

**CHAPTER 7  
AMBULANCE SERVICE\***

- Art. I. In General, §§ 7-1-7-21  
Art. II. Business License, §§ 7-22-7-41  
Art. III. Attendant and Attendant-Driver Licenses, §§ 7-42-7-49

**ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL**

**Sec. 7-1. Purpose.**

The transportation of sick or injured persons by public or private ambulance is a matter closely affecting the public interest and welfare. The health, safety and welfare of the people of the city require that ambulances be in sound and safe condition and adequately equipped to provide emergency first-aid, and that ambulance personnel be trained and qualified to administer emergency first-aid attention to sick or injured persons. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, § 101; Code 1972, § 7.241)

**Sec. 7-2. Definitions.**

The following words and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them:

*Ambulance* means any privately or publicly owned motor vehicle that is specially designed or constructed and equipped, and is intended to be used for and is maintained or operated for the transportation of patients, including dual purpose police patrol cars and funeral coaches or hearses which otherwise comply with the provisions of this chapter.

*Attendant* means a trained or qualified individual responsible for the operation of an ambulance, and the care of the patients, whether or not the attendant also serves as driver.

*Attendant-driver* means an individual who is qualified as an attendant and a driver.

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•State law references-Licensing and operation of ambulances, MCL § 257.1201 et seq., MSA § 14.528(51) et seq.; authority of city to adopt ordinance meeting not less than minimum requirements of state law, MCL § 257.1214, MSA § 14.528(64).

*Driver* means an individual who drives an ambulance and meets the qualifications of this chapter.

*Dual purpose police patrol car* means a vehicle, operated by a police department, which is equipped as an ambulance, even though it is also used for patrol or other police purposes.

*Health officer* means the health officer or any other official designated by the city commission to perform the duties of health officer described herein.

*License officer* means the city clerk or any other official designated by the city commission to perform the duties of license officer described herein.

*Patient* means an individual who is sick, injured, wounded or otherwise incapacitated or helpless. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, § 102; Code 1972, § 7.242) Cross reference-Definitions and rules of construction generally, § 1-2. State law reference-Similar definitions, MCL § 257.1201, MSA § 14.528(51).

### **Sec. 7-3. Exemptions from chapter provisions.**

(a) An ambulance operated by an agency of the United States shall not be required to be licensed under this chapter.

(b) No license shall be required for an ambulance, or for the driver, attendant or attendant-driver of an ambulance, which:

(1) Is rendering assistance to licensed ambulances in the case of a major catastrophe or emergency with which the licensed ambulances of the city are insufficient or unable to cope;

(2) Is operated from a location or headquarters outside the city in order to transport patients who are picked up beyond the limits of the city to locations within the city or to transport patients who are picked up within the city to locations beyond the limits of the city, but no such outside ambulance shall be used to pick up patients within the city, for transportation to locations within the city, unless the driver, attendant and attendant-driver and the person subject to the provisions of subsection (a) of this section in respect of such ambulance, hold currently valid licenses issued pursuant to this chapter. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch.2, §§ 103.1, 103.3; Code 1972, § 7.243)

### **Sec. 7-4. Standards generally.**

Each ambulance licensed under this article shall, at all times when in use as such:

(1) Conform with the standards, requirements and regulations provided for in this chapter for the transportation of patients, from the standpoint of health, sanitation and safety, and the nature of the premises from which it is maintained;

- (2) Contain equipment conforming with the standards, requirements and regulations provided for herein, which equipment shall be in proper and good condition for such use;
- (3) Currently comply with all applicable laws and local ordinances relating to health, sanitation and safety; and
- (4) Be equipped with such lights, sirens and special markings to designate it as an ambulance as may be prescribed in reasonable regulations promulgated by the license officer or the city commission. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, § 105.1; Code 1972, § 7.245)

**Sec. 7-5. Standards for ambulance equipment-Duties of license officer and licensees.**

- (a) The license officer shall promulgate and apply the standards for ambulance equipment as certified by the health officer pursuant to the provisions of section 7-6.
- (b) Each licensee of an ambulance shall at all times comply with the standards established by the license officer under the provisions of this section. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, § 108; Code 1972, § 7.248)  
State law reference-Vehicle licensing requirements, MCL § 257.1207, MSA § 14.528(57).

