



EMA Licensing
Corporate Policy, Legislation &
Intergovernmental Affairs
Ministry of Health Services

Jurisprudence Examination

Preparatory Manual

Mutually developed by:

**School of Health Care
Justice Institute of British Columbia**

The Alberta College of Paramedics

**The Emergency Medical Assistant Licensing
Branch of British Columbia**

Jurisprudence Examination – Preparatory Manual

Overview

This Preparatory Manual will give you the information and resources you will need to prepare for writing your provincial jurisprudence examination.

“Jurisprudence” in this context is referring to the applicable provincial legislation, regulations, and policies that individuals need to know to obtain licensure/registration.

Although the amount of information in these documents is significant, this Preparatory Manual will focus your reading on the key pieces of information that you will need to be successful.

Educational Goal

To provide you with the requisite knowledge of relevant Alberta and British Columbia provincial legislation, regulation, policy, procedure, and scope of practice information for nationally and internationally trained paramedics who are applying for licensure in Alberta and/or British Columbia.

Assessment

Candidates must obtain a minimum of 70% on the online jurisprudence examination.

Contact Information

Alberta College of Paramedics
#220, 2755 Broadmoor
Boulevard
SHERWOOD PARK, AB
T8H 2W7

EMA Licensing
Ministry of Health
PO Box 9625 Stn Prov Govt
Main Floor, 1515 Blanshard Street
VICTORIA BC V8W 9P1

Toll Free: 1.877.351.2267 (Alberta only)
Telephone: 780.449.3114
Main Fax: 780.417.6911
Registration Fax: 780.417.6922

Telephone: 1.250. 952.1211
Facsimile: 1.250. 952.1222

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Alberta Resources

(For British Columbia Resources, [click here](#))

Health Disciplines Act

Learning Objective:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the relevance of the Health Disciplines Act to the EMS profession.

Description:

At the present time the Health Disciplines Act is still the governing legislation for EMR/EMT/Paramedics in Alberta.

This Act provides a framework for various health disciplines' scope of practice. Specific details about EMR/EMT/Paramedic scope of practice are included in this manual in the section entitled Scope of Practice.

The Health Disciplines Act contains information on:

- Initial registration requirements
- Annual renewal requirements
- Broad framework of the complaint/appeal process

Specific information on the registration/annual renewal and the complaint/appeal process can be found on the Alberta College of Paramedics website under [Registration](#) and [Professional Conduct](#).

Key Study Areas:

Read:

- Part One of the Act – Scope of Practice
- Part Three of the Act – Registration – Sections 22 and 24.
- The [Registration](#) section on the Alberta College of Paramedics website.
- Part Four of the Act – Complaint Proceedings – just scan the various sections to get a broad understanding on how the proceedings would work.
- Part Five of the Act – Appeals – Section 48 and then just scan the rest of the various sections to get a broad understanding on how the appeal process would work.
- The [Professional Conduct](#) section on the Alberta College of Paramedics website. Specifically, the subheading on Making a Complaint and The Appeal Process.

Hyperlink: [Health Disciplines Act](#)

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Health Professions Act

Learning Objective:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the relationship of the Health Professions Act to the EMS profession.

Description:

The Health Professions Act provides oversight into the governance, registration, continuing competence, and professional conduct of numerous health professions in Alberta.

The Act provides general information on the role of the health professional colleges (e.g. the Alberta College of Paramedics) as well as the roles and responsibilities of a college council. The Act describes how a college council has the ability to form registration and competency committees to assist in the management and oversight of its members.

The Health Professions Act lists all the various health professions that fall under this Act.

Key Study Areas:

Read:

- Part 1 of the Act – Governance – Sections 2, 3, 5, 6, 9, 10 and 25.
- Part 2 of the Act – Registration – Sections 33, 38, and 46.
- Part 3 of the Act – Continuing Competence – Section 50.
- The various links under [Continuing Competence](#) on the Alberta College of Paramedics webpage.
- Part 4 of the Act – Professional Conduct – Division 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. – The Complaint/Appeal Process. Have an awareness of the various sections within these divisions. Specific information on how the complaint/appeal process works within the Alberta College of Paramedics is found on their website under [Professional Conduct](#) (see the Key Study Areas under the Health Disciplines Act)
- Part 7 of the Act – Title Protection – Section 128.

