



City of Ely Fire Department

1780 Great Basin Blvd.
Ely, Nevada 89301

Business Phone: (775) 289 6633
Fax: (775) 289 3122

Paramedic Program Development Request

OVERVIEW:

Currently the City of Ely Fire Department is providing Emergency Medical Services (EMS) at the Advanced Emergency Medical Technician level (AEMT).

The City of Ely Fire Department is requesting approval to begin providing Emergency Medical Services (EMS) at the Paramedic (NRP) level as well as development of a Critical Care Paramedic (CC-P) level/ Critical Care Transport (CCT). The request is a two part request meaning: Approval or denial for a Paramedic level 911 response and/or Approval or denial for a Critical Care Paramedic / Critical Care Transport service.

A paramedic (NRP) has a high level of pre-hospital medical training and involves key skills not performed by EMT's and AEMT's, often including cannulation (and with it the ability to use a range of drugs to relieve pain, correct cardiac problems, and perform endotracheal intubation), cardiac monitoring, tracheal intubation, pericardiocentesis, cardioversion, needle decompression and other skills such as performing a cricothyrotomy. The most important function of the paramedic is to identify and treat any life-threatening conditions and then to assess the patient carefully for other complaints or findings that may require emergency treatment. See Paramedic Protocols.

The Critical Care Paramedic (CC-P) / Critical Care Transport (CCT) would provide the City of Ely Fire Department the ability to provide ground transport when transport by air is unavailable and allowing billing at the CCT rates.

PROGRAM COST/ FUNDING:

Initial estimates indicate the program has a start up cost of about \$1,500 or less to be used from the current EMS budget. (No additional or unbudgeted requests from the City are needed).

The Paramedic program will generate a higher level of insurance billing per incident, call dependent. All associated costs will be recovered from insurance billing. CCT billing recovers a higher rate than 911 Paramedic.

State licensing is the same cost for ILS service as it is for ALS service.

Paramedic employee hourly wage nationally is \$16.04 and Nevada is \$21.11

Program is fully supported by Dr. G.N Christensen, Ely Volunteer Fire Department, White Pine County Sheriff's Office, Reach Air and Nevada State EMS Office. The Nevada State EMS Office has issued approvals on ALS Treatment Protocols and tentative approvals on the ALS license pending equipment inspections.



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Equipment needed:

Endotracheal Intubation Supplies \$2.95
Decompression \$11.95
Cricothyrotomy Kit \$ 30.00
Medications Case \$209.00
Narcotics Case \$42.00
Medications Safe \$89.00
PLUS BLS and ILS supplies currently in use and stocked

Medications needed: (See attached quotes, NOTE- price is usually associated with QTY's).

- The following narcotic medications are per vial.
- All non-narcotics are attached; ILS medications are also displayed on the quote.
- Most medications are good for 18-24 months.
- Most expensive Narcotic medication is Ketamine at \$19.48.
- Most expensive non-narcotic medication is Atropine at \$14.80

Narcotics

Fentanyl - \$4.29
Ketamine - \$19.48
Lorazepam - \$6.13
Midazolam - \$2.88
Morphine - \$3.76

Non-Narcotics

Magnesium Sulfate - \$2.50
Adenosine - \$5.50
Diltiazem - \$3.70
Lidocaine - \$3.60
Sodium Bicarb - \$12.00
Dopamine - \$13.00

CERTIFICATIONS:

Initial Certification:

- Assistance to Firefighter Grants (AFG) offers the ability to fully fund the initial training programs. What the grant doesn't cover is employee wages during the training.
- Ability to utilize Paramedic programs in Reno, Salt Lake City and McCook, NE that support the working Paramedic. Possibility exists to attend a Paramedic Program with Great Basin College, locally in Ely with minimal travel to Elko.

Re-certifications:

- Paramedics are required 60 hours every two years as compared to AEMT at 50 hours every two years.



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PROGRAM USE:

The national average indicates 75% of 911 calls could be handled by the AEMT level, including the “scoop and go method”, while Paramedic level is used 55%.

Translating this data into White Pine County would include speculation and interpretation without properly completing an accurate study of this data over a year. A cost/use analysis could accurately be completed within the first year of the program launch to determine sustainability.

PRO's and CON's

Paramedic PRO's

- Large knowledge base of pre-hospital medicine and procedures
- A large array of medications from cardiac to pain management
- Survival rate 38.38% higher then compared to AEMT (total call volume)
- Cardiac Arrest survival rate is 24% with advanced medications and interventions

Paramedic CON's

- Program cost higher then AEMT
- Initial Training education longer

TIERED SERVICE:

Under our current license from Nevada State EMS the City of Ely Fire Department is considered a tiered service. Tiered service means we can operate at the EMT or AEMT levels depending on our staffing. Adding the Paramedic level would allow us to operate in the same manner.

In the future as the program sustainability allows, Firefighter/Paramedics could be hired off the street to reduce any costs to the City or having to utilize grant finding to train new employees.

CONCLUSION:

Having a Paramedic level program with the City of Ely Fire Department would increase the pre-hospital medical care provided to the residents of the City and County, with incidents of Cardiac Arrest, Cardiac dysrhythmias, pain management and breathing problems topping the list of benefits. The program would generate a higher level of billing revenue for both the ALS and CCT. A 24% survival chance during a cardiac arrest event.

STEVE SISOLAK
Governor



LISA SHERYCH
Interim Administrator

RICHARD WHITLEY, MS
Director

IHSAN AZZAM, Ph.D., M.D.
Chief Medical Officer

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June 12, 2019

City Of Ely Fire Department
1780 Great Basin Blvd
Ely, NV 89301

Assistant Chief Bodie Golla,

The City of Ely's ALS protocols submitted on June 10, 2019 have been found to meet the National Standard as prescribed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and comply with the Nevada Administrative Codes (NAC) and Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) outlined in Chapter 450B.

Any updates or changes must be submitted to our office for review, prior to implementation.

These protocols may be implemented once your ALS permit has been approved and not before.

If our office can be of further assistance, please contact us at 775-687-7590.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Melanie Spencer".

Melanie Spencer, NRP
EMS Representative II, EMS Education Coordinator
Nevada Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public and Behavioral Health
Emergency Medical Services

cc: Donald Watson, EMS Program Manager
Nevada Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public and Behavioral Health
Emergency Medical Services

cc: Chief Ross Rivera
City Of Ely Fire Department



Nevada Department of
Health and Human Services
DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

*Helping People --
It's Who We Are And What We Do*

