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## **ALS Coordinator Guidelines For the ODEMSA Region Current October 2007**

On Jan. 1, 2000, the Virginia Department of Health required that all programs containing Category 1 credit be under the supervision of a Certified ALS Coordinator. This includes initial certification EMS courses and continuing education programs. For quality assurance purposes, the state certification recognizes regional standards for ALS Coordinators. In the Old Dominion EMS Alliance (ODEMSA), the Medical Control Committee has designated two categories of ALS Coordinators for the region. They are:

**ALS Course Coordinator** -- Responsible for coordinating courses leading to initial certification at the EMT-Intermediate and EMT-Paramedic levels, and all other Category I ALS programs.

**ALS Program Coordinator** -- Responsible for coordinating any EMT-Enhanced, Category I ALS training program, including ALS continuing education, but excluding EMT-Intermediate, and EMT-Paramedic.

Candidates for **ALS Course Coordinator** in the ODEMSA region must:

- Meet all state requirements for ALS Coordinator Certification.
- Be a prehospital ALS Provider at the EMT-Cardiac/EMT-Intermediate or EMT-Paramedic level for at least three years.
- Be a current instructor in adult education, e.g. ACLS, BTLS, PHTLS, or Virginia EMT.
- Have assisted in coordinating an ALS course with an endorsed ALS Course Coordinator and be endorsed by the Coordinator.
- Be endorsed by the ODEMSA Regional Medical Director.
- Be endorsed by the regional Manpower and Training Committee.
- Agree to teach ALS Courses according to ODEMSA regional standards and curriculum.

Candidates for **ALS Program Coordinator** in the ODEMSA region must:

- Meet all state requirements for state ALS Coordinator certification.

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- Be endorsed by a certified Operational Medical Director, Course Medical Director or the ODEMSA Regional Medical Director.
- Agree to teach ALS Courses according to ODEMSA regional standards.

**Process:** Persons seeking state ALS Coordinator endorsement must obtain an "Endorsed Advanced Life Support Coordinator Application" from ODEMSA or the Virginia Office of EMS. Once the form has been filled out and signed by a supporting physician, the application must be mailed to ODEMSA for the signature of the regional council executive director.

When ALS Coordinator candidates have been endorsed by the Old Dominion EMS Alliance, ODEMSA will mail the original to the Virginia Office of EMS and will mail to the candidate a copy of the completed application, indicating the level of coordination -- Program or Course. A list of ALS Coordinators certified by the state and region is provided periodically to Operational Medical Directors, Course Medical Directors and others involved with advanced EMS training in Planning Districts 13, 14, 15 and 19.

Contact the ODEMSA regional training director at 804-560-3300 to learn of opportunities to work with an endorsed ALS Course Coordinator and to become an endorsed ODEMSA ALS Course Coordinator.

Please note that regional standards for ALS Course Coordinator in the ODEMSA region were approved by the Old Dominion Medical Control Committee in September 1994, and have been in effect since then. This document brings those standards into line with the state's Certified ALS Coordinator program.

These ALS Coordinator Guidelines were approved by the Old Dominion Medical Control Committee at an advertised open meeting on March 17, 1999, in advance of the state requirement. The Old Dominion EMS Alliance Board of Directors endorsed the Guidelines at an advertised open meeting on March 18, 1999. The Guidelines are reviewed each year by ODEMSA's Manpower and Training Committee.

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