

Emergency Vehicle Operations Course

National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration



The following presentation
was developed by the
following:



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was developed by the
following:



Special Thanks

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EVOC

EVOC is a Indiana State Certified course adhering to National Highway Transportation Safety Administration and state standards. Departmental Policy may vary from the material covered in this course. Please follow your department's policy when there is discrepancy.

Professional Vehicle Operator



Do driving habits
portray a
professional
image?



- Just like appearance, driving habits reflect professionalism
- Is SAFETY highest on the driver's priority list?

Professional Vehicle Operator

Driving Unprofessionally:

- Costs Money
- Inhibits employees from getting as nice a raise, a new ambulance, or that new piece of equipment
- Just does not make any sense these days



Two for Safety

We are all in this together:

- Support each other
- Spot each other
- Communicate with each other
- Hold each other accountable

ONE CAR NOT STOPPING



Two blocks up then a left, correct?

EVOC is:

- Designed to review critical concepts of emergency driving
- A State certified Emergency Vehicle Operations Course that is based on the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration [NHTSA] curriculum
- Made of 3 distinct components

Overview

Three distinct components

– On-line/Classroom Education

- Nine modules to complete before the driving course

– Emergency Driving Course

- Practical hands on program that will be delivered by the Training and Education staff

– Written Examination

- Based on the nine on-line modules

Overview

- Participants successfully completing the program will be awarded 16 hours of continuing education
- Paramedics can apply these hours to the “Additional Hours” category

Overview

- Maintaining the Indiana State EVOC certification requires three hours of continuing education on Emergency Vehicle Operation each year
- Hours can be acquired via EVOC refresher courses or eLearning lessons

EVOC Teaches:

– Legal aspects of ambulance operation

- Federal
- State
- Local

– Legal definitions:

- Due regard, true emergencies, negligence, abandonment, good samaritan provisions, patient's rights



EVOC Teaches:

- Communication responsibilities
 - Sending and receiving radio messages
 - Interpreting hand signals
- Ambulance types
 - General guidelines for each
 - Weight restrictions
 - Operation for each type
- Ambulance readiness
 - Inspection
 - Maintenance
 - Repair



EVOOC Teaches:

- Navigation and route planning
- Normal and high risk driving situations
- Appropriate driving skills for situations
 - Routine traffic
 - Hazardous weather
 - Hazardous traffic conditions
- Safety considerations
 - Passengers
 - Patients/family
 - Ambulance
 - Crew



Who takes EVOC?

- **Firefighters designated as Driver/Operators**
- **Not required for all Firefighters**
- **Most EMS Professionals**
- **Police Agencies**



Practice

EVOC provides time to practice and learn in a controlled environment



LESSON ONE

INTRODUCTION TO THE NATIONAL STANDARD CURRICULUM FOR AMBULANCE OPERATORS

Lesson Goal:

In this lesson you will be introduced to the Emergency Vehicle Operator Course (EVOC) by describing its organization and schedule and reviewing course materials.

Objectives

At the Completion of Lesson 1, each participant will be able to:

- Identify ambulance operator selection requirements.
- Identify the purpose of this course.
- Identify who this course is designed to assist.
- Summarize the organization of this course.
- Identify the three (3) areas that are needed to successfully complete this course.
- Indicate the pre-employment and employment qualifications necessary for an ambulance operator.
- Recognize the importance of physical and mental fitness, as well as personal hygiene, as it relates to ambulance operations.



The rules according to NHTSA

NATIONAL STANDARDS

National Standards

- Authorization of ambulance operations must always be based on Bona Fide Occupational Qualifications for the task of ambulance operations.
 - Qualifications should not be arbitrary, but based on true needs

