



# State of New Hampshire

## Department of Safety



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# INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN

Bulletin #	Title			Date Issued
74	Licensing as “Non-Affiliated” – Provider License			March 19, 2021
Superseded	Released By	Approved By	Source	For More Information
	FSTEMS	Chief Romanello		FSTEMS (603) 223-4200

The Commissioner of the Department of Safety has adopted rules that allow for individuals wishing to obtain or maintain licensure as a New Hampshire emergency medical services (EMS) provider to do so as “Non-Affiliated” or without active affiliation with a licensed EMS unit. This is a change to the previous practice requiring active affiliation/employment with a licensed EMS unit and subsequently the signature of the head of unit to complete the application for an individual’s provider application. As we move forward, individuals will be able to obtain or maintain their provider license without affiliation as long as all other licensing requirements are satisfactory met.

The ability to now license as “Non-Affiliated” is **not** an allowance to provide EMS care outside of an affiliated unit. There are very limited circumstances where a licensed provider may provide such care which include happenstance or in accordance with the “Plan for NH Licensed EMS Providers Practicing at Preplanned Medical Standby Coverage Events”. Licensing as “Non-Affiliated” is merely a mechanism to allow for individuals obtain or maintain their license. Just because an individual holds an EMS license does not constitute that the care they are rendering is EMS related. As an example, EMS providers working within the confines of a medical facility or related institution may in fact hold a license and are performing functions within their scope of practice, however it is not in a pre-hospital environment and does not constitute EMS care.

For further information on how to license as “Non-Affiliated” please contact FSTEMS.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **1. Who legally can provide EMS care in the state of New Hampshire?**

- a. In the state of New Hampshire, the only entities that can provide EMS care are licensed EMS units. This is outlined in RSA 153-A:10 Licensure of Emergency Medical Service Units and Emergency Medical Service Vehicles.

*...A person shall not engage in the business or service of providing emergency medical services or the transportation of patients, upon any public way of the state, unless such person holds a license issued by the commissioner for engaging in such a business or service.*

### **2. How do Licensed EMS Units provide EMS care in the state of New Hampshire?**

- a. In the state of New Hampshire, licensed EMS units are able to provide care through the utilization of licensed EMS providers. This is outlined in RSA 153-A:11 Licensure of Emergency Medical Care Providers.

*...Except for automated external defibrillation pursuant to RSA 153-A:28-31, a person shall not provide emergency medical services as a paid or volunteer member of a public or private emergency medical services unit in this state, or as a paid or volunteer member of any police or fire department who, as a condition of employment, may be expected to routinely provide emergency medical services in the line of duty, without being licensed by the commissioner.*

### **3. Where can I find more information on RSA 153?**

- a. Link: <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/XII/153-A/153-A-mrg.htm>

### **4. Are there any instances where I am able to act as a licensed EMS provider outside of my affiliated unit?**

- a. Yes, there are two instances in which an EMS provider may act as such outside of their employment or affiliated unit. The first, is during happenstance or by coincidence that the provider found themselves upon an event requiring action. The second would be in the course of duties outlined in the “Plan for NH Licensed EMS Providers Practicing at Preplanned Medical Standby Coverage Events”. Information can be found at, <https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/documents/standbycoverage.pdf> .

### **5. Can I work in a healthcare facility, doctor’s office or similar institution as an EMS provider?**

- a. The Division does not dictate where an EMS provider can work or volunteer. Your EMS license is an allowance to assist licensed EMS units in their responsibility to provide EMS care, per RSA 153-A:10. Many healthcare institutions utilize EMS providers and require them to maintain an EMS license for employment. In these instances, EMS providers are being utilized within their respective scope of practice. Unless the facility has met the criteria to maintain an EMS unit license, the care that licensed providers are delivering is under the umbrella of the facility and not viewed as EMS care due to the environment in which it is being delivered.

### **6. What is “emergency medical services”?**

- a. Per RSA 153-A:2 (VI) Emergency medical services, means the pre-hospital assessment and treatment of a sick or injured individual initiated at the scene of an incident and continued through the transport and transfer, if found appropriate, of the individual to a medical facility or other appropriate location in order to prevent loss of life or aggravation of physiological or psychological illness or injury.