

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE  
STATE BOARD OF HEALTH**

**LCB File No. R061-26**

April 17, 2026

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~[omitted material]~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: § 1, NRS 450B.120 and 450B.130.

A REGULATION relating to emergency medical services; revising the minimum standards for design and equipment for ambulances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

Existing law requires the State Board of Health to promulgate such regulations as it determines are necessary to administer the provisions of existing law which concern emergency medical services. (NRS 450B.120) Existing law also requires the Board to adopt regulations establishing certain reasonable minimum standards for design and equipment for ambulances. (NRS 450B.130) Existing regulations establish such minimum standards. (NAC 450B.550) This regulation removes those standards for design and equipment and instead requires an ambulance placed in service on or after the effective date of this regulation to comply with certain standards for design and equipment set forth in certain publications that this regulation adopts by reference, including, without limitation, certain specific requirements relating to remounting for an ambulance that is remounted on or after the effective date of this regulation. This regulation also requires the manufacturer of an ambulance or a person who has modified an ambulance for the purpose of bringing the ambulance into compliance with the requirements of this regulation to certify that the ambulance complies with the minimum safety standards for design and equipment required by this regulation. Under this regulation, the certification must be made available to the Division of Public and Behavioral Health of the Department of Human Services upon request.

Finally, this regulation provides that an ambulance that was placed in service before the effective date of this regulation is not required to comply with the requirements of this regulation so long as the ambulance remains in continuous service and is maintained in a safe and operable condition.

**Section 1.** NAC 450B.550 is hereby amended to read as follows:

450B.550 1. ~~{Each}~~ *Except as otherwise provided in this section, each* ambulance placed in service *on or* after ~~[August 1, 1991,~~ must contain at least 300 cubic feet (8.5 cubic meters) of space and meet the following requirements:

~~—(a) Have at least 60 inches (152 centimeters) of headroom above the level of the primary gurney.~~

~~—(b) Provide a combined total of at least 35 cubic feet (1 cubic meter) of enclosed cabinets for storage, compartments and shelves conveniently located for medical supplies and equipment and installed systems as applicable for the level of service intended.~~

~~—(c) Provide 40 candlepower of interior lighting at the patient's level in the patient's compartment. The lighting must be located so that no glare is directed to the driver's compartment or line of vision while the vehicle is in motion. The lighting must be shielded with a shatterproof covering which does not reduce the illumination.~~

~~—(d) Have a bulkhead partition separating the patient's compartment and the driver's compartment, with a sliding transparent panel in the bulkhead or a system of intercommunication for the driver and attendant.~~

~~—(e) Provide an adequate seat, equipped with a backrest and a safety belt secured to the floor or bulkhead at the head of the space for the gurney, from which position the attendant may observe the patient and the instruments which indicate the patient's condition during transport.~~

~~—(f) Contain a squad bench at least 22 inches (56 centimeters) wide and 72 inches (183 centimeters) long, with a padded top which is covered in material impervious to moisture, is easily sanitized and may be hinged at the sidewall for access to storage.~~

~~—(g) Have the squad bench equipped with at least three safety belts for use when transporting patients who are ambulatory or able to sit up.~~

- ~~—(h) Provide a clear walkway of not less than 18 inches (46 centimeters) between the gurney and the squad bench and at least 25 inches (64 centimeters) of kneeling space along the side of the primary gurney to allow the attendant to administer care to a patient.~~
- ~~—(i) Provide a system of heating and air conditioning in both the driver's and patient's compartments which is adequate to maintain comfortable levels of temperature and clean air inside these compartments.~~
- ~~—(j) Have shatterproof glass wherever glass is used in the interior of the patient's compartment.~~
- ~~—(k) Be designed so that the interior of the patient's compartment is free of any exposed sharp edges or projections. All the interior finish of the patient's compartment must be of material that is impervious to soap and water, disinfectant and mildew, and the finish must be fire resistant.~~
- ~~—(l) Have at least one wheeled gurney or stretcher with three or more straps with which to secure the patient. The head of the gurney must be equipped with restraints for the upper torso that are placed over the shoulders of the patient.~~
- ~~—(m) Have gurney fasteners which are secured to the floor or sidewall of the patient's compartment. They must be capable of quick release, adjustable and stable.~~
- ~~—(n) Have all the medical equipment and supplies in the patient's compartment placed in closed storage or otherwise secured.~~
- ~~—(o) Have a source of power adequate to operate simultaneously all systems for heating, air conditioning, radio communications, interior lighting and devices for audible or visual warnings while the vehicle is in motion.~~
- ~~—(p) Have built in suction apparatus for use in maintaining the patient's airway.~~

