

Effective 7/1/2024

**Part 1
General Provisions**

53-2d-101 Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

- (1)
 - (a) "911 ambulance or paramedic services" means:
 - (i) either:
 - (A) 911 ambulance service;
 - (B) 911 paramedic service; or
 - (C) both 911 ambulance and paramedic service; and
 - (ii) a response to a 911 call received by a designated dispatch center that receives 911 or E911 calls.
 - (b) "911 ambulance or paramedic services" does not mean a seven or 10 digit telephone call received directly by an ambulance provider licensed under this chapter.
- (2) "Ambulance" means a ground, air, or water vehicle that:
 - (a) transports patients and is used to provide emergency medical services; and
 - (b) is required to obtain a permit under Section 53-2d-404 to operate in the state.
- (3) "Ambulance provider" means an emergency medical service provider that:
 - (a) transports and provides emergency medical care to patients; and
 - (b) is required to obtain a license under Part 5, Ambulance and Paramedic Providers.
- (4) "Automatic external defibrillator" or "AED" means an automated or automatic computerized medical device that:
 - (a) has received pre-market notification approval from the United States Food and Drug Administration, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. Sec. 360(k);
 - (b) is capable of recognizing the presence or absence of ventricular fibrillation or rapid ventricular tachycardia;
 - (c) is capable of determining, without intervention by an operator, whether defibrillation should be performed; and
 - (d) upon determining that defibrillation should be performed, automatically charges, enabling delivery of, or automatically delivers, an electrical impulse through the chest wall and to an individual's heart.
- (5)
 - (a) "Behavioral emergency services" means delivering a behavioral health intervention to a patient in an emergency context within a scope and in accordance with guidelines established by the department.
 - (b) "Behavioral emergency services" does not include engaging in the:
 - (i) practice of mental health therapy as defined in Section 58-60-102;
 - (ii) practice of psychology as defined in Section 58-61-102;
 - (iii) practice of clinical social work as defined in Section 58-60-202;
 - (iv) practice of certified social work as defined in Section 58-60-202;
 - (v) practice of marriage and family therapy as defined in Section 58-60-302;
 - (vi) practice of clinical mental health counseling as defined in Section 58-60-402; or
 - (vii) practice as a substance use disorder counselor as defined in Section 58-60-502.
- (6) "Bureau" means the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services created in Section 53-2d-102.

- (7) "Cardiopulmonary resuscitation" or "CPR" means artificial ventilation or external chest compression applied to a person who is unresponsive and not breathing.
- (8) "Committee" means the Trauma System and Emergency Medical Services Committee created by Section 53-2d-104.
- (9) "Community paramedicine" means medical care:
 - (a) provided by emergency medical service personnel; and
 - (b) provided to a patient who is not:
 - (i) in need of ambulance transportation; or
 - (ii) located in a health care facility as defined in Section 26B-2-201.
- (10) "Direct medical observation" means in-person observation of a patient by a physician, registered nurse, physician's assistant, or individual licensed under Section 26B-4-116.
- (11) "Emergency medical condition" means:
 - (a) a medical condition that manifests itself by symptoms of sufficient severity, including severe pain, that a prudent layperson, who possesses an average knowledge of health and medicine, could reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention to result in:
 - (i) placing the individual's health in serious jeopardy;
 - (ii) serious impairment to bodily functions; or
 - (iii) serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part; or
 - (b) a medical condition that in the opinion of a physician or the physician's designee requires direct medical observation during transport or may require the intervention of an individual licensed under Section 53-2d-402 during transport.
- (12) "Emergency medical dispatch center" means a public safety answering point, as defined in Section 63H-7a-103, that is designated as an emergency medical dispatch center by the bureau.
- (13)
 - (a) "Emergency medical service personnel" means an individual who provides emergency medical services or behavioral emergency services to a patient and is required to be licensed or certified under Section 53-2d-402.
 - (b) "Emergency medical service personnel" includes a paramedic, medical director of a licensed emergency medical service provider, emergency medical service instructor, behavioral emergency services technician, other categories established by the committee, and a certified emergency medical dispatcher.
- (14) "Emergency medical service providers" means:
 - (a) licensed ambulance providers and paramedic providers;
 - (b) a facility or provider that is required to be designated under Subsection 53-2d-403(1)(a); and
 - (c) emergency medical service personnel.
- (15) "Emergency medical services" means:
 - (a) medical services;
 - (b) transportation services;
 - (c) behavioral emergency services; or
 - (d) any combination of the services described in Subsections (15)(a) through (c).
- (16) "Emergency medical service vehicle" means a land, air, or water vehicle that is:
 - (a) maintained and used for the transportation of emergency medical personnel, equipment, and supplies to the scene of a medical emergency; and
 - (b) required to be permitted under Section 53-2d-404.
- (17) "Governing body":
 - (a) means the same as that term is defined in Section 11-42-102; and

