
Advantage Ambulance, Inc.

BLS Code of Operations

CHAPTER 1, SECTION 47: *Ride-Along Rules (EMT Students)*

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CREATED: July 14, 2014

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REVISED: None

POLICY APPROVAL: Rick Hartsock, COO

SIGNATURE: 

POLICY APPROVAL: Ryan Hartsock, Director of Operations

SIGNATURE: 

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ARTICLE 4701:

EMS PROGRAMS

- A. The purpose of an student ride-along is to immerse the student in all aspects of Emergency Medical Services (EMS). **Advantage employees while assigned an EMT or Medic Student will show/teach the said student in the performance of their job & duties.**
- B. Advantage only allows students from approved, contracted EMS programs to do a ride-along with us. Any student wishing to do a ride-along must go through their instructor, coordinator or program director to sign up for a ride-along.
- C. The EMS Program agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Advantage, its representatives, employees, agents from and against any and all claims, actions, or liabilities that may be asserted against them by third parties in connection with the negligent performance of college, program, director, officers, employees, agents, or students under the contract.
- D. The EMS Program agrees to cover their students by their liability insurance.
- E. No party will discriminate against any student on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, religion, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or non-disqualifying handicap.
- F. The EMS Program agrees to will ensure that all students prior to ride-along shall have on file with the program the following:
 - 1. Immunization Records to include: MMR, Tetanus, Varicella and TB skin tests or chest x-rays.
 - 2. Current, valid BLS Provider CPR certification

ARTICLE 4702:

STUDENTS

- A. Students must show up on time for their scheduled ride-along. Late students shall be sent home and need to re-schedule their ride-along.

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- B. Students are required to bring a form of identification with a photo. All students shall sign a Advantage Release of Liability prior to the ride-along.
- C. **EMS Program evaluations for the ride-along must be brought by the student on the day of the ride-along. If a student does not bring their evaluation form, then their ride-along will be cancelled.**
- D. Students shall be in their school uniform, dressed professionally meeting both the programs and Advantage's Dress Code. **See Dress Code for specifications.**
- E. Students shall not operate, lift, or load a gurney with a patient on it.
- F. Students must wear seat belts at all times and PPE's on all responses.
- G. Students may only perform those medical procedures or functions that they are licensed to perform in the State of California, authorized by the LEMSA, and which are covered by the EMS Program's liability and malpractice insurance. Any treatment provided by students must be documented on the patient care report form.
- H. Field crews will not make any arrangements to pick up any ride-along or serve as transportation for a ride-along without the approval of the appropriate Supervisor or Communications Center.
- I. Management may revoke any ride-along authorization at its discretion, at any time.

ARTICLE 4703:

POLICY

- A. **Advantage crews while assigned a student are required to show and teach the student what their job and duties entail.** This shall include but not be limited to: unit check-out, vehicle cleanliness/maintenance, documentation standards/styles, how to obtain vital signs, assessments, proper body mechanics, radio communications, professionalism, and skills review. While educating and training students' Advantage employees shall be cautious as not to release private "in-house" company trade secrets.
- B. **Management, dispatcher, and field crews will not permit anyone to ride along that is not well groomed and properly attired.**
- C. Ride along may be issued a safety vest/jacket for use while engaged in ride-along functions. The vest/jacket must be returned to and collected by Advantage personnel assigned said ride-along.
- D. **The crew is responsible for the conduct, appearance, and demeanor of their ride-alongs at all times.**
- E. Ride-along students are **not** allowed to lift a patient while on the gurney. The student may however be trained on how to use the gurney, and may use the gurney with without

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a patient, so long as proper body mechanics are maintained.

- F. Ride-alongs should not be placed in any dangerous situation. Any problems encountered with a ride-along are to be reported immediately to the appropriate Supervisor.
- G. Crews must advise ride-alongs that in the case of multiple patients or a patient accompanied by other medical personnel which leaves no extra room in the unit, the ride-along may be left at the scene. Appropriate arrangements will be made through the Communications Center to transport the ride-along to the receiving facility.
- H. A crewmember must accompany students whenever they are present in the vehicle. Ride-alongs must never be left alone in the vehicle.

ARTICLE 4704:

DRESS CODE

- A. Students shall arrive in their complete school/program uniform. The uniform shall be worn in a professional manner at all times while on the ride-along. The uniform shall be kept clean, pressed and free of defects, stains, and hanging threads, buttons buttoned on arrival for duty.
- B. During cold or inclement weather students may only wear their school/program jacket or borrow one from Advantage, if one is available.
- C. Students shall wear EMS approved boots during their ride-along.
- D. Tattoos must be covered at all times. Students may wear a long sleeve uniform or a school/program approved sleeve.
- E. **Hats and beanie's are prohibited.**

F. PERSONAL GROOMING & HYGIENE:

1. **Students are required to maintain the highest standards of personal hygiene and grooming and shall present a neat professional appearance at all times.** Poor hygiene practices in the areas of general cleanliness, oral hygiene, haircut, face shave, and fingernails will not be tolerated. While use of deodorant or anti-perspirant is permissible and desirable, the company maintains a **"fragrance free" policy**. The use of colognes, perfumes or after-shave lotions that could have an adverse effect on patients should be avoided.
2. Hair be should clean, combed, and neatly trimmed or arranged. **Shaggy, dirty, unkempt hair or hair of an unnatural color or extremes of any hair style are not permitted.** All personnel must keep their hair groomed and a reasonable length to avoid any potential interference with vision or patient care.

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a) **Men:**

1. No beards or goatees.
2. Mustaches are not allowed to extend more than a quarter of an inch beyond the corner of the lip or below the vermillion line.
3. Required to be clean shaven at the beginning of their shift.
4. No earrings.
5. Hair must not extend beyond the top of the shirt collar.
6. Uniformed male personnel are required to maintain hair length of no more than a half an inch on the sides to two inches on the top.
7. Sideburns shall not extend beyond the bottom of the ear and will end in a clean-shaven, horizontal line. Mutton chops sideburns are not permitted.
8. **Tongue rings, nose rings and other extreme style jewelry are prohibited.**
9. One ring per hand will be allowed, necklaces must not be worn above the collar of the T-shirt.

b). **Women:**

1. No more than one pair of earrings which must be plain post-style earrings.
2. Female personnel are required to wear their hair pulled back. Otherwise hair must be pulled back or pinned up if the potential of hazard or interference with their ability to perform their duties exists.
3. No adornments shall be worn in the hair. Plain pins and clips are not considered adornments and are permitted.
4. Wearing of wigs or hairpieces are prohibited, unless they conform to all conditions of this policy.
5. Fingernails must be clean and neatly trimmed. Nail polish, if used, must be clear or flesh tone in color, fingernail tips may not exceed a quarter of an inch.
6. **Tongue rings, nose rings and other extreme style jewelry are prohibited.**
7. Makeup and lipstick may be used by female personnel in moderation. Extreme colors or amounts are prohibited.
8. One ring per hand will be allowed, necklaces must not be worn above the collar of the T-shirt.