**Sec. 7-6. Same-Duties of health officer.**

- (a) Required equipment in each ambulance shall include equipment adequate in the judgment of the health officer for dressing wounds, splinting fractures, controlling hemorrhage and providing oxygen.
- (b) The health officer is authorized and directed to certify to the license officer standards for ambulance equipment to implement the standards provided herein as to required equipment in ambulances. In determining the adequacy of equipment, the health officer shall take into consideration the current list of minimal equipment for ambulances adopted by the American College of Surgeons or its duly authorized committee on trauma. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, § 109; Code 1972, § 7.249)

**Sec. 7-7. Periodic inspections.**

- (a) Subsequent to issuance of any ambulance license under this chapter, the license officer shall cause to be inspected each licensed vehicle, and its equipment and premises, whenever he deems such inspection to be necessary, but in any event, no less frequently than twice a year. The periodic inspection required hereunder shall be in addition to any other safety or motor vehicle inspection

required to be made for ambulances or other motor vehicles, or other inspections required to be made, under general law or ordinances, and shall not excuse compliance with any requirement of law or ordinance to display any official certificate of motor vehicle inspection and approval nor excuse compliance with the requirements of any other applicable general law or ordinance.

(b) Each licensed ambulance, its equipment and the premises designated in the application and all records relating to its maintenance and operation as such, shall be open to inspection by the license officer or his designated representatives during usual hours of operation.

(c) A copy of each initial, semiannual or other ambulance, equipment and premises inspection report by the license officer under the provisions of this section shall be promptly transmitted to the applicant or licensee to whom it refers. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, §§ 105.4, 107.4, 107.5; Code 1972, §7.247)

### **Sec. 7-8. Reports required.**

(a) Each licensee of an ambulance under this chapter shall maintain accurate records, upon such forms as may be provided or prescribed by, and containing such information as may be required by the license officer concerning the transportation of each patient within the city or from one place herein to another place within or beyond its limits. Such records shall be available for inspection by the license officer at any reasonable time and copies thereof shall be filed by the licensee within twenty-four (24) hours upon request by the license officer.

(b) The provisions of subsection (a) shall apply with equal force in case the patient shall die before being so transported in such ambulance or dies while being transported therein or at any time prior to the acceptance of the patient into the responsibility of the hospital or medical or other authority if the patient is still under the care or responsibility of the ambulance licensee. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, § 114; Code 1972, § 7.254)

### **Sec. 7-9. Obedience to traffic laws, ordinances and regulations.**

(a) The driver of an ambulance, when responding to an emergency call or while transporting a patient, may exercise the privileges set forth in this section, but subject to the conditions herein stated, and only when such driver has reasonable grounds to believe that an emergency in fact exists requiring the exercise of such privileges.

(b) Subject to the provisions of subsection (a), the driver of an ambulance may:

(1) Park or stand, irrespective of the otherwise applicable provisions of law, ordinance or regulations;

(2) Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down as may be necessary for safe operation;

(3) Exceed the maximum speed limits permitted by law, ordinance or regulation so long as he does not endanger life or property; and

(4) Disregard laws, ordinances or regulations governing directions or movement or turning in specified directions.

(c) The exemptions herein granted shall apply only when such ambulance is making use of audible and visual signals meeting the requirements of law, ordinance or regulation.

(d) The foregoing provisions shall not relieve the driver of an ambulance from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons, nor shall such provisions protect the driver from the consequences of his reckless disregard for the safety of others. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, § 115; Code 1972, § 6.255)

Cross reference-Traffic and motor vehicles generally, Ch. 41.

State law references-Similar provisions, MCL §257.1208, MSA § 14.528(58); emergency vehicles under motor vehicle code, MCL § 257.603,MSA § 9.2303.

#### **Sec. 7-10. Defacing licenses prohibited.**

No official entry made upon a license issued under this chapter may be defaced, removed or obliterated. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, §§ 105.5, 111.4; Code 1972, § 7.251)

#### **Secs. 7-11-7-21. Reserved.**

### **ARTICLE II. BUSINESS LICENSE\***

#### **Sec. 7-22. Required.**

No person, either as owner, agent or otherwise, shall furnish, operate, conduct, maintain, advertise or otherwise be engaged in or profess to be engaged in the business or service of the transportation of patients upon the streets, alleys or any public way or place of the city, unless he holds a current valid license for an ambulance, issued pursuant to this article. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, § 103.1; Code 1972, §7.243)

State law reference-Necessity for state license, MCL § 257.1203, MSA § 14.528(53).

#### **Sec. 7-23. Application; contents; fee.**

Application for ambulance licenses under this article shall be made upon such

forms as may be prepared or prescribed by the license officer and shall contain:

- (1) The name and address of the applicant and the owner of the ambulance;
- (2) The trade name or other fictitious name, if any, under which the applicant does business and proposes to do- business;
- (3) The training and experience of the applicant in the transportation and care of patients;
- (4) A description of each ambulance, including the make, model, year of manufacture, motor and chassis number; current state license number; the length of time the ambulance has been in use; and the color scheme, insignia, name, monogram or other distinguishing characteristics to be used to designate the applicant's ambulance;

•cross reference-Licenses generally, Ch. 21.

