

Alberta Health Services (AHS) and the Health Sciences Association of Alberta (HSAA)

This classification specification identifies representative duties and responsibilities, and is intended to assist in the determination of the appropriate classification level within each discipline. Some duties and responsibilities may overlap between class levels. The classification specification is not intended to provide an exhaustive list of all duties performed.

Classification Title: **Advanced Care Paramedic**

Date Updated: **March 2, 2021**

Job Summary:

The Advanced Care Paramedic (ACP) is responsible for assessing scenes of emergency and assessing and treating ill or injured patients at the scene and during transport.

Work at this level is differentiated from work of the Primary Care Paramedic (PCP) by the requirement to utilize a higher level of clinical skill in order to perform advanced or complex procedures when assessing and treating patients.

Key Responsibilities and Typical Duties:

In addition to the duties of the PCP, the ACP:

Core Duties

- Treats patients requiring advanced life support (ALS) including administration of medications (e.g. intravenous drugs), electrical therapy (e.g. paediatric defibrillation, transcutaneous cardiac pacing, synchronized cardioversion) and advanced life support airway adjuncts (e.g. tracheal suction, deep chest suctioning).
- Assesses and treats patient in specialized settings (e.g. Emergency Departments, Corrections Facility, Critical Care in air ambulance).
- Assesses status and conditions of patients and emergency scenes to determine requirements for further action or care.

Other Related Duties

- Ensures ALS ambulances meet the standards for equipment.
- Identifies need for replacement, maintenance or repairs of supplies and equipment in ALS ambulances.
- Operates ambulance as required.

Leadership

- Leads ALS ambulance crew (minimum of one ACP required) in delivery of clinical care during transport or at emergency scenes.
- Provides instruction, mentorship and evaluation to Emergency Medical Responder (EMR), PCP and PCP students and entry level EMRs, PCPs and ACPs.

Decision-Making

- Determines patient needs and interventions.
- Prioritizes needs for patient in the delivery of clinical care.

Knowledge:

Education

- Advanced Care Paramedic Diploma.

Additional Qualification/Designations/Certifications

- National Association of Professional Driving Certification or approved equivalency.
- Valid Alberta Operator's Licence Class 4.
- Advanced Life Support Certification.
- May require certificates for Pediatric Advanced Life Support and/or Neonatal Advanced Life Support.

Registration Requirements

- Registration with Alberta College of Paramedics as an Advanced Care Paramedic.

Working Conditions:

Physical Demands

- Frequent lifting and transferring patients.
- Frequent lifting and transporting supplies and equipment.
- Required to stand or sit for extended periods of time.
- Bends, twists and assumes awkward positions.

Work Environment

- Exposure to heat, cold, rain, snow and wind.
- Exposure to moving traffic, industrial / agricultural equipment.
- Travel in all weather conditions and to remote locations (e.g. back country).
- Exposure to hazardous and graphic scenes.
- Direct exposure to bodily fluids.