~~—(q) Have built-in equipment for supplying and administering oxygen with a minimum of 122 cubic feet (3.5 cubic meters) of storage area for oxygen.~~

~~—2. The equipment for extrication and the rescue litters must be stored in a secure manner in the patient's compartment or in the outer walls of the vehicle.~~

~~—3. Automotive equipment, such as spare tires and tire chains, may be:~~

~~—(a) Placed in the patient's compartment if the equipment is in an area of closed storage which is easily accessible without removal of the patient; or~~

~~—(b) Stored in the outer wall if the equipment is protected from the weather and is easily accessible.~~

~~—4. An ambulance must have space for storing medical supplies and equipment applicable to the level of service authorized by the permit of the service that operates the ambulance.~~

~~—5. In lieu of having the design and equipment required by subsections 1, 2 and 3, an ambulance may be configured to meet the standards established by the United States Department of Transportation in its specifications designated Docket] *the effective date of this regulation must comply with the minimum standards for design and equipment established in at least one of the publications adopted by reference in subsection 2, including, without limitation, the standards set forth in the publication relating to:*~~

*(a) The minimum dimensions and clearances for patient compartments;*

*(b) Required safety features, including, without limitation, restraints for patients and attendants;*

*(c) Required medical equipment and supply storage;*

*(d) Environmental systems for heating, cooling and ventilation;*

*(e) Interior lighting that is adequate for the care of patients;*

- (f) Communications equipment;*
- (g) Systems for the storage and delivery of oxygen;*
- (h) Onboard suction equipment; and*
- (i) Crash safety performance and equipment retention.*

*2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the most current version of the following publications are hereby adopted by reference:*

*(a) The CAAS Ground Vehicle Standard for Ambulances (GVS), published by the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services and available at no cost on the Internet at <https://www.groundvehiclestandard.org>;*

*(b) The Federal Specification for the Star-of-Life Ambulance KKK-A-1822F ~~dated August 1, 2007, which are hereby adopted by reference. A copy of those specifications may be obtained free of charge from~~, published by the United States General Services Administration~~, Federal Supply Service Bureau, Specifications Section, Suite 8100, 470 East L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., Washington D.C. 20407.~~*

~~—6. Any~~ *and available on the Internet at no cost at <https://catalog.gsafleet.gov/public/fvs/vehicle-standards/preview/2026/13/255>; and*

*(c) NFPA 1917: Standard for Automotive Ambulances, published by the National Fire Protection Association, available for \$165 at the Internet address <https://www.nfpa.org/product/nfpa-1917-standard/p1917code>.*

*3. If a publication adopted by reference in subsection 2 is revised, the Board will review the revision to determine its suitability for this State. If the Board determines that the revision is not suitable for this State, the Board will hold a public hearing to review its determination and give notice of that hearing within 30 days after the date of the publication of the revision.*

*If, after the hearing, the Board does not revise its determination, the Board will give notice that the revision is not suitable for this State within 30 days after the hearing. If the Board does not give such notice, the revision becomes part of the publication adopted by reference pursuant to subsection 2.*

*4. At the time an ambulance is placed in service, the manufacturer of the ambulance or the person who has modified the ambulance for the purpose of bringing the ambulance into compliance with the requirements of this section shall certify that the ambulance complies with the minimum standards for design and equipment established in at least one of the publications adopted by reference in subsection 2. The certification must be made available to the Division upon request.*

*5. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 6, an ambulance that is remounted on or after the effective date of this regulation must comply with the requirements for remounting set forth in either or both of the publications adopted by reference in paragraph (a) or (c) of subsection 2, including, without limitation, all applicable requirements concerning documentation and inspections.*

*6. Any ambulance ~~[which was in service on or]~~ that was placed in service before ~~[August 1, 1991,]~~ the effective date of this regulation is not subject to the requirements set forth in ~~[subsections 1, 2 and 3.]~~ this section so long as the ambulance remains in continuous service and is maintained in a safe and operable condition.*

*7. As used in this section, “remount” means the removal of the patient compartment module of an ambulance from the chassis on which it was originally installed and the mounting of the module onto a different chassis.*