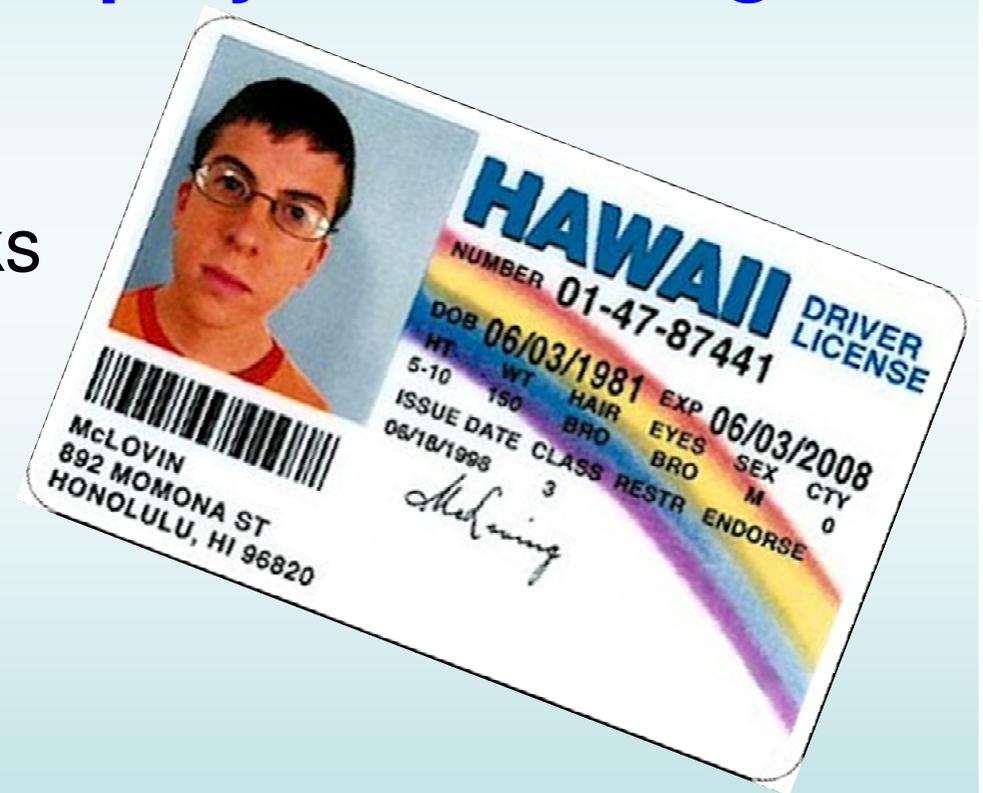
National Standards

- Bona Fide Occupational Qualification Defined
 - Employment based on a qualification, that would otherwise be considered discrimination, due to certain attributes being needed to perform assigned tasks the job would entail. Such as a certain age requirement, but cannot include race or color as a requirement.

National Standards

Recommended pre-employment testing includes:

- Driver/license checks
- Medical checks
- Driving knowledge and performance evaluation



National Standards

Driving checks

- Driving record checks and license checks should be preconditions to hiring or acceptance into an EMS organization.



National Standards

State motor vehicle record check

– The previous three years should be reviewed for:

- Speeding
- Careless/reckless driving
- Driving under the influence
- Moving violations



Why a BMV Record Check?

Driving reflects your personal habits. If one drives fast off duty, they will most assuredly drive fast on duty. That is a crash waiting to happen.



National Standards

MVC checks

- Driving record should be checked for any accidents within the last five years.
- It all paints a picture about how you drive



A little Birdie said...



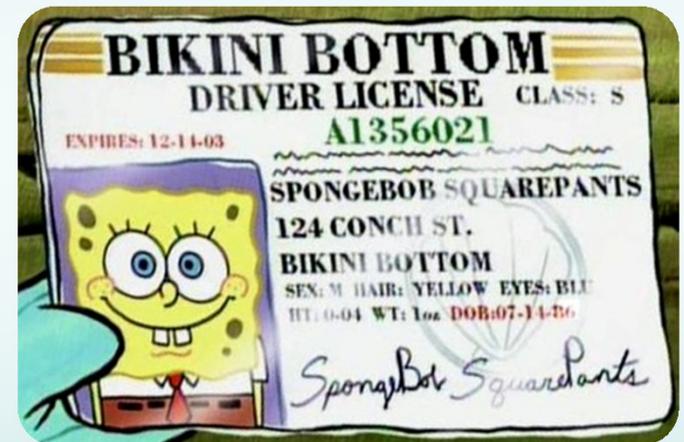
...it might be important to remember that driving record checks go back 3 years and accident checks go back 5 years.



National Standards

License check

- Your license should be checked to assure validity and to assure you are qualified for the type of vehicle you will be operating.
- No ambulance operator shall operate an ambulance with an expired operators license



National Standards

Medical check

- Should be assessed by a licensed physician
- Should reveal no medical or physical conditions that would prevent safe and effective operation of an ambulance including:
 - Loss of consciousness, cardiovascular disease, neurological/neurovascular disorder, mental illness, substance abuse/dependency, insulin-dependent diabetes, musculoskeletal disorders that would prevent operating an ambulance

National Standards

- Driving knowledge and performance
 - Pass the post EVOC written test
 - Pass a hands-on driving test
 - Pass an on-the-job real life performance probationary period
- Participants meeting these standards will be considered qualified ambulance operators



Physical Fitness

➤ Affected by health & amount of rest you are getting

- The flu may cause you to be less alert and not perform at your best



- Upper extremity injuries may affect ability to maneuver the vehicle



"That woke me up, too!"

