

Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)

BETWEEN

Department of Health and Hospitals,

AND

EMS PROVIDER NAME: _____

EMS Providers receiving Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) Emergency Preparedness Grant Funds must enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Health and Hospitals to provide ambulances, air medical transportation, personnel and equipment in response to a public health emergency. This document is a binding contract as well as a guideline for operations.

- I. **Introduction:** There is a recognizable need to coordinate EMS Operations in the event of a natural or man-made disaster or a terrorist attack on the United States, including Louisiana. Agreements for the provision of on-scene triage, medical care, transportation of patients and evacuees to and from residences and/or treatment facilities will be adopted by the Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Providers in the State of Louisiana.

- II. **Overview:** It is agreed that EMS Provider: _____ in DHH Region __ will provide medical support to the Department of Health and Hospitals in the form of First Responders, EMTs, Paramedics, and the necessary equipment including ambulances and transportation vehicles at the site of disaster and/or public health emergency. The Department of Health and Hospitals may provide appropriate training for the administration necessary for the adequate protection and performance of EMS provider's personnel.

- III. **Goals of Medical Support Activity:**
 1. Enhance patient/evacuee triage, medical treatment, transport, and transfer of care during emergencies and disasters.

 2. Develop and/or enhance regional transfer/transport agreements and regional surge plans.

3. Reduce the likelihood of death, injury, and/or illness and their related effects to response personnel, victims, and bystanders.
4. Enhance the working relationship between pre-hospital and hospitals and the Department of Health and Hospitals, BEMS, LERN and other stakeholders in the Emergency Preparedness and Response community.

IV. Responsibilities of the EMS Provider:

1. Acquire and maintain standardized emergency medical equipment, supplies, triage systems, personal protective equipment, and nerve antidote for responders according to the recommendations of DHH.
2. Acquire and maintain communication systems that are interoperable between other emergency responders including but not limited to DHH, fire departments, law enforcement, hospitals, LERN, and other EMS Providers.
3. Regional Plan: Participate in the development, implementation and training of regional plans that address natural disasters, CBRNE agents, mass fatality or other mass casualty hazards.
4. Participation in the DHH data collection activities such as MStat or DHH Needs Assessment, or other predetermined pre-hospital data for disaster planning for response purposes.
5. EMS Providers unable to dedicate ambulances for a regional or state response must make available supplies and/or equipment in accordance with the HHS Emergency Preparedness Grant Funds for a regional or state response. An addendum or waiver to the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) outlining the conditions is required to be eligible for ~~HHS~~-HPP Emergency Preparedness Grant Funds.
6. In addition to federal grant regulations, each EMS Provider must follow the manufacturer's instructions and guidelines on use, storage, and handling of antidotes, medication, and lifesaving equipment required to be purchased and available for use including temperature and expiration recommendations.

V. Responsibilities of Department of Health and Hospitals

1. **Guidance:** Provide technical assistance to ensure that policies and procedures are adhered to for HPP grant compliance to state and federal rules and regulations.
2. **Training:** Offer training opportunities for EMS service providers.
3. **Data Collection:** Provide guidelines, tools and technical assistance for data collection.

VI. Training and Qualifications

1. EMS members should be a Certified First Responder, EMT-Basic, EMT-Intermediate, or EMT-Paramedic and will be required to maintain current certification through the National Registry of EMTs and DHH BEMS.
2. Each service will become and maintain National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliance for health care providers.
3. Training and qualifications are the ultimate responsibility of each EMS Provider despite training offered by the DHH Bureau of Emergency Medical Services.

The principles and policies of this memorandum of agreement are hereby understood and agreed upon by the Department of Health and Hospitals and EMS Provider indicated below.

This will amend any previous MOU/MOA and will remain in effect from the date of the signature by both parties unless modified by the Department of Health and Hospitals by written notice to the EMS Provider.

DHH Representative (Signature)	EMS Provider CEO/Director (Signature)
DHH Representative (Print)	EMS Provider CEO/Director (Print)
Date	Date