

**HEMS**  
**System Protocols – Facility and Service Participation**  
**LIFE SUPPORT UNIT PERSONNEL STAFFING**

Date: June 23, 2017, Update May 23, 2019

Section 8.16 (S)

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***Life Support Unit Personnel Staffing Requirement***

The purpose of this protocol is to insure that BLS/LALS/ALS units are staffed in a manner that is conducive to optimal patient care. In every instance, it is the emphasis of the HEMS MCA that all communities receive Pre-hospital Advanced Life Support. Further, it emphasizes that all agencies strive to provide that level of service to its residents.

The minimum acceptable personnel licensure level for Life Support Units operating within the HEMS MCA is as follows:

BLS Unit	(1) Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and (1) Medical First Responder (MFR) now termed Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
LALS Unit	(1) Specialist/AEMT and (1) Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
ALS Unit	(1) Paramedic and (1) Specialist/AEMT*
Critical	(1) Critical Care Trained Paramedic per HEMS protocol and (1) Paramedic
Echo Unit	(1) Paramedic
Mike Unit	(1) Specialist/AEMT
Tango Unit	(1) Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

\*An agency that wishes to deviate from the ALS Unit standard set above refer to the Alternate ALS Staffing policy.

*Draft - HEMS*  
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**ALTERNATE ALS STAFFING\***

The purpose of this policy is to allow a Life Support Agency the ability to deviate from the HEMS, MCA standard ALS staffing described in the Life Support Unit Personnel Staffing protocol.

**This policy DOES NOT apply to the Critical Care Transport Unit Staffing.**

An agency lacking resources to attain the MCA minimum staffing standard must:

- A) File a formal application with HEMS MCA. (Applies to existing services only. A new application must be filed annually with the license renewal application.)
- B) Agree to work toward meeting the minimum ALS staffing standard.
- C) Report to the PSRO Physician Committee, once annually, on progress toward achieving the minimum staffing standard.

Upon action of the HEMS Physician PSRO Committee, approval may be granted to an ALS agency to function at the level it is licensed provided the ALS unit(s) is staffed at the State of Michigan Advanced Life Support staffing requirement.\*

*\*Alternate Staffing is the State of Michigan Advanced Life Support Ambulance staffing of 1 Paramedic and 1 Basic EMT as stated in Section 333.20921 (3) ( c ) of Public Act 368 of 1978, as amended.*

Note: Alternate ALS Staffing Request Form Section 12.4