- (5) The location and description of the place or places from which it is intended to operate;
- (6) Such other information as the license officer shall deem reasonably necessary to a fair determination of compliance with this chapter;
- (7) An accompanying license fee as prescribed in section 21-24. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, § 104; Code 1972, § 7.244)  
State law reference-Application for a state license, MCL§ 257.1205, MSA § 14.528(55).

#### **Sec. 7-24. Approval of city commission.**

No license for ambulance service shall be issued under this article until the affirmative determination by the city commission that the public convenience and necessity require such proposed ambulance service for which application has been submitted. This requirement shall not apply to renewal of an existing license. In determining whether public convenience and necessity require the licensing of the proposed ambulance service, the city commission shall consider whether the public is, at the time, adequately being served by ambulance service, the financial responsibility of the applicant, the number, kind and type of equipment proposed to be used, the schedule of rates proposed to be charged, the increased traffic congestion upon the streets of the city, the demand for increased parking space upon the streets which will result, whether the safe use of the streets by the public, both vehicular and pedestrian, will be preserved, and such other facts as the city commission shall consider relevant. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, § 103.4)

#### **Sec. 7-25. Liability insurance prerequisite to issuance.**

(a) No ambulance license shall be issued under this article, nor shall such license be valid after issuance, nor shall any ambulance be operated in the city unless there is at all times in force and effect insurance coverage, issued by an insurance company licensed to do business in the state, for each and every ambulance owned or operated by or for the applicant or licensee in the city providing:

(1) For injury to or death of individuals in accidents resulting from any cause for which the owner of the ambulance would be liable on account of liability imposed on him by law, regardless of whether the ambulance was being driven by the owner or his agent; and

(2) Against damage to the property of another, including personal property, under like circumstances;

in such sums and under such terms as may be required in regulations promulgated by the license officer or the city commission.

(b) Such insurance policies shall be submitted to the license officer for approval by the city attorney prior to the issuance of each ambulance license. Satisfactory evidence that such insurance is at all times in force and effect shall be furnished to the license officer, in such form as he may specify.

(c) Every insurance policy required hereunder shall extend for the period to be covered by the license applied for and the insurer shall be obliged to give not less than ten (10) days' written notice to the license officer and to the insured before any cancellation or termination of the policy earlier than its expiration date and the cancellation or other termination of any such policy shall automatically revoke and terminate the licenses issued for the ambulances covered by such policy, unless another insurance policy complying with the provisions of this section shall be provided and be in effect at the time of such cancellation or termination. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, § 106; Code 1972, § 7.246)

### **Sec. 7-26. Investigation.**

The license officer shall, within ten (10) days after receipt of an application for an ambulance license, cause such investigation as he deems necessary to be made of the applicant and of his proposed operations. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, § 107.1; Code 1972, § 7.247)

### **Sec. 7-27. Term; conditions for issuance; inspection.**

(a) Subject to the other provisions of this chapter, the license officer shall issue a license for a specified ambulance, to be valid for a period of one year, when he finds that:

(1) The ambulance, its required equipment and the premises designated in the application comply with the standards prescribed in sections 7-4, 7-5 and 7-6;

(2) The applicant is a responsible and proper person to conduct or work in the proposed business;

(3) Only duly licensed drivers, attendants and attendant-drivers are employed in such capacities; and

(4) All of the requirements of this chapter and all other applicable laws and ordinances have been met.

(b) Prior to the issuance of any ambulance license, the license officer shall cause to be inspected the vehicles, equipment and premises designated in each application hereunder, to determine compliance with the standards prescribed in sections 7-4, 7-5 and 7-6. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, §§ 107.2, 107.3; Code 1972, § 7.247)

#### **Sec. 7-28. Transfer.**

(a) Any change of ownership of a licensed ambulance shall terminate the license and shall require a new application and a new license and conformance with all the requirements of this chapter as upon original licensing.

(b) Application for transfer of any ambulance license to another or substitute vehicle shall require conformance with all the requirements of this chapter as upon original licensing. No ambulance license may be sold, assigned, mortgaged or otherwise transferred without the approval of the license officer and a finding of conformance with all the requirements of this chapter as upon original licensing. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, §§ 105.2, 105.3; Code 1972, § 7.245)

#### **Sec. 7-29. Renewal.**

Renewal of any license under this article, upon expiration for any reason or after revocation, shall require conformance with all the requirements of this chapter as upon original licensing. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, § 112; Code 1972, § 7.252)

#### **Sec. 7-30. Revocation.**

(a) The license officer may, and is hereby authorized to, suspend or revoke a license issued under this article for failure of a licensee to comply and to maintain compliance with, or for his violation of, any applicable provisions, standards or requirements of this chapter, or of regulations promulgated hereunder.

