

WAC 246-976-390 Standards for trauma verified prehospital EMS services. Verified EMS services must:

(1) Provide initial training and updates to certified EMS personnel on department-approved prehospital triage procedures, regional patient care procedures, county operating procedures, county medical program director policies and patient care protocols;

(2) Identify how certified EMS providers will receive continuing medical education and ongoing training;

(3) Comply with department-approved prehospital triage procedures, regional patient care procedures, county operating procedures, county medical program director policies and patient care protocols;

(4) Participate in the department-approved regional quality improvement program;

(5) Provide service that is consistent with the department-approved application on file for the EMS service, the state plan and approved regional plan; and

(6) Meet the following minimum agency response times as defined by the department and identified in the regional plan. With the advice of the steering committee, the department will consider all available data in reviewing response time standards for verified prehospital trauma services at least biennially.

(a) Aid service response time requirements: Verified aid services must meet the following minimum agency response times as defined by the department and identified in the regional plan:

(i) To urban response areas: Eight minutes or less, 80 percent of the time.

(ii) To suburban response areas: Fifteen minutes or less, 80 percent of the time.

(iii) To rural response areas: Forty-five minutes or less, 80 percent of the time.

(iv) To wilderness response areas: As soon as possible.

(b) Ground ambulance service response time requirements: Verified ground ambulance services must meet the following minimum agency response times for all EMS and trauma responses to response areas identified in their department-approved application on file, as defined by the department and identified in the regional plan:

(i) To urban response areas: Ten minutes or less, 80 percent of the time.

(ii) To suburban response areas: Twenty minutes or less, 80 percent of the time.

(iii) To rural response areas: Forty-five minutes or less, 80 percent of the time.

(iv) To wilderness response areas: As soon as possible.

(c) Verified air ambulance services must meet minimum agency response times as identified in the state plan.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.71.205, 18.73.081, 43.70.040, 70.168.050, 2017 c 70, 2017 c 295, 2020 c 76, 2021 c 276, 2019 c 314, 2021 c 69, and 2022 c 136. WSR 24-15-104, § 246-976-390, filed 7/22/24, effective 9/30/24. Statutory Authority: Chapters 18.71, 18.73, and 70.168 RCW. WSR 11-07-078, § 246-976-390, filed 3/22/11, effective 5/15/11. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.73.140. WSR 00-22-124, § 246-976-390, filed 11/1/00, effective 12/2/00. Statutory Authority: Chapters 18.71, 18.73, and 70.168 RCW. WSR 00-08-102, § 246-976-390, filed 4/5/00, effective 5/6/00. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040 and chapters 18.71, 18.73 and 70.168 RCW. WSR 93-01-148 (Order 323), § 246-976-390, filed 12/23/92, effective 1/23/93.]