shall have the approval of the office of emergency medical services to fulfill this requirement.
- 7.02. The paramedic must successfully complete the recertification examination prescribed by the office of emergency medical services.
- 7.03. The paramedic shall present a verified evaluation by his medical director.
- 7.04. The paramedic shall upon successful completion of the recertification examination, and by evidencing successful completion of the minimum required continuing medical education hours and by obtaining a favorable evaluation by his medical director or the prehospital advisor shall be issued by the board a certificate valid for a period of two (2) years.

 Section 8. Reciprocal Certification

The board may at its discretion issue a certificate to an individual who is certified as a paramedic or its equivalent in a state other than West Virginia provided the individual shall meet or exceed all of the qualifications set forth herein:

8.01. The foreign paramedic shall submit copies of official certification from the paramedic certifying agency in the state in which the training and certification was obtained.

- 8.02. The foreign paramedic shall provide two (2) letters of recommendation one of which must be from a physician who was directly involved in the supervision or training of the paramedic.
- 8.03. The foreign paramedic shall submit a copy of his/her training course if other than the United States Department of Transportation, emergency medical technician-paramedic course curriculum.
- 8.04. The foreign paramedic shall submit a copy of his/her transcript, certificate or diploma and/or evaluation from the paramedic training course.
- 8.05. The foreign paramedic shall submit a letter of recommendation from his/her most recent supervisor of emergency medical service activity.
- 8.06. West Virginia certification shall issue from the date of ratification by the medical licensing board for a period determined by the board.
- 8.07. In no event shall a certificate be issued to an individual not routinely engaged in the rendering of paramedical services in the state of West Virginia.

Section 9. <u>Issuance</u>, <u>Suspension</u>, <u>Denial of Issuance</u>, <u>Revocation of Mobile</u> Intensive Care <u>Paramedic Certifications</u>

The medical licensing board shall have the power to examine all qualified applicants appearing before it seeking certification as a mobile intensive care paramedic. The board shall also have the power to deny, revoke or suspend any certificate of authorization issued by it, for cause, after having given the person whose mobile intensive care paramedic certificate is sought to be denied, suspended or revoked, an opportunity to be heard in a manner provided by section eight, article one, chapter thirty of the West Virginia Code, as amended. The board shall also have the power to reinstate any certificate revoked or suspended by it.

9.01. For cause shall include, but, not be limited to the following: 9.01.(a) The willful disobedience of the supervising physician.

- 9.01.(b) The submission of a fraudulent application, inclusive of the presentation of false documentation for admission to a mobile intensive care paramedic course and/or for certification, or recertification as a mobile intensive care paramedic.
 - 9.01.(c) Upon conviction of a felony.
 - 9.01.(d) Upon conviction of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude.
- 9.01.(e) Upon the determination of the medical licensing board that the applicant or mobile intensive care paramedic is guilty of malpractice.