

**Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency****Driver Training Assessment: Emergency Medical Services**

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The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is interested in characterizing the current state of emergency vehicle operator training for **ambulance** operators across the United States. We are asking that one person from your EMS agency *who is either in charge of or at least very familiar with ambulance operations at your agency* complete this survey. In the following pages, you will be asked a variety of questions about the training provided to anyone who gets behind the wheel and operates an ambulance on the roadway for your agency.

The entire survey should take less than 15 minutes to complete.

Participation in the study is voluntary, and your responses will remain anonymous. Any reports will only include results at the group level.

Thank you for your assistance.

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Demographics/Core

\* 1. Does your agency operate ground ambulances?

- Yes
- No (survey will end)

\* 2. In which State does your agency operate?

**State**

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Demographics/Core - You

\* 3. Please rate your knowledge of ambulance operations at your agency.

- Extensive knowledge
- Moderate knowledge
- Limited knowledge
- No knowledge

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Demographics/Core - You

4. What is your primary role at this agency or organization?

- Educator/Preceptor
- Administrator/Manager
- First-line Supervisor
- Patient Care Provider
- Emergency Vehicle Operator
- Other (please specify)

5. How many years have you been in this position?

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Demographics/Core - Your Agency

6. Which of the following best describes your EMS agency?

- Hospital
- Fire Department
- Government, non-Fire Department, non-Hospital
- Tribal
- Private
- Association
- Other (please specify)

7. What is the tax status of your agency?

- For profit
- Not-for-profit
- Government
- Unincorporated
- Other (please specify)

8. Which of the following best describes the community in which your agency does most of its EMS work?

- Rural area (less than 2,500 people)
- Small town (2,500-24,999 people)
- Medium town (25,000-74,999 people)
- Large town (75,000-149,999 people)
- Mid-sized city (less than 500,000 people)
- Large city (500,000 or more people)

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Demographics/Core - Your Agency

9. What percentage of your agency is made up of volunteers (i.e., individuals who are not issued a W-2 form even if they receive some form of compensation other than wages)?

- 0%- there are no volunteers
- Less than 25%
- 26-50%
- 51-75%
- 76-100%
- Don't know

10. Approximately how many years has your agency been operating ambulances?  
(If you don't know, enter "DK")

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Demographics/Core - Your Agency

11. Check all of the following that describe the EMS and transport services provided by your agency.

- 911 response with transport capability
- 911 response without transport capability
- Air medical
- Hazmat
- Medical transport (convalescent)
- Paramedic intercept
- Rescue
- Specialty care transport
- Don't know

12. Which of the following best describes the calls to which your agency's ambulances respond?

- All are emergency calls
- Most are emergency calls
- About equal numbers of emergency calls and scheduled transports
- Most are scheduled transports
- All are scheduled transports
- Don't know

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Demographics/Core - Your Agency

13. How many of the following types of ambulances does your agency operate? (Enter whole numbers, or if you don't know enter "DK")

Type 1 (Cab chassis furnished with a modular ambulance body)

Type 2 (Long wheelbase van with integral cab body)

Type 3 (Cutaway van/truck chassis with integrated modular ambulance body)

Other (Please specify number)



## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Demographics/Core - Fatigue Risk Management Plan

14. Does your agency currently have a Fatigue Risk Management Plan (FRMP)?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Demographics/Core - Fatigue Risk Management Plan

15. Check all of the following that are features of your FRMP.

- We have a documented FRMP
- We have a detailed FRMP
- We have a documented statement of working hours
- We have limits on overtime hours
- We have a FRMP promotion and communications strategy
- We have processes for continuous evaluation and improvement (e.g. hazard ID, evaluation, and sources of data)
- We have a procedure for paid and volunteer staff to self-report fatigue
- We have a procedure for error/adverse incident or crash investigations where fatigue is suspected as a contributing factor
- Other (Please describe other features of your FRMP)

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Demographics/Core - Driver Licensing Requirements

\* 16. Indicate if your agency has the following driver licensing, certification, or endorsement requirements for ambulance operators by checking the appropriate boxes below.

- Standard operator class (regular driver's license)
- Commercial class (any form of CDL)
- Ambulance-specific license
- Ambulance-specific certificate
- Ambulance-specific endorsement
- Emergency response vehicle (EMS) specific license
- Emergency response vehicle (EMS) specific certificate
- Emergency response vehicle (EMS) specific endorsement
- None
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Demographics/Core - Driving History Check

17. How often does your Agency review driving records of your ambulance operators? Check all that apply.

- Never
- As a condition or prerequisite to hiring/affiliation
- Based on agency/leadership determination that relevant information may be found
- Once per year
- More than once per year
- Don't know

18. What events prevent an individual from being allowed to operate an ambulance? Check all that apply.

- Crash
- DUI/DWI
- Speeding Violation(s)
- Reckless Driving
- Other Moving Violation(s)
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Driver Training

\* 19. Do ambulance operators at your agency complete emergency vehicle operator training?

- Yes, it's a requirement
- Yes, but it's **not** a requirement
- No
- Don't know

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Driver Training - Your Role

\* 20. Please rate your knowledge of the ambulance operator training conducted at your agency.