Hyperlink: [Health Professions Act](#)

Scope of Practice (Alberta Occupational Competency Profiles)

Learning Objective:

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- Describe the content of the Alberta Occupational Competency Profiles in relation to the EMR/EMT/Paramedic scopes of practice.

Description:

The Alberta Occupational Competency Profile (AOCP) defines the scope of practice for practitioners in Alberta. It is a comprehensive document on the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and judgments required of practitioners ranging from novice to expert. In addition, it adds as a foundation for the Continuing Competency Program.

The AOCP was developed to comply with the requirements of the Health Professions Act and created through the consensus of paramedicine practitioners registered with the College.

Key Study Areas:

Read and be familiar with the:

- Alberta Occupational Competency Profile (AOCP) for Emergency Medical Responder (EMR).
- Alberta Occupational Competency Profile (AOCP) for Emergency Medical Technician (EMT).
- Alberta Occupational Competency Profile (AOCP) for Emergency Medical Technologist - Paramedic (EMT-P).

Hyperlink: [Alberta Occupational Competency Profiles](#)

Alberta College of Paramedics Bylaws and Operating Procedures

Learning Objective:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the relationship of the Alberta College of Paramedic Bylaws and Operating Procedures to the EMS profession.

Description:

This document provides the Alberta College of Paramedics with the policies it needs to function under the Health Professions Act. It describes how the day-to-day business of the college should be managed. It describes the objectives of the college.

Key Study Areas:

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- Candidates need to be familiar with the description listed above; there is no requirement to read this entire document.

Hyperlink: [Alberta College of Paramedics Bylaws and Operating Procedures](#)

Ambulance Services Act

Learning Objective:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the relevance of the Ambulance Services Act to the EMS profession.

Description:

This Act contains detailed information for individuals or organizations that operate or intend to operate an ambulance service in Alberta. The Act outlines how ambulance districts are formed, the structure, function, and authority of ambulance district boards, the licensing of operators, and the various rules and regulations.

Key Study Areas:

- Candidates need to be familiar with the description listed above; there is no requirement to read this entire Act.

Hyperlink: [Ambulance Services Act](#)

Traffic Safety Act

Learning Objective:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the relevance of the Traffic Safety Act to the EMS profession.

Description:

This Act contains detailed information on all aspects of operating a motor vehicle in Alberta. Key topics include acquiring drivers' licenses, driving records, license plates, insurance, speed limits, inspection of vehicles, accident investigation, rules of the road, and commercial transport.

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Included below is a link to an Alberta Ministry of Transport webpage where it describes the legal aspects of driving an ambulance (e.g. when the driver can exceed the speed limit, the use of sirens, the use of flashing lights, etc.)

Key Study Areas:

- Candidates need to be familiar with the description listed above; there is no requirement to read the entire Traffic Safety Act.
- Candidates should read the information contained in the Ministry of Transport webpage.

Hyperlinks: [Traffic Safety Act](#) [Ministry of Transport](#)

Child, Youth, and Family Enhancement Act

Learning Objective:

- Demonstrate awareness of the relevance of the Child, Youth, and Family Enhancement Act to the EMS profession.

Description:

This Act outlines the various steps, responsibilities, and actions that must take place if a child or youth is considered in need. It describes the required response, investigation, and custody that may occur to ensure the safety and well being of the child.

Key Study Areas:

- Candidates need to be familiar with the description listed above; there is no requirement to read this entire Act.

Hyperlink: [Child, Youth, and Family Enhancement Act](#)

Protection of Persons in Care Act

Learning Objective:

- Demonstrate awareness of the relevance of the Protection of Persons in Care Act to the EMS profession.

Description:

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The Act outlines the duty individuals have to report abuse or suspected abuse of persons in care (e.g. in hospital or a nursing home). It describes the investigative procedures that must occur and the reporting structure of the investigation.

Key Study Areas:

- Candidates need to be familiar with the description listed above; there is no requirement to read this entire Act.

Hyperlink: [Protection of Persons in Care Act](#)

Fatalities Inquiries Act

Learning Objective:

- Demonstrate awareness of the relevance of the Fatalities Inquiries Act to the EMS profession.

