



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

JOHN HELLERSTEDT, M.D.
COMMISSIONER

P.O. Box 149347
Austin, Texas 78714-9347
1-888-963-7111
TTY: 1-800-735-2989
www.dshs.state.tx.us

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Dear Freestanding Emergency Medical Care (FEMC) Facility Provider:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the minimum requirements that physicians must possess and maintain before the facility considers granting the physician privileges to be a member of the medical staff of a FEMC. 25 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §133.41(d)(5) specifies that a physician must have a minimum of one year experience in emergency services, and current certification in advanced cardiac life support (ACLS), pediatric advanced life support (PALS), and advanced trauma life support (ATLS) to be granted privileges to practice medicine in a FEMC. The rule language can be found at 25 TAC Chapter 131, FEMC minimum licensure requirements, on the [Secretary of State](#) website.

The department has determined that some of the emergency medicine certification boards require physicians to maintain current competency in ACLS, PALS and ATLS. The American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM) and the American Board of Osteopathic Medicine (ABOEM) ensure that their board certified members are certified and maintain their skills in ACLS, PALS, and ATLS. Therefore, the department will regard Emergency Medicine physicians certified by the ABEM or the ABOEM and with one year experience in emergency medicine as meeting the requirements of ACLS, PALS, and ATLS. Physicians certified by an emergency medicine certification board other than ABEM or ABOEM will need to show proof of current certification in ACLS, PALS, and ATLS.

If you have additional questions regarding this issue, please contact Patrick Waldron, M.Ed., LMSW, at (512) 834-6700, ext. 2625.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Renee Clack".

Renee Clack, L.N.F.A.
Director, Health Care Quality Section
Division for Regulatory Services