

EMERGENCY SERVICES SUPERVISORY ORGANIZATION (ESSO)

DEFINITION: An Emergency Services Supervisory Organization (ESSO) is an organization that is not required to be licensed under the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 18.73, but may be recognized by the Department of Health (DOH) as a participant in the EMS and Trauma Care System. ESSOs provide response for rescue and/or care of patients in accordance with approved regional and state plans, regional patient care procedures, and Spokane County patient care protocols, and County Operating Procedures, but do not respond with an EMS vehicle.

Examples of these types of services, which may request an ESSO license through the DOH, are:

- ✓ Law Enforcement
- ✓ Park/forest service personnel
- ✓ Rescue agencies (includes ski patrol, dive rescue, and mountain rescue)
- ✓ Corporations or large private businesses which employ many employees over a large area and are likely to need to perform emergency medical or trauma services on employees or visitors
- ✓ Government agencies, including the military
- ✓ Emergency medical training organizations, only for use by instructors who are otherwise unable to be recertified

STATE REQUIREMENTS (SEE WAC 246-976):

- ✓ Ensure EMS personnel employed by or associated with the service who have patient contact, are currently Washington State certified.
- ✓ Maintain a record of certification for all EMS personnel, which includes the level of certification and the expiration date of their certification.
- ✓ Follow all state and local laws, rules, protocols, County Operating Procedures, and patient care procedures to ensure standards for the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of this State.
- ✓ Follow medical control and protocols established by the county Medical Program Director (MPD).