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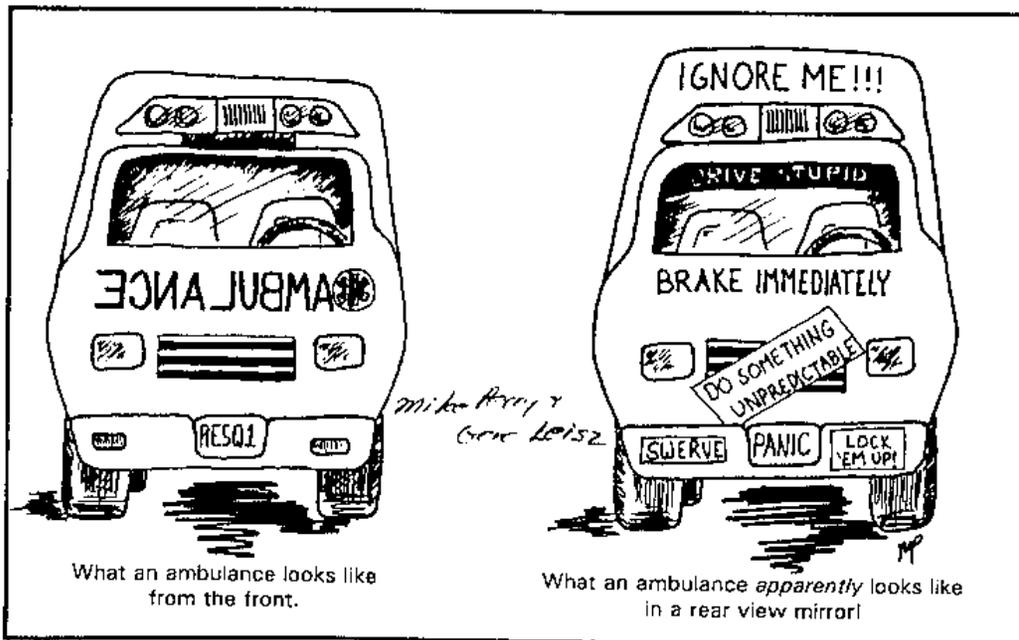
Physical Fitness

- Over the counter medications may make you sleepy
- Sleep deprivation may make your response time slower



National Standards

- Having a good attitude is the best influence on doing a good job.



Most people will do the right thing if allowed the time to do it

National Standards

Mental fitness

- May be affected by lack of concentration or use of alcohol and/or drugs
- When worried about outside factors you may be distracted and should not drive until you are better able to concentrate



National Standards

Mental fitness



- When distracted by anger you may take risks you normally wouldn't.
 - ❖ Calm down before driving.
- Do not drink or use any form of illicit drug and drive on or off duty

National Standards

Personal hygiene and appearance

- Both have a lot to do with how well you perform your job
- Professional physical appearance builds confidence in patients and other civilians that you might need to direct



National Standards

Personal hygiene and appearance

- Personal hygiene is essential to prevent the spread of disease
- Appearance applies not only to self but to equipment as well.
- Properly cleaned and stowed equipment makes operating an ambulance safer for the crew and the patient.

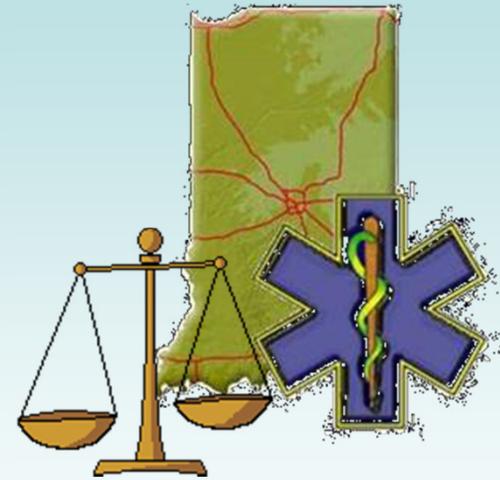


National Standards

Participate in training

- After completing this course the most important task is to improve driving skills at every opportunity
- This is often the beginning of several years of training





INDIANA LAW

Indiana Law

IC 9-24-1-4

Medical service vehicle operation; requirements

Sec. 4.

Except as provided in section 7 of this chapter, an individual must:

- (1) have a valid Indiana operator's, chauffeur's, or public passenger chauffeur's license; and
- (2) be at least eighteen (18) years of age to drive a medical services vehicle upon an Indiana highway.

As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.12.

Indiana Law

140 IAC 7-3-16 Exemptions Commercial Drivers License

Authority: IC 9-14-2-2; IC 9-24-6-2

Affected: IC 9-24-6-1

Sec. 16. The provisions of this rule do not apply to the following:

1. Non civilian members of the armed forces or National Guard while operating military vehicles.
2. Civilians who are required to wear military uniforms and are subject to the code of military justice.
3. Paid or volunteer firefighters while operating fire fighting equipment.

