

SUBJECT: **AMBULANCE VEHICLE AGE LIMIT
REQUIREMENTS AND EXEMPTIONS**

REFERENCE NO. 455

PURPOSE: To establish a procedure which identifies the age limit of an ambulance vehicle for licensing and to provide authorization for Los Angeles County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency staff to grant exemptions, if applicable, to the age limitations.

AUTHORITY: Los Angeles County Code, Title 7, Business Licenses Chapter 7.16 Ambulance, Section 7.16.210, Ambulance – Mechanical requirements.

PRINCIPLES:

1. The EMS Agency shall not grant or issue an ambulance vehicle license for any ambulance which at the time of application for the vehicle license is more than eight-years-old as defined by the initial date the vehicle was first put into service, provided that the date is not greater than one year from the date of its manufacture.
2. The Director of the EMS Agency may make individual exceptions to the eight-year-old age limitation where the public convenience and necessity would be served, provided that the vehicle meets all other inspection requirements for licensure.

POLICY:

I. Responsibilities:

- A. The EMS Agency, Ambulance Programs Section will not issue an initial/new ambulance vehicle business license to any ambulance vehicle which is greater than eight-years of age.
- B. For currently licensed ambulance vehicles which are eight-years of age, the Ambulance Operator/Provider must submit a written request for an ambulance vehicle age limit exemption to the Director of the EMS Agency a minimum of 30-days prior to the vehicle reaching the eight-year age limit.
- C. Provided all other inspection requirements for licensure are met, EMS Agency staff may provide an age limit exemption not to exceed two years for a total vehicle age limit of ten years.

II. PROCEDURE:

A. Initial Ambulance Vehicle Licensure

1. An ambulance operator may request initial licensure of an ambulance vehicle which is less than eight-years of age.

EFFECTIVE: 09-01-10

PAGE 1 OF 3

REVISED: 08-01-12

SUPERSEDES: 09-01-10

APPROVED:


Director, EMS Agency


Medical Director, EMS Agency

2. Upon receipt of such request (written or verbal) and the applicable licensing fee, an ambulance vehicle inspection of medical equipment and supplies which meets the requirements of Reference No. 710, Basic Life Support Ambulance Equipment shall be scheduled.
3. Each ambulance vehicle which is to be licensed must have a patient compartment which meets the specifications of Section 7.16.125 – Ambulance – Design requirements, of the Los Angeles County Code.
4. At the time of the vehicle inspection/license issuance, copies of the following additional vehicle documents are required:
 - a. California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Registration;
 - b. Insurance identification card;
 - c. The California Highway Patrol (CHP) inspection sheet and original CHP ambulance identification certificate. For new fleet vehicles, a copy of the CHP inspection sheet shall serve as the temporary operating authorization for 30 days following the date of inspection by the CHP.
 - d. Odometer testing and certification issued by the Los Angeles County Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures. Ambulance Operators whose primary location is outside of Los Angeles County, must comply with the odometer testing requirements of the County of origin, and must provide a copy of that County's certification or, if unavailable, a certificate from a state certified agency documenting the accuracy of each vehicle odometer.

NOTE: Special events only operators, who do not charge for mileage are exempt from the odometer testing requirement.

5. Upon successful completion of all of the above requirements, an ambulance vehicle business license will be requested from the Treasurer and Tax Collector (TTC) and a vehicle County seal will be placed on the left rear portion of the vehicle.
6. The ambulance vehicle business license will be forwarded by the EMS Agency to the applicable provider upon receipt from the TTC. If not received from the TTC within 30-days, EMS Agency staff shall follow-up with the TTC to determine status.

B. Maintaining Ambulance Vehicle Licensure

1. In order to maintain continuous ambulance vehicle licensure, an ambulance operator must ensure that each of the requirements specified in II. A. 1-6 above are maintained and updated documentation submitted to the EMS Agency as it is received.

2. At least 30-days prior to an ambulance vehicle reaching its eight-year age limit, the ambulance operator must submit a written request for an exemption to the age limit requirement to the EMS Agency Director.
3. Upon receipt of an ambulance vehicle age limit exemption request, provided all other requirements are current and up-to-date, a two-year extension of the age limit will be granted and written acknowledgement provided to the ambulance operator.
4. A copy of the written acknowledgement/age limit exemption approval letter shall be maintained by the ambulance operator and a copy kept with the vehicle.
5. Upon expiration of the two-year extension/exemption of the ambulance vehicle age limit, no further exemptions will be issued with out specific prior consent of the EMS Agency Director.

CROSS REFERENCES:

Prehospital Care Manual:

Ref. No. 710, **Basic Life Support Ambulance Equipment**

Ref. No. 450, **Los Angeles County Code, Title 7, Business Licenses, Division 2, Chapter 7.16 Ambulances**

Ref. No. 454, **Ambulance Vehicle Color Scheme and Insignia Guidelines**