

South Carolina Pediatric Ready EMS Recognition Guidebook



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Introduction

The South Carolina EMS for Children (SCEMSC) program is pleased to introduce a voluntary Pediatric Ready EMS Recognition program. This two-level system will recognize Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Life Support (ALS) agencies who have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in pediatric emergency care and better healthcare outcomes for pediatric patients. The 4-year recognition showcases agencies who go above and beyond by providing the best care for pediatric patients.

If your agency is interested in applying for recognition, please review this guidebook. Agencies who are awarded recognition will receive a certificate for display and decals for trucks. The guidebook will be reviewed annually with the most recent version available on the [SCEMSC website](#).

Again, this is voluntary recognition program and your decision to participate will not affect your EMS agency license.

Thank you to the members of the working group who created this program. And a special thanks to the Kentucky EMS for Children Program for their guidance and support.

Please contact Sable Land, SC EMSC Program Coordinator at 803-545-4486 or landsb@dhec.sc.gov with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for all you do!



Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator (PECC)

Participating agencies will be required to have a designated Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator (PECC) who serves as a liaison between the agency and the SCEMSC program. This position would oversee all facets of pediatric care at the agency to include training, operations, protocols and prevention.

The PECC must also work in collaboration with local and state agencies to include but not limited to DHEC Bureau of EMS and Trauma, Safe Kids, Children's hospitals, pediatric ready emergency departments, other EMS agencies and other local pediatric groups. This position is not intended to be full time and can be incorporated in personnel's current job duties.

The PECC must meet the following job roles and responsibilities:

- Ensure that the pediatric perspective is included in the development of EMS protocols
- Ensure that fellow EMS providers follow pediatric clinical practice guidelines
- Promote pediatric continuing education opportunities
- Oversee pediatric process improvement
- Ensure the availability of pediatric medications, equipment, and supplies
- Promote agency participation in pediatric prevention programs
- Promote agency participation in pediatric research efforts
- Liaises with the emergency department pediatric emergency care coordinator
- Promote family-centered care at the agency EMS
- Paramedic certification
- Hold an instructor certification in one of the following:
 - PEPP, PALS, Handtevy

The agency's PECC must be documented in Image Trend as a position for the agency and required documentation be submitted to the EMSC Coordinator. A PECC attestation form must be completed and sent

Equipment

Interested applicants must be compliant with the Minimum Ambulance Medical Equipment in section 700 of South Carolina EMS Regulation 61-7, Section 701. The pediatric equipment in this section was approved by the SCEMSC Advisory Committee and details the appropriate equipment and supplies to care for the pediatric patient.

Additional Equipment/protocols:

BLS & ALS

- Epi for anaphylaxis
- Albuterol

- Narcan
- Thermometers
- Active warming device for newborns and infants
- Commercially appropriate pediatric transport device for 5-99 lbs.
- Infant AED pads

ALS only:

- Color Coded weight and/or length base response system. (Broselow, Handtevy, etc.)
- Three way Stop Cock
- Video Laryngoscope system with peds component.

Equipment will be verified by your regional DHEC Bureau of EMS inspector. Appointments with the inspector will be set once a complete application is received.

Safe Transport

In addition to the equipment list in Regulation 61-7, the agency must provide a policy that outlines safe transport of all patients regardless of age or weight. This policy should include a commercially appropriate pediatric transport device. These devices should be designed to transport children between 5 and 99 pounds on every ambulance in service.

Resources on pediatric safe transport policies and transport equipment can be found in Appendix A.

SCEMSC Assessments

The SCEMSC program is required to collect data from the state's EMS agencies to determine progress with the program performance measures. The survey process is once a year and takes about 10-15 minutes to complete. Agencies participating in Pediatric Ready EMS must complete assessments as requested by the SCEMSC program.

Education

In addition to education requirements for SC EMS Regulation 61-7 and the National Registry of EMTs, agencies applying for Pediatric Ready recognition must meet additional pediatric education and skills verifications.

80% of agency credentialed providers must have a certification for a current nationally accepted pediatric course. Examples include, Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), Handtevy Pre-Hospital Pediatric Provider, Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals (PEPP), and Emergency Pediatric Care (EPC).

ALS agencies will be required to hold an additional 6 hours of annual pediatric training per year that includes skills verification. BLS agencies will be required to hold 2 hours of additional pediatric training to include skills verification annually.

Quality Assurance

Agency leadership must review 100% pediatric cardiac arrest, pediatric stroke, advanced airway interventions, IO insertion or attempts, and trauma alert patients.

In addition, your agency must have representation at the Regional Trauma Advisory Council (RTAC) meetings. For RTAC meeting contacts, please email Karen Moore moorekv@dhec.sc.gov.

Community Outreach

Pediatric Ready EMS recognition requires agencies to regularly participate in outreach initiatives within their community. There must be at least one outreach activity offered annually. Documentation for verification of events will be required in the application process.

Some examples of Outreach include:

- Hosting a community safety day at EMS station
- Hosting a community CPR class, including child/infant curriculum components
- Providing a presentation to local elementary school students on E.M.S.
- Conducting injury prevention talks at the local swimming pool or local public library
- Holding a bike safety rodeo
- Community Health Fairs
- Hosting events with your local hospital
- Hosting events with community-based organizations or local county public health departments;
- Hosting Pediatric Disaster Trainings or drills

Summary of Requirements

- Designated Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator (PECC)
- Compliance with additional pediatric equipment
- Policy for Safe Transport of pediatric patients
- Additional pediatric education
 - 6 hours for ALS
 - 2 hours for BLS
- Quality Assurance
- Community Outreach events

Application and Review Process

Application

The Pediatric Ready EMS application and attestation forms can be found on the SC EMS for Children [website](#) or requested from the EMS for Children Program Coordinator at landsb@dhec.sc.gov or 803-545-4486.