Indiana Law

140 IAC 7-3-16 Exemptions Commercial Drivers License

Authority: IC 9-14-2-2; IC 9-24-6-2

Affected: IC 9-24-6-1

4. Persons who operate farm vehicles which are:
 - a. controlled and operated by a person actively engaged in farming;
 - b. used to transport agricultural products, farm machinery, or farm supplies to and from a farm;
 - c. not used as common or contract motor carriers; and
 - d. used within 150 miles of the person's farm.

Indiana Law

5. Persons who operate vehicles which are:
 - a. registered as a recreational vehicle; and
 - b. used primarily to transport the owner's family members or guests and their possessions for non business purposes.

SUMMARY

Summary

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------|----------|--------|---|---------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| M14 09-10-85 14:00 | | T-DSC1 | | LICENSE NUMBER | | | | |
| Walter Zoomie 1122 Boogie Woogie Ave. Naptown IN 46222 | | 09/04/85 | | TYPE OF LICENSE SMOOTH OPERATOR | | | | |
| EYES | WEIGHT | HAIR | HEIGHT | SEX | DATE OF BIRTH | DATE APPLIED | RE-EXAM DUE IN | LICENSE EXPIRES |
| GRE | 130 | BRO | 6 00 | YES | | 05/29/85 | 1186 | 11/86 |

|  STATE OF INDIANA BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLES SUMMARY OF DRIVING RECORD | | | | | |
|---|--------|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| DATE OF ACTION | POINTS | DESCRIPTION OF ACTION | COURT NO. TERMINATION | DOCKET NO. CASE NO. | DOCUMENT REFERENCE NUMBER |
| | | GLASSES OR CONTACT LENSES | | | |
| 12/21/78 | | PROB OPER LICENSE ISSUED | | 166-564003 | |
| 01/03/80 | 02 | SPEED 041/30 | 490133 | 64467 | U645375 |
| 02/10/82 | 03 | SPEED 046/30 | 490113 | 03292 | V439049 |
| 11/24/82 | | OPERATOR LICENSE ISSUED | | 240-496057 | |
| 05/29/85 | DUP | OPERATOR LICENSE ISSUED | | 240-689095 | |
| 08/16/85 | | SUSP S/R PCF02/16/86 | 490114 | P8922680 | |
| 09/04/85 | * | CURRENT STATUS- SUSPENDED | | | |

- Ambulance operators are selected based on their qualifications to perform the duties required of them.
- A driving record check and license check is a precondition to hiring.

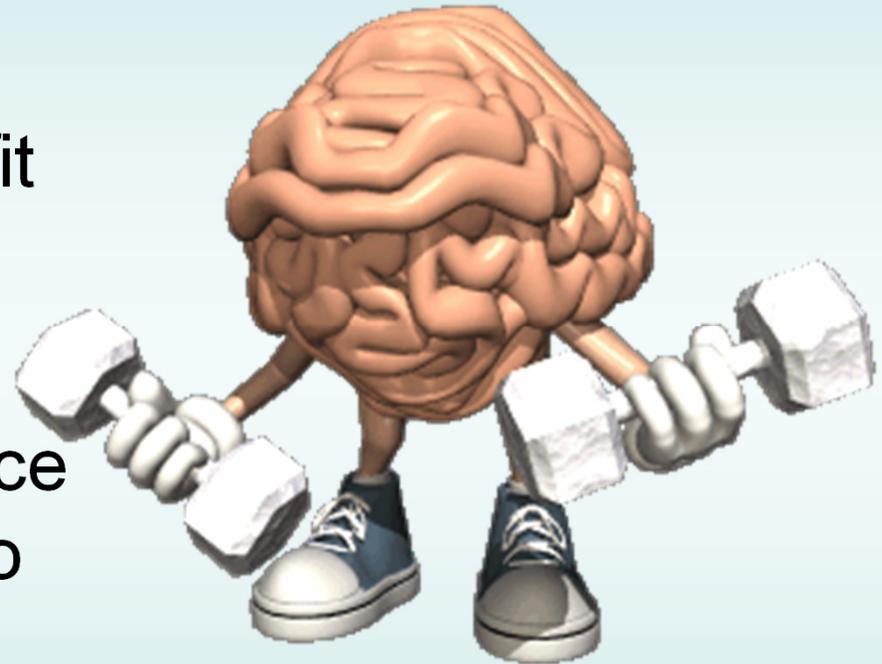
Summary

- A medical evaluation should be required to determine physical ability to perform the job under all conditions.
- You should pass this ambulance operator course written test and driving test, then pass the on-the-job driving evaluation.



Summary

- You are expected to be mentally and physically fit for every run.
- Your personal appearance and hygiene have a lot to do with how well you perform your job.



Questions?

