

### Page 1 of 1 INTERFACILITY TRANSPORT PARAMEDIC (IFT-P) Orig. Date SERVICE PROVIDER CRITERIA

### I. AUTHORITY:

California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5-1797.218. California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5 – 1791.200, 1797.206, 1797.208, and 1797.214. California Title 22, Section 100144; (b):

#### II. APPLICATION:

- This policy defines the criteria for licensure of an Interfacility Transport Paramedic (IFT-P) service provider by Orange County Emergency Medical Services (OCEMS). Licensure as an OCEMS IFT-P service provider is in addition to an OCEMS basic ambulance license. No provider may provide IFT-P service in Orange County without being licensed to do so by OCEMS.
- IFT-P service providers are authorized to perform basic life support (BLS) and advanced life support (ALS) transports between health care and home health facilities that can be conducted within the scope of practice of IFT-P personnel. IFT-P service providers are not authorized to respond to 911 dispatch or emergency medical aid calls.
- A prospective IFT-P service provider agency shall submit a written application to:

Orange County EMS Medical Director Orange County Emergency Medical Services 405 W. 5th Street, Suite 301A Santa Ana, CA 92701

#### III. CRITERIA:

- A. An IFT-P service provider shall identify the number of IFT-P units in service and provide a statement of coverage for specific geographical areas for proposed IFT-P service units.
- An IFT-P service provider must comply with OCEMS requirements for uniform electronic record keeping, data collection and electronic submission of all Orange County EMS data system elements to OCEMS (OC-MEDS).
- The IFT-P service provider application shall include:
  - Documentation of licensure as an Orange County ambulance provider with OC MEDS (OCEMS county-wide data system) capability.
  - Agreement to respond and transport between Orange County health care and home health facilities any patient (regardless of payer status) in need of ALS transport for which the requirements of the transport are within the scope of practice of a IFT-P.
  - 3. Agreement to provide service response on a daily continuous 24 hour basis.
  - Agreement to respond for an unscheduled IFT-P level transport call within the stated geographic area of service (Section III, A) within a maximum 30 (thirty) minutes of the initial contact of the provider dispatch center.
  - 5. Agreement to adhere to applicable sections of the California Health and Safety Code, California Title 22 and to OCEMS policies, standing orders, and procedures.





# INTERFACILITY TRANSPORT PARAMEDIC (IFT-P) SERVICE PROVIDER CRITERIA

- 6. Agreement to provide IFT-P service meeting OCEMS minimum staffing requirements for each unit (one Orange County Accredited IFT-P and one patient care only (not driver) Orange County Accredited EMT per unit).
- 7. A list of all licensed and locally accredited IFT-P personnel sponsored by the IFT-P service provider.
- 8. An identified, full-time (minimum 36 hour per week) qualified IFT-P program coordinator who is a California licensed Registered Nurse with a minimum of three (3) years experience in emergency or critical care nursing or advanced life support transport that will be the liaison with OCEMS and conduct mandatory OCEMS system updates and ongoing training of IFT-P staff of the provider.
  - A. The IFT-P Coordinator will be familiar with OCEMS policies, standing orders, and procedures and perform or oversee the following tasks:
    - 1) Orient IFT-P personnel to the OCEMS IFT-P program.
    - 2) Maintain documentation of IFT-P personnel orientation to the OCEMS IFT-P program.
    - 3) Develop and maintain an OCEMS approved IFT-P quality assurance plan as set forth by OCEMS policy and procedures. A copy of the provider IFT-P quality assurance plan must accompany the application and the appropriate current plan with an annual report of quality assurance activities shall be submitted yearly to OCEMS.
    - 4) Assure that IFT-P personnel adhere to BLS and IFT-P Standing Orders approved by the OCEMS Medical Director.
    - 5) Ensure the ongoing education and competency of all IFT-P personnel.
- 9. IFT-P service provider policies for:
  - A. Notification of OCEMS of IFT-P service provider operational modifications including:
    - 1) Proposed changes in number of units or unit locations.
    - 2) Proposed changes in geographic area coverage for IFT-P services.
    - 3) IFT-P Coordinator changes and office site changes.
    - 4) Changes in status of IFT-P OCEMS licensed and accredited personnel.
  - B. Mechanism to receive, respond to, and notify OCEMS (with specific complaint or circumstances of the following occurrences and a copy of the appropriate transport Prehospital Care Report [PCR]) for:
    - All patient complaints involving an IFT-P transport.
    - 2) Hospital complaints regarding IFT-P transports.





## INTERFACILITY TRANSPORT PARAMEDIC (IFT-P) SERVICE PROVIDER CRITERIA

- 3) Violations of OCEMS policies or standing orders.
- C. To work in conjunction with OCEMS when evaluating IFT-P medical and communication equipment.
- D. Provide field internship opportunities for paramedic trainees from OCEMS approved paramedic training programs.
- E. Ensuring all OCEMS accredited IFT-P personnel attend and successfully pass exams to show competence in OCEMS mandatory updates for EMS personnel. To ensure all IFT-P personnel are updated when revisions to IFT-P Standing Orders are made by the OCEMS Medical Director.
- F. Maintenance and training of IFT-Ps for the Orange County MED-9 (or other appropriate communication equipment to allow for contact of Orange County Communications) radio system.
- G. Mechanism to allow for and documentation of IFT-P personnel attendance at two or more Base Hospital Regional Paramedic Advisory Committee (RPAC) meetings annually.
- H. The timely reporting of infectious disease exposures to other involved health care providers and facilities and methods for timely medical care and prophylaxis (as appropriate) for IFT-P and other service provider personnel.
- Addressing the approved method for handling, transporting, storing, and disposing of biomedical waste.
- J. Regular inspection for and resupply of used or expired medications and equipment.
- 11. The full IFT-P medication and equipment inventory must be stocked on each IFT-P unit as described in OCEMS policy, subject to inspection at any time.
- 12. IFT-P service provider must stated agreement to pay all Orange County IFT-P service provider fees and fines as published by OCEMS.

#### IV. <u>HEARING/SUSPENSION/REVOCATION</u>:

- A. OCEMS shall review the approval of each IFT-P service provider at least every two years. Such approval may be changed, renewed, canceled or otherwise modified, when necessary.
- B. OCEMS may deny, suspend, or revoke the approval of an IFT-P service provider for failure to comply with state and county statutes, regulations, and ordinances or applicable OCEMS policies.
- C. A licensed IFT-P provider that has been suspended or revoked may request a hearing as described by Orange County Ordinance No. 3517 (Orange County Ambulance Ordinance); a copy of which may be viewed on the Orange County EMS Internet website.