- (b) for purposes of a "special service district" under Section 11-42-102, means a special service district that has been delegated the authority to select a provider under this chapter by the special service district's legislative body or administrative control board.
- (18) "Interested party" means:
 - (a) a licensed or designated emergency medical services provider that provides emergency medical services within or in an area that abuts an exclusive geographic service area that is the subject of an application submitted pursuant to Part 5, Ambulance and Paramedic Providers;
 - (b) any municipality, county, or fire district that lies within or abuts a geographic service area that is the subject of an application submitted pursuant to Part 5, Ambulance and Paramedic Providers; or
 - (c) the department when acting in the interest of the public.
- (19) "Level of service" means the level at which an ambulance provider type of service is licensed as:
 - (a) emergency medical technician;
 - (b) advanced emergency medical technician; or
 - (c) paramedic.
- (20) "Medical control" means a person who provides medical supervision to an emergency medical service provider.
- (21) "Non-911 service" means transport of a patient that is not 911 transport under Subsection (1).
- (22) "Nonemergency secured behavioral health transport" means an entity that:
 - (a) provides nonemergency secure transportation services for an individual who:
 - (i) is not required to be transported by an ambulance under Section 53-2d-405; and
 - (ii) requires behavioral health observation during transport between any of the following facilities:
 - (A) a licensed acute care hospital;
 - (B) an emergency patient receiving facility;
 - (C) a licensed mental health facility; and
 - (D) the office of a licensed health care provider; and
 - (b) is required to be designated under Section 53-2d-403.
- (23) "Paramedic provider" means an entity that:
 - (a) employs emergency medical service personnel; and
 - (b) is required to obtain a license under Part 5, Ambulance and Paramedic Providers.
- (24) "Patient" means an individual who, as the result of illness, injury, or a behavioral emergency condition, meets any of the criteria in Section 26B-4-119.
- (25) "Political subdivision" means:
 - (a) a city or town;
 - (b) a county;
 - (c) a special service district created under Title 17D, Chapter 1, Special Service District Act, for the purpose of providing fire protection services under Subsection 17D-1-201(9);
 - (d) a special district created under Title 17B, Limited Purpose Local Government Entities - Special Districts, for the purpose of providing fire protection, paramedic, and emergency services;
 - (e) areas coming together as described in Subsection 53-2d-505.2(2)(b)(ii); or
 - (f) an interlocal entity under Title 11, Chapter 13, Interlocal Cooperation Act.
- (26) "Sudden cardiac arrest" means a life-threatening condition that results when a person's heart stops or fails to produce a pulse.
- (27) "Trauma" means an injury requiring immediate medical or surgical intervention.

- (28) "Trauma system" means a single, statewide system that:
- (a) organizes and coordinates the delivery of trauma care within defined geographic areas from the time of injury through transport and rehabilitative care; and
 - (b) is inclusive of all prehospital providers, hospitals, and rehabilitative facilities in delivering care for trauma patients, regardless of severity.
- (29) "Triage" means the sorting of patients in terms of disposition, destination, or priority. For prehospital trauma victims, triage requires a determination of injury severity to assess the appropriate level of care according to established patient care protocols.
- (30) "Triage, treatment, transportation, and transfer guidelines" means written procedures that:
- (a) direct the care of patients; and
 - (b) are adopted by the medical staff of an emergency patient receiving facility, trauma center, or an emergency medical service provider.
- (31) "Type of service" means the category at which an ambulance provider is licensed as:
- (a) ground ambulance transport;
 - (b) ground ambulance interfacility transport; or
 - (c) both ground ambulance transport and ground ambulance interfacility transport.

