



COUNTY OF VENTURA HEALTH CARE AGENCY		EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	
Policy Title: Air Unit Specifications, Equipment and Supplies		Policy Number 1205	
APPROVED:		Date: July 1, 2026	
Administration:	Steven L. Carroll, Paramedic		
APPROVED:		Date: July 1, 2026	
Medical Director:	Daniel Shepherd, MD		
Origination Date:	May 1, 1999		
Date Revised:	January 8, 2026	Effective Date: July 1, 2026	
Date Last Reviewed:	January 8, 2026		

- I. PURPOSE: To define air unit specifications, equipment and supplies.
- II. AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.204, 1797.206, 1797.220, and 1798. California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 7
- III. POLICY: All air units transporting patients in Ventura County shall meet the requirements of this policy.
- III. PROCEDURE:
 - A. EMS Aircraft Configuration
 1. Air ambulances shall be accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems
 2. All EMS aircraft shall be configured so that: There is sufficient space in the patient compartment to accommodate a minimum of one (1) patient on the stretcher and a minimum of one (1) patient attendant.
 3. There is sufficient space for medical personnel to have adequate access to the patient in order to carry out necessary procedures including CPR on the ground and in the air.
 4. There is sufficient space for all medical equipment and supplies required for aviation resources, as outlined in VCEMS Policy 504 – ALS and BLS Equipment and Supplies.
 5. Any additional VCEMS minimum requirements outlined in air unit operations policies 1200-1203 are met.
 - B. Safety Equipment.
 1. Each EMS aircraft shall have adequate safety belts and tie-downs for all personnel, patient(s), stretcher(s) and equipment to prevent inadvertent movement.
 2. Providers shall assure that adequate safety equipment is available for the flight and medical crews to meet any Federal, State or local statutes, regulations or policies.

- C. Each EMS aircraft shall have on-board equipment and supplies commensurate with the scope of practice of the medical flight crew as specified in VCEMS Policy 504. This requirement may be fulfilled through the utilization of appropriate medical kits (cases/packs) which can be carried on a given flight to meet the needs of a specific type of patient and/or additional medical personnel not usually staffing the aircraft.
- D. Communications
 - 1. In accordance with VCEMS policies, all EMS aircraft shall have the capability of communicating with:
 - a. Designated dispatch center(s).
 - b. EMS ground units at the scene of an emergency.
 - c. Designated base hospitals.
 - d. Receiving hospitals.
 - e. Other appropriate facilities or agencies.
 - 2. All EMS aircraft shall utilize radio frequencies in accordance with the established operational area fire communications plan, as they relate to the dispatch, routing and coordination of flights.