

ALC – Occupational Licensing Review Subcommittee
Occupational Entity Questionnaire

Responses to the following questions are due via email to Subcommittee staff no later than the 15th of the month immediately preceding the month the occupational authorization is scheduled for review by the Subcommittee.

1. Would consumers be at risk of substantial harm if Arkansas did not have this occupational authorization? What instances of specific and substantial harm have been documented in the past year? **Yes. The Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) is the administrative entity that regulates the minimum standard of emergency medical prehospital care and statewide training for emergency medical service (EMS) providers. There were 40 investigations involving EMS providers performed in 2022. The complaint classifications were DEA-related violations, professionalism, standard of care, and substance misuse.**
2. How many complaints were made to the occupational entity by consumers being harmed by unauthorized practitioners? **None.** What specific action was taken by the occupational entity? **N/A**
3. How many complaints were made to the occupational entity by consumers being harmed by authorized practitioners? **18**
What specific action was taken by the occupational entity? **11 EMS providers were found in violation of the EMS Rules by the State Board of Health and either placed on probation, suspended, and/or remediated. 7 of the complaints were unsubstantiated.**
4. Were any applicants who otherwise met authorization requirements denied authorization in the past year? If so, why? **No**
5. How much does the occupational entity collect annually in fees, and what are annual expenses? **The initial & bi-annual renewal license fee is \$20, which produced approximately \$120,000 for the 2023 fiscal year. The operating expenses are approximately \$60,000, used for US Parcel Service, wireless bills, commercial mail, electricity, Department of Information Systems, Continuing Education/Certifications, In-State travel for official duties, and office supplies. The Department of Health transfers 50% of all occupational license fees to Medicaid quarterly. How much money does the occupational entity have in reserves? The Section of EMS does not have a reserve.**

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6. If the occupational entity has a positive amount in reserves, when was the last time reserve funds were used? **There is not a reserve.** For what purpose? **N/A.**
7. Does the occupational entity have any other sources of revenue? **Yes, ADH also oversees the establishment and operation of statewide ambulance services and ambulances. There is a license and permit fee associated with a service license and vehicle permit. ADH transfers approximately 95% of these fees collected to Medicaid quarterly.** Could occupational authorization fees be reduced without causing the occupational entity to be underfunded? **No**
8. How many applicants for occupational authorization fail each year? **There are 3 occupational EMS provider levels.**

Pass Rate Averages

EMT	81%
Advanced EMT	71%
Paramedic	78%

Does the occupational entity track how many applicants that do not progress are veterans, women, or minorities? **Yes**

9. Can applicants complete the training requirements for this occupational authorization with vocational or non-traditional education (e.g., apprenticeships)? **Yes**
What percentage of applicants complete apprenticeships? **Act 811 was passed in 2021 allowing for apprenticeships. To date no apprenticeship programs have been established in Arkansas.**
10. In what ways would removal of the occupational authorization or reduction of occupational authorization requirements be harmful to current authorization holders? **Emergency Medical Services is a system that provides medical care to the sick and injured in emergency situations. They are integrated with three systems: healthcare, public safety, and public health to ensure the safety and well-being of citizens in our state.**