

ALS Quick Response Vehicles

Definition: The ALS Quick Response Vehicles are designed to provide quicker response of advanced life support personnel to the scene of a medical or traumatic emergency.

CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY

Personnel assigned to operate the quick-response vehicles (Medic 6 and Medic 7) must meet the following criteria:

1. Be a nationally registered and state licensed EMT-paramedic.
2. Have current all certifications/licenses required by RFAAS.
3. Be an active member in good standing on our service.
4. Have at least six months ALS provider experience, either on RFAAS or elsewhere. ALS refers to having experience at the EMT-I/99 or EMT-paramedic level, and having participated in, or been lead on runs in an ALS ambulance at that level and as that level of provider.
5. The privilege to operate as Medic 6 or Medic 7 is not a right and can be suspended at any time by the Director or Operations Supervisor.
6. It will be assumed that all RFAAS paramedics will wish to operate from time to time as Medic 6 or Medic 7 however, it is not necessary that they do so. Any paramedic not wishing to operate as Medic 6 or Medic 7 should so advise the Director and Operations Supervisor for scheduling purposes.
7. All paramedics wishing to operate as Medic 6 or Medic 7 must complete the quick-response vehicle orientation described below.

ORIENTATION

Orientation will begin after all the above criteria have been met and will include completion of the following:

1. Quick response vehicle orientation presentation
2. Patient care and medications test
3. Mapping test
4. Quick-response vehicle equipment test
5. Equipment and skills check-offs
6. Driving test

DAILY ASSIGNMENT

1. The primary paramedic will operate the primary quick-response (Medic 6) vehicle and will be the first out paramedic on all calls. The backup paramedic will operate the backup quick-response (Medic 7) vehicle and will be the second out paramedic on all calls. Exceptions with regard to the backup paramedic may be made as coordinated if there is a paramedic on the backup ambulance. Twelve hour shifts, or multiples thereof, are preferred for Medic 6 and Medic 7.

2. The assigned person responding in the vehicle shall be in full uniform. Jumpsuits are acceptable between 2200 hrs and 0600 hrs.
3. During shift change, Medic 6 and Medic 7 vehicles must be at the 175 Cedar Street station a minimum of 5 minutes prior to shift change. Exceptions are being on a call or prior mutually agreed upon arrangements between paramedics involved.
4. Fuel levels should not be below $\frac{3}{4}$ at shift change.
5. Medic 6 will be stationed at the RFAAS station on Cedar Street, except that the paramedic to whom it is assigned may operate it from home if, and only if, that person lives within 5 minutes of the station. It will be the duty of the paramedic to whom the vehicle is assigned to make sure that the status board on the hallway-to-bay door accurately reflects where the vehicle is responding from, whether it be from the station, from the paramedic's home, or from a roving location. Roving locations must be within the city of River Falls.
6. Medic 7 will be stationed anywhere in the RFAAS service area that is within 12 minutes from the Cedar Street station, with the backup paramedic. Medic 7 will begin to relocate to a position within 5 minutes of the 175 Cedar Street station immediately upon Medic 6 being paged.

DAILY USE AND CARE

1. Once the ambulance has been paged, the quick response vehicle goals for going en route are within 90 seconds between 0600 and 2200 hrs and 120 seconds between 2200 and 0600 hrs.
2. Only properly trained paramedic personnel will be allowed to drive the vehicle with lights and siren. All other personnel must drive the vehicle in a non-emergent status.
3. Seatbelts must be worn by all occupants when vehicle is in motion.
4. Smoking or tobacco use is prohibited inside the vehicle at all times.
5. Drivers must use due regard for posted signs, traffic laws and road conditions when driving emergent. No excessive speeds will be allowed.
6. The vehicle shall be kept clean and free of dirt and salt. Occasional vacuuming may also be necessary to keep the inside clean.
7. Vehicle equipment checks must be done by the person accepting responsibility for the vehicle. Checks will be documented using the provided sheet(s).
8. If you are taking the vehicle home and do not have a heated garage, you **MUST** plug the vehicle in if the temperature is, or is forecast, to drop below 45 degrees during your time at home, if that time is to exceed one (1) hour. The vehicle is also equipped with an engine heater, which must be plugged in during cold (below 30 degrees) temperatures.

RESPONDING ON CALLS

911 Calls

1. The ALS quick response vehicle shall respond lights and siren to all 911 medical emergencies unless the caller advises otherwise or the current conditions warrant no lights or sirens.
2. Once on scene, the vehicle should be parked to not impede the ambulance(s) response.

3. The vehicle engine and lights should be turned off if lengthy scene time is projected. The vehicle should remain locked at all times when nobody is in the vehicle.
4. Occasionally, law enforcement may request the quick response vehicle only for evaluation of a patient. The ambulance would not respond. However, if the ALS person arrives on scene and determines the patient will need transport, the ambulance will be paged to respond to the scene.

Fire Calls

1. The ALS quick response vehicle will only respond (non-emergent) to fire alarms when there is no back-up crew or if requested by EMS, fire or law enforcement on scene. The vehicle will respond emergent if there is any potential of patients at time of page.
2. Once on scene, the vehicle must be parked to not impede any fire vehicles responding to scene. The vehicle should be parked as to not be blocked in by any responding fire or EMS vehicles.
3. The ALS quick response vehicle may self release at any time after the arrival of the ambulance crew if there are no patients to evaluate.

ALS Intercepts or ALS Mutual Aid where No Ambulance is Needed

1. The ALS quick response vehicle will respond directly to the requested location.
2. Once on scene, attempt to park vehicle in field driveway or off the roadway to avoid road hazards.
3. The vehicle engine and lights must be turned off. The vehicle must be secured prior to departure from scene.

Mutual Aid

1. The ALS quick response vehicle will respond directly to the ambulance station for mutual aid calls.
2. A back up ALS person can use the vehicle until the primary ALS person returns.

ALS Interfacility Transfers

1. The ALS quick response vehicle shall attempt to respond to the ambulance station first to meet the ambulance, but if unable, may respond to the hospital. If responding to the hospital, the ALS person must notify the back up crew where the vehicle is located.