(b) The initial, semiannual or other ambulance, equipment and premise



inspection reports of the license officer herein provided for shall be prima facie evidence of compliance or noncompliance with, or violation of, the provisions, standards and requirements provided herein, and of the regulations promulgated hereunder, for the licensing of ambulances.

(c) Upon suspension, revocation or termination of an ambulance license, usage of the vehicle affected by the revocation or suspension as an ambulance shall cease. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, § 113; Code 1972, § 7.253)

**Secs. 7-31-7-41. Reserved.**

### **ARTICLE III. ATTENDANT AND ATTENDANT- DRIVER LICENSES•**

**Sec. 7-42. Required.**

No ambulance shall be operated, and no individual shall drive, attend or permit it to be operated as such on the streets, alleys or any public way or place of the city unless it shall be under the immediate supervision and direction of a person who is holding a currently valid license as an attendant-driver or attendant. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, §103.2; Code 1972, § 7.243)

**Sec. 7-43. Exemption.**

The driver of an ambulance shall not be required to be licensed under this article if he has a currently valid driver's or chauffeur's license and is accompanied in the ambulance by a licensed attendant or attendant-driver, or if in an emergency he drives an ambulance which is provided by an employer for the sole use and protection of employees of such employer in an emergency.

**Sec. 7-44. Application; contents; fee.**

Applications for attendant and attendant-driver licenses hereunder shall be made upon such forms as may be prepared or purchased by the license officer and shall contain:

- (1) The applicant's full name, current residence and places of residence for three (3) years previous to moving to his present address;
- (2) The applicant's age, marital status, height, color of eyes and hair;
- (3) Whether he has ever been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor, and if so, when and where and for what cause;

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•Cross reference-Licenses generally, Ch. 21.

State law reference-State licensing of attendants and drivers, MCL

§ 257.1209, MSA § 14.528(59).

(4) The applicant's training and experience in the transportation and care of patients, and whether he has previously been licensed as a driver, chauffeur, attendant or attendant-driver, and if so, when and where, and whether his license has ever been revoked or suspended in any jurisdiction and for what cause;

(5) Affidavits of good character from two (2) reputable citizens of the United States and residents of the State of Michigan who have personally known such applicant and observed his conduct during one year next preceding the date of his application;

(6) Two (2) photographs of the applicant, to be furnished by the city police department, one of which shall be attached to the license;

(7) Such other information as the license officer shall deem reasonably necessary to a fair determination of compliance with this article;

(8) An accompanying license fee as required in section 21-24. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, § 110; Code 1972, §7.250)

#### **Sec. 7-45. Investigation.**

The license officer shall, within a reasonable time after receipt of an application as provided for in this article, cause such investigation as he deems necessary to be made of the applicant for an attendant or attendant-driver license. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, § 111.1; Code 1972, § 7.251)

#### **Sec. 7-46. Term; conditions for issuance.**

Subject to the other provisions of this article, the license officer shall issue a license to an attendant or attendant-driver hereunder, valid for a period of one year, when he finds that:

(1) The applicant is not addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors or narcotics, and is morally fit for the position;

(2) The applicant is able to speak, read and write the English language;

(3) The applicant has been found by a duly licensed physician, upon examination attested to on a form provided by the health officer, to be of sound physique, possessing eyesight corrected to at least 20-40 in the better eye, and free of physical defects or diseases which might impair the ability to drive or attend an ambulance; and

(4) For each applicant for attendant or attendant-driver license, that such

applicant has a currently valid certificate evidencing successful completion of a course of training equivalent to the advanced course in first aid given by the American Red Cross or the United States Bureau of Mines;

provided, however, that no one shall be licensed as an attendant-driver unless he holds a currently valid license to drive an automobile. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, § 111.2; Code 1972, § 7.251)

#### **Sec. 7-47. Transfer.**

A license as attendant or attendant-driver issued under this article shall not be assignable or transferable. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, § 111.3; Code 1972, § 7.251)

#### **Sec. 7-48. Renewal.**

Renewal of any license issued under this article, upon expiration for any reason or after revocation, shall require conformance with all the requirements of this article as upon original licensing. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, § 112; Code 1972, § 7.252)

#### **Sec. 7-49. Revocation.**

(a) The license officer may, and is hereby authorized to, suspend or revoke a license issued under this article for failure of a license to comply and to maintain compliance with, or for his violation of, any applicable provisions standards or requirements of this chapter, or of regulations promulgated hereunder.

(b) Upon suspension, revocation or termination of an attendant or attendant-driver license hereunder, such attendant or attendant-driver shall cease to drive or attend an ambulance and no person shall employ or permit such individual to drive or attend an ambulance. (Gen. Code 1946, Ch. 2, §§ 113.1, 113.3; Code 1972, § 7.253)