

	Queen Anne's County Fire & EMS Commission Operations Manual	No. 03.08
		Effective Date: June 7, 2007
	Ambulance Response and Transport Policy	Revised Date: March 3, 2016

I. SCOPE

- A. This policy applies to all Queen Anne's County EMS service personnel.

II. PURPOSE

- A. Define Response and Transport Guidelines for Transport of Patients.
- B. See also: QACDES EMS Division SOG for County Transport Units.

III. RESPONSIBILITY

- A. All personnel affiliated with a Queen Anne's County Fire Department will be responsible for ensuring strict adherence to this policy.

IV. POLICY

- A. In all cases transport decisions will be made with the best interests of the patient and the safety of the crew and the public.
- B. On Priority One "Load and Go" situations, the first arriving staffed transport unit, whether ALS or BLS will load the patient and transport in concert with existing Regional, County, and State guidelines. BLS units will attempt to meet with an ALS unit en-route when possible.
- C. Queen Anne's County staffed transport units may need to transport certain patients that may require specialized care or equipment not otherwise available. County transport units will commit to a transport when a volunteer transport unit has not responded within eight minutes after dispatch.
- D. County units may return to service on Alpha response calls when a minimum staffed BLS unit responds unless the County unit will arrive on location first. If a volunteer unit is staffed and in service in accordance with FEC Policy 03.07 a County unit will not be dispatched on Alpha response calls.

- E. When needed, QACDES EMS crews will split and staff volunteer units. Qualified and cleared volunteer drivers and providers at the EMT and above level may drive and provide care on County transport units provided that they are both credentialed in accordance with FEC Policy 03.02.
- F. EMS units should coordinate via radio directly, not through Dispatchers.
- G. The QACDES Dispatch Supervisor may use their professional discretion to vary from this policy on a call by call basis. At all times the safety and best interests of **all** Emergency Services personnel, patients, and the public are of prime importance.

William H. Faust, Chairman
Queen Anne's County Fire & EMS Commission