- Extensive knowledge
- Moderate knowledge
- Limited knowledge
- No knowledge

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Driver Training - Program Description

21. How structured is the driver training for ambulance operators?

- Formal/structured training with a defined curriculum
- Informal/unstructured training
- Don't know

22. Who developed your driver training program?

- Developed our own program for in-house use
- Use a program that was developed by someone else
- Don't know

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Driver Training - Program Description

23. If applicable, please tell us the name of the training program your agency uses?

24. If the training program is based on any standards or best practices, check all that are applicable below.

- National Standard Curriculum-EVOC, 1995 Edition, U.S. Department of Transportation
- Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Driver Performance Best Practices
- U.S. Fire Administration (USFA)/FEMA Traffic Incident Management Systems, FA-330
- U.S. Fire Administration/International Association of Fire Fighters (USFA/IAFF) Vehicle Safety Program
- National Safety Council Defensive Driving Course for Specialty Vehicles
- Volunteer Fire Insurance Service (VFIS) suggested curriculum and cone course
- None
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)



## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Driver Training - Program Description

25. Which of the following best describes the ambulance operator training?

- Specific to Ambulances
- Specific by type of ambulance (Type 1,2, or 3)
- Based on fire or police emergency vehicles
- Don't know

26. Where do ambulance operators receive driver training instruction? Check all that apply.

- Classroom
- Behind-the-wheel on track or closed course
- Behind-the-wheel on live roadway
- Simulator
- Online/Internet
- Don't know

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Driver Training - Program Description

27. How many TOTAL hours is the ambulance operator training?

28. How many hours of each of the following does the ambulance operator training include? If none, please enter 0.

Classroom

Behind-the-wheel closed course

Behind-the-wheel live roadway

Simulator training

Online/Internet

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Driver Training - Training Administration

29. Who conducts the driver training? Check all that apply.

- In-house employee or volunteer
- External instructor comes to our agency
- Instructor at another EMS agency
- Instructor at a private school/academy
- Instructor at a public school/academy
- Internet/Online instructor
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)

30. Which of the following qualifications/certifications do lead instructors have? Check all that apply.

- Emergency Vehicle Operator Course (EVOC) instructor (State certified)
- Emergency Vehicle Operator Course (EVOC) instructor (Other certified)
- EMS Instructor (State certified)
- EMS Instructor (Other certified)
- Basic Driving Instructor (State certified)
- Basic Driving Instructor (Other certified)
- On-the-job experience
- Fire Instructor 1
- None
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Driver Training - Training Content

\* 31. Indicate if your agency's ambulance operator training includes the following topics by checking the appropriate boxes below.

- Driving Procedures (vehicle handling, safe speed, changing lanes, passing, intersections, turning, right of way, parking, navigation, etc.)
- Special Circumstance Driving Procedures (near miss recovery, inclement weather, use of lights and sirens, using back-up spotter, accident avoidance methods, close calls)
- Communication Responsibilities
- Traffic Incident Management
- Emergency Scene/Accident Vehicle Staging
- Vehicle Readiness
- Managing Fatigue
- Distraction Management
- None
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Driver Training - Training Criterion and Evaluation

\* 32. Which of the following tests must an operator pass before driving an ambulance?

- Written test
- Driving test
- Both Written and Driving Test
- None
- Don't know

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Driver Training - Training Criterion and Evaluation

33. Who determines the minimum scores needed to pass the tests? Check all that apply.

- Our Agency
- State
- Insurance Agency
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Driver Training - Training Criterion and Evaluation

34. Are volunteer ambulance operators in your agency trained to the same standard as non-volunteers?

- Yes
- No (*please tell us how they differ below*)
- Not applicable (no volunteers)
- Don't know

If you checked "No" above, please explain:

35. How have you evaluated the effectiveness of your ambulance operator driver training program? Check all that apply.

- Monitor crash rates, response times, etc.
- Survey trainee satisfaction
- Formal in-house review
- Independent evaluation
- Never evaluated
- Don't know

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Driver Training - Refresher Training

36. How often do ambulance operators at your agency complete refresher driver training?

- Every 6 months
- Every year
- Every 18 months
- Every 2 years
- Never
- Don't Know
- Other (Please specify how often)



## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Driver Training - Refresher Training

37. How many years has it been since your ambulance operator training was revised?  
(Enter whole numbers, or if you don't know enter "DK")

38. If someone has a crash while driving an ambulance,  
does your agency require remedial operator training?

- Yes
- On a case-by-case basis
- No
- Don't know

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Driver Training - Check Rides

\* 39. Does your agency conduct "check rides" (senior staff member rides along to determine if ambulance operator is fit to drive)?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Check Rides

40. What is evaluated as part of the check ride? Check all that apply.

- Driving Procedures (vehicle handling, safe speed, changing lanes, passing, intersections, turning, right of way, parking, navigation, etc.)
- Special Circumstance Driving Procedures (near miss recovery, inclement weather, use of lights and sirens, using back-up spotter, accident avoidance methods, close calls)
- Communication Responsibilities
- Traffic Incident Management
- Emergency Scene/Accident Vehicle Staging
- Vehicle Readiness
- Managing Fatigue
- Distraction Management
- None
- Don't Know
- Other (please specify)

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Driver Training - Materials for Upload

41. Do you have a driver training manual or other driving related materials for ambulance operators to reference?

Check all that apply.

- Yes, our agency provides materials
- Yes, the external training program provides materials
- Yes, the State provides materials
- No
- Don't know

## Driver Training Assessment: EMS Agency

### Training Material Upload Link

If you have electronic driver training materials that you are willing to share, please upload them by clicking on the link below. You may also cut and paste the link into a new browser window.

**Upload files here:**

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/UQOsjRikzxpZTvBZYreO>

If you have paper-based materials that you are willing to share, please e-mail Dr. Kristopher Korbela at [DunlapInbox@gmail.com](mailto:DunlapInbox@gmail.com). We will be happy to arrange for and cover the cost of the shipping of any material that may be of use to the project.

**After you have finished uploading materials, please click Done below.**