Documents to submit:

Application (page 10)

Attestation and Compliance Form (page 11)

PECC Attestation Form (page 12)

SCEMSC Program Review

Once completed, the application and attestation forms should be sent to the SCEMSC Coordinator at the information above. Only complete applications and signed attestation forms will be accepted. If further information is needed, the agency will be contacted by the SCEMSC Coordinator. The applying agency will be contacted to schedule a visit with the Bureau of EMS inspector to verify equipment.

Upon successful submission of the application and equipment check verification, all documentation will be presented to the South Carolina EMSC Advisory Committee at one of their quarterly meetings (January, April, July, October). The committee will review applications and supporting documentation and determine if the agency meets the recognition requirements.

Award of Recognition

Agencies who successfully complete the recognition process will receive a certificate and decals. Their agency name will also be listed as Pediatric Ready on the SCEMSC website. Agencies are encouraged to promote their recognition in their community. Agencies will be asked to attend the SCEMSC Advisory meeting to obtain their certificate and decals. The recognition will be valid for four (4) years from that date.

Renewal

At the end of the 4-year recognition cycle, the agency may apply for renewal by completing the application and review process.

Suspension or Revocation.

Recognition in the Pediatric Ready program may be suspended or revoked if the agency:

- Willfully or repeatedly violated any provision of these guidelines;
- Willfully or repeatedly acted in a manner inconsistent with preserving the health and safety of patients, the public, or providers;
- Provided falsified information in order to gain recognition

If an agency no longer maintains recognition status, decals must be removed from all vehicles and returned to the SCEMSC program.

South Carolina EMS for Children Pediatric Ready EMS Recognition Application

Agency Information

Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Mailing Address: Click or tap here to enter text.

License Number Click or tap here to enter text.

Region: Choose an item.

Recognition Level: Choose an item.

EMS Agency Director

Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Phone Number: Click or tap here to enter text.

Email Address: Click or tap here to enter text.

Agency Medical Director Information

Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Phone Number: Click or tap here to enter text.

Email Address: Click or tap here to enter text.

Designated Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator (PECC)

Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

SC Certification Number: Click or tap here to enter text.

Phone Number: Click or tap here to enter text.

Email Address: Click or tap here to enter text.

Number of Decals Needed: Click or tap here to enter text.

Attestation and Compliance Reporting Form

Pediatric Ready EMS Recognition Program

To be completed by an EMS Agency Administrator (e.g. chief operating officer, administrator, director, president, etc.)

By signing this form, I attest that my EMS agency:

- Is compliant with all applicable South Carolina Bureau of EMS statues and regulations
- Shall participate in SC EMS for Children (SCEMSC) assessments
- Has a policy in place that outlines safe transport of all patients and includes a commercially appropriate pediatric transport device.
- Has a designated individual to serve as the Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator and meets the job roles outlined in the Pediatric Ready EMS Guidebook, and has listed this job in the individual's Image Trend profile.
- Maintains, on all EMS vehicles, all pediatric equipment mandated by the Bureau of EMS and the additional equipment noted in the Pediatric Ready EMS Guidebook.
- Requires 80% off all providers to obtain a certification for a nationally accepted pediatric course.
- Will require ALS providers to complete an additional 6 hours of pediatric training annually and BLS providers to complete an additional 2 hours of pediatric training on an annual basis. That this training includes skills verification and that we maintain documentation of the training.
- Must review 100% of pediatric arrest, pediatric stroke, advanced airway interventions, IO insertion or attempts and trauma alert patients.
- Regularly participates in at least one community outreach event annually and will maintain records of participation

Print Name and Title: _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator (PECC) Designation Form

By signing this form, I agree that I am the designated Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator and responsible for all facets of pediatric care at my agency. I will work in collaboration with the South Carolina Bureau of EMS and the South Carolina EMS for Children Program on pediatric education, operations, protocols and preventions.

I agree to:

- Ensure that the pediatric perspective is included in the development of EMS protocols
- Ensure that fellow EMS providers follow pediatric clinical practice guidelines
- Promote pediatric continuing education opportunities
- Oversee pediatric process improvement
- Ensure the availability of pediatric medications, equipment, and supplies
- Promote agency participation in pediatric prevention programs
- Promote agency participation in pediatric research efforts
- Liaises with the emergency department pediatric emergency care coordinator
- Promote family-centered care at the agency EMS
- Hold a current Paramedic certification
- Hold an instructor certification in one of the following:
 - PEPP, PALS, Handtevy

Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Agency: Click or tap here to enter text.

Job Title: Click or tap here to enter text.

SC Certification Number: Click or tap here to enter text.

Email: Click or tap here to enter text.

Phone: Click or tap here to enter text.

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Appendix A

Safe Transport Documents

Pediatric Transport Products for Ground Ambulances (August 2019, NASEMSO Safe Transport Committee)

<https://nasemso.org/wp-content/uploads/Pediatric-Transport-Products-for-Ground-Ambulances-v2.1.pdf>

Safe Transport of Children by EMS: Interim Guidance (March 2017, NASEMSO)

<https://nasemso.org/wp-content/uploads/Safe-Transport-of-Children-by-EMS-InterimGuidance-08Mar2017-FINAL.pdf>

Working Group Best Practice Recommendation for the Safe Transportation of Children in Emergency Ground Ambulances (September 2012, NHTSA)

<https://nasemso.org/wp-content/uploads/NHTSA-Safe-Transportation-of-Children-in-Ambulances-2012.pdf>