Description:

The Act details procedures for reporting various deaths (e.g. death of a child or death of a prisoner) and the investigative procedures that may take place in certain circumstances (e.g. the need for an autopsy). This Act describes the roles and responsibilities of the Chief Medical Examiner and Regional Medical Examiners.

Key Study Areas:

- Candidates need to be familiar with the description listed above; there is no requirement to read this entire Act.

Hyperlink: [Fatalities Inquiries Act](#)

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

Learning Objective:

- Demonstrate awareness of the relevance of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act to the EMS profession.

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Description:

The purpose of this Act is to allow any person a right of access to any public records but also to outline the processes in obtaining these records. The Act also describes how individuals can obtain person information that is housed in the public domain.

Key Study Areas:

- Candidates need to be familiar with the description listed above; there is no requirement to read this entire Act.

Hyperlink: [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act](#)

Emergency Medical Aid Act

Learning Objective:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the relevance of the Emergency Medical Aid Act to the EMS profession.

Description:

This Act describes how “off-duty” health care professionals who stop and render assistance to a sick or injured person cannot be held liable for damages for injuries to or the death of that person alleged to have been caused by an act or omission on his or her part in rendering medical assistance, unless it is established that the injuries or death were caused by gross negligence.

Key Study Areas:

- Read entire Act.

Hyperlink: [Emergency Medical Aid Act](#)

Limitations Act

Learning Objective:

- Demonstrate awareness of the relevance of the Limitations Act to the EMS profession.

Description:

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This Act outlines the timelines (limitations) associated with bringing claim for injury (e.g. personal injury, property damage, or economic loss) by the claimant. For example, if an individual plans on suing an ambulance service because of alleged mistreatment this Act would define the timelines that the individual has to pursue this claim.

Key Study Areas:

- Candidates need to be familiar with the description listed above; there is no requirement to read this entire Act.

Hyperlink: [Limitations Act](#)

Mental Health Act

Learning Objective:

- Demonstrate awareness of the relevance of the Mental Health Act to the EMS profession.

Description:

The Act describes when a mental disorder patient can be detained and admitted as a patient suffering from a mental disorder.

Key Study Areas:

- Candidates need to know the description listed above; there is no requirement to read this entire Act.

Hyperlink: [Mental Health Act](#)

Personal Directives Act

Learning Objective:

- Demonstrate awareness of the relevance of the Personal Directives Act to the EMS profession.

Description:

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Personal directives are legal documents which allow you to name a decision maker and/or provide written instructions to be followed when, due to illness or injury, you no longer have the capacity to make decisions such as where you will live or the medical treatment you will receive. The Personal Directives Act describes the requirements for a personal directive to be legitimate.

Key Study Areas:

- Candidates need to know the description listed above; there is no requirement to read this entire Act.

Hyperlink: [Personal Directives Act](#)

Occupational Health and Safety Act

Learning Objective:

- Demonstrate awareness of the relevance of the Occupational Health and Safety Act to the EMS profession.

Description:

This Act describes the responsibilities of employers and workers with regards to ensuring a healthy and safe work environment. This Act also outlines how to conduct workplace related accident investigations, hazard recognition, and how to set up health and safety committees. It also describes the power and authority of an Occupational Health and Safety Officer.

Key Study Areas:

- Candidates need to know the description listed above; there is no requirement to read this entire Act.

Hyperlink: [Occupational Health and Safety Act](#)

Health Information Act

Learning Objective:

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- Demonstrate awareness of the relevance of the Health Information Act to the EMS profession.

Description:

The purpose of this Act is to establish mechanisms to protect the privacy of individuals with respect to their health information and to protect the confidentiality of that information and to enable health information to be shared and accessed, where appropriate, to provide health services. The Act also provides information to individuals about their right of access to health information about themselves.

Key Study Areas:

- Candidates need to be familiar with the description listed above; there is no requirement to read this entire Act.

Hyperlink: [Health Information Act](#)

Controlled Drugs and Substances Act

Learning Objective:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the relevance of the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act to the EMS profession.

Description:

This Act lists all controlled drugs and substances and describes the offenses and punishment for violating the laws regulating these drugs/substances. This Act also describes the authority of the policy to search and seize controlled substances. Some of the listed controlled substances may be used by practicing paramedics as part of their scope of practice.

