

Tuolumne County Emergency Medical Services Agency
EMS System Policies and Procedures

POLICY: Unified Scope of Practice for Qualified Providers #553.00

Creation Date: 05-22-2019

Medical Director: _____ Revision Date:


Kimberly Freeman, M.D.

EMS Coordinator: _____ Review Date: 05-2024

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I. AUTHORITY

Division 2.5, California Health and Safety Code and Title 22, Division 9 of the California Code of Regulations.

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish the requirements for allowing a Qualified Transport Program that may function in multiple EMS jurisdiction to adopt the California Unified Scope of Practice for operations within Tuolumne County.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. CAMTS: Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems.
- B. CAMTS ECC Level Certification: CAMTS recognizes both the CCP-C and the FP-C for the Emergency Critical Care (ECC) accreditation level. This CAMTS "ECC" level also requires a qualified nurse partner and is required for programs participating in this optional scope.
- C. CCP-C: A "Critical Care Paramedic" is a paramedic educated and trained in critical care transport, whose scope of practice is in accordance to the standards prescribed in Title 22 - Division 9 - Chapter 4, holds a current certification as a CCP by the Board for Critical Care Transport Paramedic Certification (BCCTPC), has a valid license issued pursuant to Title 22 - Division 9 - Chapter 4, practices within a Qualified Transport Program, and is accredited by a LEMSA. The CCP-C in training must take the CCP-C exam within 6 months and pass the exam by the end of their first year with the Qualified Transport Program.
- D. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Medical Director Association of California (EMDAC): Is an association which is advisory to the EMS Authority on issues of scope of practice (SOP).
- E. FP-C: A "Certified Flight Paramedic" is a paramedic educated and trained in critical care transport and flight medicine, holds a current certification as an FP-C by the Board for Critical Care Transport Paramedic Certification (BCCTPC), has a valid license issued pursuant to Title 22 - Division 9 - Chapter 4, practices within a Qualified Transport Program, and is accredited by a LEMSA. The FP-C in training must take the FP-C exam within 6 months and pass the exam by the end of their first year with the Qualified Transport Program. The FP-C examination consists of 125 questions and takes 2.5 hours to complete.

- F. Qualified Flight Paramedic: A certified and LEMSA accredited EMT-P that meets the requirements for participating in this Unified Optional Scope. These Qualified FP-C or CCP-C paramedics have at least 3 years of critical care experience and have completed the Qualified Flight Program's initial academy training and fall into one of these categories: FP-C, or FP- in training, or CCP-C or CC- in training with additional education in flight and altitude physiology as specified in the attached Appendix, and are working for a Qualified Transport Program and are paired with a Qualified Transport Nurse as required in the "ECC level" of CAMTS 10th edition standards.
- G. Qualified Transport Program: a ground or aeromedical transport program that has met the requirements to participate in this optional scope program by meeting CAMTS ECC 10th edition level Accreditation (if aeromedical program) or equivalent and demonstrates the required training, education, competencies, QI and Medical Direction required.
- H. Qualified Transport Nurse: A Registered Nurse with at least 3 years of critical care experience, who has completed the Qualified Transport Program training and is working toward the CEN, CCRN, CFRN or CTRN as required by the CAMTS ECC Accreditation. The Qualified Transport Nurse is employed by and practicing with the Qualified Transport Program.
- I. Qualified Transport Program Medical Director: The Qualified Transport Program Medical Director is Board certified or eligible in Emergency Medicine by American Board of Emergency Medicine or the American Board of Osteopathic Medicine, and if the Medical Director directs an aeromedical service, meets CAMTS ECC level requirements for Medical Director.
- J. Qualified Transport Program Physician: A physician who is affiliated with the Qualified Transport Program as an associate or consultant, is not the Medical Director, but also is Board certified or eligible by an American Board of Medical Specialties board in emergency medicine or in the specialty appropriate for the scope of service (e.g, pediatrics, critical care) and for aeromedical service meets all the CAMTS requirements for Medical Director.
- K. FP-C in training: These Paramedics have completed the Qualified Transport Program's initial academy training and are fully functional Paramedics for the program, but have not yet completed their FP-C testing/certificate. The FP-C in training must take the FP-C exam within 6 months and pass the exam by the end of their first year with the Qualified Transport Program.

IV. POLICY

- A. The Qualified Transport Program shall submit a written request to the Tuolumne County EMS Agency (TCEMSA) for approval to adopt the California Unified Scope of Practice for operations within Tuolumne County.
- B. The request shall include all pertinent information needed to determine the Qualified Transport Program has met all requirements set forth by CAMTS, California EMS Authority and TCEMSA.

- C. The TCEMSA Medical Director shall have up to 90 days to approve, Provisionally Approve or Deny the request. Provisional Approval shall be in effect for no more than 90 days. Approval shall be in effect for no more than two (2) years.
- D. The Qualified Transport Program shall immediately notify the TCEMSA of changes in the status of CAMTS Accreditation.
- E. The Qualified Transport Program shall notify the TCEMSA of changes in regards Qualified Transport Program Medical Director.
- F. The Qualified Transport Program shall submit a request for Continuation of Approval every two (2) years. It is recommended that the Qualified Transport Program submit the 90 days prior to expiration of their current approval.