

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Education

13-515.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) "Ambulance" means any vehicle designed and constructed or modified and equipped to be used, maintained, or operated for the transportation of individuals who are sick, injured, wounded, or otherwise incapacitated.

(3) (i) "Ambulance service" means any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, association, or organization engaged in the business of transporting by ambulance individuals who are sick, injured, wounded, or otherwise incapacitated.

(ii) "Ambulance service" does not include the transporting of individuals in an ambulance owned, operated, or under the jurisdiction of a unit of State government, a political subdivision of the State, or a volunteer fire company or volunteer rescue squad.

(4) "FUND" MEANS THE COMMERCIAL AMBULANCE SERVICE FUND.

[(4)] (5) "License" means a license issued by the Institute to operate an ambulance service in the State.

(b) Unless issued a license under this section, an individual, firm, partnership, corporation, association, or organization may not operate an ambulance service in the State.

(c) (1) The Institute, in consultation with representatives of the ambulance service industry in Maryland, shall adopt regulations necessary to establish a periodic licensing system for ambulance services in the State.

(2) The regulations shall, at a minimum, require:

(i) Each ambulance operated by the ambulance service to be equipped with adequate equipment and supplies to:

1. Care for the patients being transported; and
2. Communicate with the dispatcher;

(ii) At least 1 individual, in addition to the driver, be in attendance on the ambulance during each transport who:

1. Is certified or licensed by the State as an emergency medical technician under § 13-516 of this subtitle; or

2. Has successfully completed a course of training determined by the Institute to be substantially equivalent to the training necessary for certification or licensure as an emergency medical technician; and