Amended by Chapter 147, 2024 General Session

Amended by Chapter 438, 2024 General Session

Amended by Chapter 506, 2024 General Session

53-2d-102 Bureau of Emergency Medical Services -- Creation -- Bureau chief appointment, qualifications, and compensation.

- (1) There is created within the department the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services.
- (2) The bureau shall be administered by a bureau chief appointed by the commissioner.
- (3) The bureau chief shall be experienced in administration and possess additional qualifications as determined by the commissioner and as provided by law.
- (4) The bureau chief acts under the supervision and control of the commissioner and may be removed from the position at the will of the commissioner.
- (5) The bureau chief shall receive compensation as provided by Title 63A, Chapter 17, Utah State Personnel Management Act.

Enacted by Chapter 310, 2023 General Session

53-2d-103 Bureau duties -- Data sharing.

- (1) The bureau shall:
 - (a) coordinate the emergency medical services within the state;
 - (b) administer any programs and applicable rules created under this chapter;
 - (c) establish a voluntary task force representing a diversity of emergency medical service providers to advise the bureau and the committee on rules;
 - (d) establish an emergency medical service personnel peer review board to advise the bureau concerning discipline of emergency medical service personnel under this chapter; and
 - (e) adopt rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to:
 - (i) license ambulance providers and paramedic providers;
 - (ii) permit ambulances, emergency medical response vehicles, and nonemergency secured behavioral health transport vehicles, including approving an emergency vehicle operator's course in accordance with Section 53-2d-404;
 - (iii) establish:

- (A) the qualifications for membership of the peer review board created by this section;
 - (B) a process for placing restrictions on a license while an investigation is pending;
 - (C) the process for the investigation and recommendation by the peer review board; and
 - (D) the process for determining the status of a license while a peer review board investigation is pending;
 - (iv) establish application, submission, and procedural requirements for licenses, designations, and permits; and
 - (v) establish and implement the programs, plans, and responsibilities as specified in other sections of this chapter.
- (2)
- (a) The bureau shall share data related to the bureau's duties with the Department of Health and Human Services.
 - (b) The Department of Health and Human Services shall share data related to the bureau's duties with the bureau.
 - (c) All data collected by the bureau under this chapter is subject to Title 26B, Chapter 8, Part 4, Health Statistics, including data privacy protections.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 307, 2023 General Session

Amended by Chapter 307, 2023 General Session, (Coordination Clause)

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 310, 2023 General Session

53-2d-104 Trauma System and Emergency Medical Services Committee -- Membership -- Expenses.

- (1) There is created the Trauma System and Emergency Medical Services Committee.
- (2) The committee shall be composed of the following 11 members appointed by the governor, at least three of whom shall reside in a county of the third, fourth, fifth, or sixth class:
 - (a) four physicians licensed under Title 58, Chapter 67, Utah Medical Practice Act, or Title 58, Chapter 68, Utah Osteopathic Medical Practice Act, as follows:
 - (i) one surgeon who actively provides trauma care at a hospital;
 - (ii) one rural physician involved in emergency medical care;
 - (iii) one physician who practices in the emergency department of a general acute hospital; and
 - (iv) one pediatrician who practices in the emergency department or critical care unit of a general acute hospital or a children's specialty hospital;
 - (b) one representative from a private ambulance provider;
 - (c) one representative from an ambulance provider that is neither privately owned nor operated by a fire department;
 - (d) one chief officer from a fire agency operated by one of the following classes of licensed or designated emergency medical services providers:
 - (i) a municipality;
 - (ii) a county; or
 - (iii) a fire district; and
 - (e) four of any of the following representatives:
 - (i) one director of a law enforcement agency that provides emergency medical services;
 - (ii) one hospital administrator;
 - (iii) one emergency care nurse;
 - (iv) one paramedic in active field practice;
 - (v) one emergency medical technician in active field practice;