Key Study Areas:

- Candidates need to know the description listed above.
- Schedule 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the Act are where the controlled drugs are listed.

Hyperlink: [Controlled Drugs and Substances Act](#)

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Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act

Learning Objective:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the relevance of the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act to the EMS profession.

Description:

This Act describes all aspects of safely handling and transporting goods that are deemed to be dangerous. It outlines safety standards and the need for emergency response plans in case of an accident. It discusses confinement in the case of a spill. Offences and punishment are also described. The schedule in the Act defines the classification of dangerous goods.

Key Study Areas:

- Candidates need to know the description listed above.
- Candidates should be aware of the Schedule of this Act.

Hyperlink: [Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act](#)

Charter of Rights and Freedoms

Learning Objective:

- Demonstrate awareness of the relevance of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms to the EMS profession.

Description:

This charter lists fundamental freedoms:

- Freedom of conscience and religion;
- Freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of the press and other media of communication;
- Freedom of peaceful assembly; and freedom of association.

The charter also describes the democratic right to vote, legal rights, and equality rights.

Key Study Areas:

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- Candidates need to know the description listed above; there is no requirement to read this entire Act.

Hyperlink: [Charter of Rights and Freedoms](#)

(To see samples of Jurisprudence Examination questions click here)

(To see the steps on how to access the online Jurisprudence Examination click here)

British Columbia Resources

(For Alberta Resources click here)

Emergency and Health Services Act

Learning Objective:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the relevance of the Emergency and Health Services Act to the EMS profession

Description:

This Act defines key terms associated with the EMS profession, for example “ambulance” and “emergency medical attendant (EMA)”. The Act also describes the Emergency and Health Services Commission (EHSC), which is the body that has the legislated mandate to provide British Columbia residents and healthcare professionals with access to pre-hospital emergency services, and non-emergency health and information services. The Act outlines the power and authority of the EHSC.

The EHSC is currently responsible for the British Columbia Ambulance Service, which provides emergency health services and ambulance services throughout the province of British Columbia.

This Act also describes the composition of the Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board (EMALB) and outlines the scope of the EMALB’s power and authority.

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This Act outlines the disciplinary action that may occur to an EMA following a complaint investigation and the actions that EMALB may take to protect the public. It also describes the appeal process if the EMA considers he/she has been adversely affected.

The Act also describes the conditions when the EMA can perform emergency procedures that he/she has been trained for.

Key Study Areas:

Read the entire Emergency and Health Services Act. The document is not that long and it contains many sections of relevant material. Focus on the following sections:

- Definitions;
- Power and authority of commission;
- Emergency Medical Assistant Licensing Board;
- Disciplinary action
- Extraordinary action to protect the public;
- Appeal;
- Practice of medicine by emergency medical assistant; and
- License required.

Hyperlink: [Emergency and Health Services Act](#)

Emergency Medical Assistants Regulation

Learning Objective:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the relevance of the Emergency Medical Assistants (EMA) Regulations to the EMS profession

Description:

The EMA Regulations list various abbreviations that are commonly used in British Columbia and also describes detailed information must be kept in a register for those individuals licensed in British Columbia. The regulations also outline the license application process, the various categories of licensure in British Columbia, and the scope of practice for each of the license categories.

Key Study Areas:

Read the entire Emergency Medical Assistant Regulations. The document is not that long and it contains many sections of relevant material. Focus on the following sections:

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- Interpretation;
- Register;
- Inspection of register;
- Application for license;
- Applicants authorized to practice in a jurisdiction outside of British Columbia;
- Short term license for non-students;
- Categories of license;
- Term of license;
- Endorsement of other skills;
- Condition of license;
- License fees; and
- Schedule 1 and Schedule 2.

**Notes:

1. Schedule 3 of the EMA Regulations lists the emergency medical assistant (EMA) Code of Ethics. This Code of Ethics is covered in more detail in the *Emergency Medical Assistant Licensing – Policy and Procedures* manual.
2. On the EMA Licensing Branch's Intranet site there are some [EMA Regulation Amendments](#) listed. You should read and be familiar with these amendments.

Hyperlink: [Emergency Medical Assistant Regulations](#)

Emergency Medical Assistant – Policy and Procedures Manual

Learning Objective:

- List the areas of this document that are relevant for candidates applying for licensure within British Columbia.

