PURPOSE

To define the requirements to be accepted into, receive certification, recertification, inactive status, and returning to active status as a pre-hospital registered nurse.

MISSION / VALUES RATIONALE

This policy is aligned with the Mission and Values for Presence Health. Our mission calls us to provide compassionate, holistic care with a spirit of healing and hope for all persons in the communities we serve. Our ministry is an enduring sign of our Core Values of HOPE, to instill us with integrity, inspire us to interconnect with each other, encourage us to honor diversity and dignity of each individual and empower us to always strive for exceptional performance to our patients/residents and to best serve those in need.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/FORMS TO BE USED

N/A

PROCEDURE

I. Entrance Requirements

   A. Be a registered nurse in accordance with the Illinois Nursing Act of 1987.
   B. Have functioned within an emergency department or critical care unit for a period of at least one year.
   C. Have a current CPR completion card that covers:

      1. Adult one-rescuer CPR.
      2. Adult foreign body airway obstruction management
      3. Pediatric one rescuer CPR
      4. Pediatric foreign body airway obstruction management
      5. Adult two-rescuer CPR.

II. Completion Requirements

   A. Must successfully complete the American Heart Association Advanced Cardiac Life Support Course or a course is dysrhythmia identification, therapeutic modalities,
pharmokinetics, intubation, defibrillation, and management of cardiac resuscitation which is based upon the ACLS course.

B. Must successfully complete the American Heart Association Pediatric Advanced Life Support Course or a course in recognizing the infant or child at risk of cardiopulmonary arrest, information and strategies for preventing cardiopulmonary arrest in infants and children, and the cognitive and psychomotor skill necessary for resuscitating and stabilizing the infant or child in respiratory failure, shock, or cardiopulmonary arrest.

C. Must successfully complete one of the following:

1. A course which is based upon the United States Department of Transportation, National Standard Curriculum for EMT-P, Sections 1-6.

2. A pre-hospital trauma course, which shall be either Trauma Nurse Specialist, nurse Trauma Life Support or their equivalents as approved by the Medical Director.

D. Must successfully complete an auto extrication course.

E. Must successfully complete a minimum of 20 ALS ambulance runs as outlined in the Paramedic Student Clinical handbook. The field experience shall be completed on a State approved ALS vehicle within the St. Mary’s EMS System. The pre-hospital RN shall be supervised by an approved system field evaluator, which can be a licensed EMT-P, a pre-hospital RN, or a physician with critical care knowledge with a minimum of 2 year’s of field experience that has been approved by the Medical Director or his designee.

F. The supervised pre-hospital RN will be required to contact the resource hospital on all ALS runs during his/her period of field supervision.

G. A field evaluation form will be completed on each supervised run. This form will be reviewed by the Medical Director and EMS System Coordinator for approval and placed in the supervised pre-hospital RN’s file.

H. The supervised pre-hospital RN shall function in a capacity equivalent to the paramedic.

I. Complete the pre-hospital form as prescribed by the department.

III. Recertification

A. The EMS Medical Director shall re-approve pre-hospital RN’s liscense every four years if the pre-hospital RN:
1. Is a registered nurse in accordance with the Illinois Nursing Act of 1987.
2. Has completed 120 hours of continuing education. The content of which shall be consistent with the St. Mary’s EMS System continuing education requirements for EMT-P’s and
3. Have a current CPR course completion card that covers:
   a. Adult one-rescuer CPR
   b. Adult foreign body airway obstruction management.
   c. Pediatric one-rescuer CPR
   d. Pediatric foreign body airway obstruction management
   e. Adult two-rescuer CPR

IV. Inactive Status

A. Prior to the expiration of the current approval, the pre-hospital RN may request to be placed in inactive status. The request shall be made in writing to the EMS Medical Director and shall contain the following information.

   1. Name of individual
   2. Date of approval
   3. Circumstances requiring inactive status
   4. A statement that certification requirements have been met by the date of the application for inactive status

B. The EMS Medical Director will review and grant or deny requests for inactive status.

V. Returning to Active Status

A. For the pre-hospital RN to return to active status, the EMS Medical Director must document that the ECRN has been examined (physically and mentally) and found capable of functioning within the EMS system, that the pre-hospital RN’s knowledge and clinical skill are at the active pre-hospital RN level, and that the pre-hospital RN has completed any refresher training deemed necessary by the EMS system. If the inactive status was based on a temporary disability, the EMS system shall also verify that the disability has ceased.

B. During inactive status, the individual shall not function as a pre-hospital RN at any level

C. The EMS Medical Director shall notify the department in writing of the pre-hospital RN’s approval, re-approval, or granting or denying inactive status within 10 days after any change in an ECRN’s approval status.
NOTE: Policies with original signatures are on file in Administration.

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