- (vi) one certified emergency medical dispatcher affiliated with an emergency medical dispatch center;
 - (vii) one licensed mental health professional with experience as a first responder;
 - (viii) one licensed behavioral emergency services technician; or
 - (ix) one consumer.
- (3)
- (a) Except as provided in Subsection (3)(b), members shall be appointed to a four-year term.
 - (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (3)(a), the governor:
 - (i) shall, at the time of appointment or reappointment, adjust the length of terms to ensure that the terms of committee members are staggered so that approximately half of the committee is appointed every two years; and
 - (ii) may not reappoint a member for more than two consecutive terms.
 - (c) When a vacancy occurs in the membership for any reason, the replacement shall be appointed by the governor for the unexpired term.
- (4)
- (a)
 - (i) Each January, the committee shall organize and select one of the committee's members as chair and one member as vice chair.
 - (ii) The committee may organize standing or ad hoc subcommittees, which shall operate in accordance with guidelines established by the committee.
 - (b)
 - (i) The chair shall convene a minimum of four meetings per year.
 - (ii) The chair may call special meetings.
 - (iii) The chair shall call a meeting upon request of five or more members of the committee.
 - (c)
 - (i) Six members of the committee constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.
 - (ii) The action of a majority of the members present is the action of the committee.
- (5) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:
- (a) Section 63A-3-106;
 - (b) Section 63A-3-107; and
 - (c) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.
- (6) Administrative services for the committee shall be provided by the bureau.

Amended by Chapter 506, 2024 General Session

53-2d-105 Committee advisory duties.

The committee shall:

- (1) advise the bureau chief regarding:
- (a) licensure, certification, and reciprocity requirements under Section 53-2d-402;
 - (b) designation requirements under Section 53-2d-403;
 - (c) insurance requirements for ambulance providers;
 - (d) guidelines for requiring patient data under Section 53-2d-203;
 - (e) criteria for awarding grants under Section 53-2d-207;
 - (f) requirements for the coordination of emergency medical services and the medical supervision of emergency medical service providers under Section 53-2d-403;
 - (g) appropriate vendors to establish certification requirements for emergency medical dispatchers;

- (h) the minimum level of service for 911 ambulance services provided under Section 11-48-103; and
 - (i) rules necessary to administer this chapter, which shall be made by the bureau chief in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act; and
- (2) promote the development of a statewide emergency medical services system under Section 53-2d-403.

Amended by Chapter 506, 2024 General Session

53-2d-106 Waiver of rules, education, and licensing requirements.

- (1) Upon application, the bureau, or the committee with the concurrence of the bureau, may waive the requirements of a rule the bureau, or the committee with the concurrence of the bureau, has adopted if:
- (a) the person applying for the waiver satisfactorily demonstrates that:
 - (i) the waiver is necessary for a pilot project to be undertaken by the applicant;
 - (ii) in the particular situation, the requirement serves no beneficial public purpose; or
 - (iii) circumstances warrant that waiver of the requirement outweighs the public benefit to be gained by adherence to the rule; and
 - (b) for a waiver granted under Subsection (1)(a)(ii) or (iii):
 - (i) the committee or bureau extends the waiver to similarly situated persons upon application; or
 - (ii) the bureau, or the committee with the concurrence of the bureau, amends the rule to be consistent with the waiver.
- (2) A waiver of education or licensing requirements may be granted to a veteran, as defined in Section 68-3-12.5, if the veteran:
- (a) provides to the committee or bureau documentation showing military education and training in the field in which licensure is sought; and
 - (b) successfully passes any examination required.
- (3) No waiver may be granted under this section that is inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 307, 2023 General Session

Amended by Chapter 307, 2023 General Session, (Coordination Clause)

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 310, 2023 General Session

53-2d-108 Emergency Medical Services System Account.

- (1) There is created within the General Fund a restricted account known as the Emergency Medical Services System Account.
- (2) The account consists of:
- (a) interest earned on the account;
 - (b) appropriations made by the Legislature; and
 - (c) contributions deposited into the account in accordance with Section 41-1a-230.7.
- (3) The bureau shall use:
- (a) an amount equal to 25% of the money in the account for administrative costs related to this chapter;
 - (b) an amount equal to 75% of the money in the account for grants awarded in accordance with Subsection 53-2d-207(3); and
 - (c) all money received from the revenue source in Subsection (2)(c) for grants awarded in accordance with Subsection 53-2d-207(3).

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 305, 2023 General Session
Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 310, 2023 General Session