



R4COUNTY OF VENTURA HEALTH CARE AGENCY		EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	
Policy Title: First Responder Advanced Life Support Providers		Policy Number: 508	
APPROVED: Administration:	 Steven L. Carroll, Paramedic	Date: January 3, 2023	
APPROVED: Medical Director	 Daniel Shepherd, MD	Date: January 3, 2023	
Origination Date:	June 1, 1997	Effective Date: January 3, 2023	
Date Revised:	September 8, 2022		
Date Last Reviewed:	September 8, 2022		
Review Date:	September 30, 2025		

- I. Purpose: To define the criteria for First Responder Advanced Life Support (FRALS) providers.
- II. Authority: Health and Safety Code, Sections 1797.206, 1797.220, and 1798. California Code of Regulations, Section 100168
- III. Definition: First Responder Advanced Life Support (FRALS) means a non-transport ALS resource that is dispatched as part of the routine EMS response to a medical emergency.
- IV. Policy:
 - A. **FRALS Provider Requirements:**
A FRALS provider approved by Ventura County EMS (VC EMS) shall:
 1. Provide medical services response on a continuous twenty-four (24) hours per day basis 7 days a week. Any change in response capability of the provider must be reported to VC EMS immediately.
 2. **ALS Unit Coverage and Staffing:**
 - a. FRALS units shall meet the requirements of Policy 504 and
 1. Shall be staffed at a minimum with two (2) personnel, of which one shall be a paramedic who meets the applicable requirements of VC EMS Policy 318.
 2. Other personnel may be a paramedic who meets the requirements of VC EMS Policy 318 or an EMT-ALS Assist who meets the requirements of VC EMS Policy 306.
 3. **ALS Communications**
Provide two-way communication capability between the paramedics and the Base Hospital. All radio equipment shall comply with VC EMS Policy 905.

4. **Satellite Phone**

Each FRALS provider shall have access to a satellite phone. The device must be active with a satellite service provider and shall be readily deployable 24 hours a day for disaster communication purposes. The FRALS provider will participate in occasional VC EMS sponsored satellite phone exercises. VC EMS will supply all providers with a current list of satellite phone contact numbers. Any changes to the satellite phone contact information shall immediately be forwarded to VC EMS.

5. **Written Agreement with VC EMS**

Have a written agreement with VC EMS to participate in the ALS program and to comply with all applicable State legislation and regulations, and local ordinances and policies and procedures.

6. **Medical Direction**

Assure that paramedics perform medical procedures only under specific orders of a physician or Ventura County authorized MICN except when operating under "Prior to Base Hospital Contact and per VCEMS Policy 705".

7. **Personnel records**

Keep a personnel file for each paramedic and EMT, which includes but not limited to licensure/certification, accreditation, employment status and performance.

8. **Certifications**

ACLS certification and a Handtevy Pediatric Provider Course.

Assure that each paramedic maintains current ACLS certification and current Handtevy Pediatric Provider Course.

9. **Quality Assurance**

Assist the VC EMS, Pre-hospital Services Committee, and EMS Medical Director in data collection and evaluation of the VC EMS system.

10. **Equipment:**

FRALS shall carry the following equipment:

a. **ALS Drugs, Equipment and Supplies**

Provide and maintain ALS drugs, solutions, medical equipment and supplies as specified by VC EMS Policy 504: BLS and ALS Unit Supplies and Equipment, FR/ALS column.

- b. BLS Equipment as described in VC EMS Policy 504: BLS and ALS Unit Supplies and Equipment, FR/ALS column.
- c. Manual or automatic defibrillator per VC EMS Policy 306.

11. **Security Mechanisms**

Ensure that security mechanisms and procedures are established for controlled substances and that mechanisms for investigation and mitigation of suspected tampering or diversion are established, in accordance with section 100168 of the California Code of Regulations

12. **Documentation**

Submit documentation according to VC EMS Policy 1000.

B. **ALS Policy Development**

Medical policies and procedures for the VC EMS system shall be developed by the Prehospital Services Committee for recommendation to and approval by the EMS Medical Director.

C. **Agreement Review**

VC EMS shall review its agreement with each FRALS provider on an annual basis.

D. **Denial, suspension, or Revocation of FRALS Provider Approval**

VC EMS may deny, suspend, or revoke the approval of an FRALS provider for failure to comply with applicable policies, procedures, and regulation. Requests for review or appeal of such decisions shall be brought to the Pre-hospital Services Committee and the Board of Supervisors for appropriate action.

E. **FRALS Provider Review Process, New Designation**

Newly designated FRALS providers shall undergo review for six (6) months according to VC EMS policies and procedures.