Description:

Chapter 1 of this manual contains the emergency medical assistant (EMA) Code of Ethics and a detailed description of the various steps involved in the complaint and investigation procedures.

Chapter 2 describes the organizational structure and authority of the Emergency Medical Assistant Licensing Board.

Chapter 3 provides information on Licenses but this chapter is not applicable to the jurisprudence examination.

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Chapter 4 deals with maintenance of licensure and describes important information on minimum work requirements and continuing education requirements.

Key Study Areas:

- Chapter 1 – especially the section on the Code of Ethics. You should also have a general awareness of the Complaint, Investigation, and Hearing Procedure Rules. This section is quite detailed but you are not expected to list all the various steps.
- Chapter 2 – just the first page. Do not concern yourself with memorizing the information contained on the organizational chart on the second page.
- Chapter 4 – you should be familiar with all the sections in this chapter.

**Note:

1. On the EMA Licensing Branch’s Intranet site there is more detailed information on how to [maintain a license](#). You should be familiar with all this information. Ensure that you have viewed all the hyperlinks.

Hyperlink: [EMA Licensing Policy and Procedure Manual](#)

WorkSafeBC – Occupational Health and Safety Regulation

Learning Objective:

- List the areas of this document that are relevant for candidates applying for licensure within British Columbia **and** who intend to work in an area where you will be providing first-aid services to workers (as opposed to the general public).

Description:

The WorkSafeBC Occupational Health and Safety Regulation provides key information for those individuals who plan on working in British Columbia as a designated first-aid attendant in a place of employment. For example – if you are the designated first-aid attendant at a Community College, or the designated first-aid attendant at a manufacturing plant, or the designated first-aid attendant on an oil-rig.

The important distinction is that if you are going to be providing medical care to workers this regulation applies. If you are only providing medical care to the public (e.g. British Columbia Ambulance Service) then this regulation is not applicable.

All applicants applying for licensure within British Columbia should have an awareness of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation.

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The regulation outlines first-aid attendant qualifications; employer responsibilities around first-aid equipment, supplies, and transport; the maintenance of first-aid records; and first-aid attendant responsibilities.

Key Study Areas:

- All candidates should, at a minimum, review the entire document.
- For those candidates intending to work as a designated first-aid attendant in British Columbia you should become familiar with the entire document.

****Note:**

1. On the EMA Licensing Branch’s Intranet site there is more information on [paramedics working in industry](#) in British Columbia. Candidates should have an awareness of the information contained in this link.

Hyperlink: [Occupational Health and Safety Regulation](#)

Good Samaritan Act

Learning Objective:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the relevance of the Good Samaritan Act to the EMS profession.

Description:

This Act describes how “off-duty” health care professionals who stop and render assistance to a sick or injured person cannot be held liable for damages for injuries to or the death of that person alleged to have been caused by an act or omission on his or her part in rendering medical assistance, unless it is established that the injuries or death were caused by gross negligence.

Key Study Areas:

- Read entire Act.

Hyperlink: [The Good Samaritan Act](#)

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Examples of Jurisprudence Examination Questions:

Alberta

1. For the Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) Alberta Occupational Competency Profile the *core knowledge of anatomy and physiology* is considered:

A Mandatory.
B Required.
C Variable.

British Columbia

2. An emergency medical assistant (EMA) must notify the *Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board of British Columbia* of any change of name, address, or employment within 30 days after the change.

A True.
B False.

How to access the Jurisprudence Examination

If you have not already done so, contact the appropriate regulator to make arrangements to schedule your online jurisprudence examination.

Candidates applying for licensure in Alberta need to contact the Alberta College of Paramedics. [Click here](#) to link to the contact information.

Candidates applying for licensure in British Columbia need to contact the EMA Licensing Branch. [Click here](#) to link to the contact information.

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Eddy Workhoven, Director

Kevin Sanford, Program Director, Centre for Healthcare and Development

Barrie Morrison, Manager of Professional Training

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School of Health Care
Justice Institute of British Columbia
New Westminster, BC

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School of Health Care
Justice Institute of British Columbia
715 McBride Boulevard
New Westminster, BC
V3L 5T4
Tel: (604) 528-5690 Fax: (604) 528- 5715
www.jibc.ca

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