

Re-entry Procedures for Thurston County Medic One Certified Paramedics After an Approved Leave of Absence

All paramedics who wish to return to work providing patient care as part of standard two paramedic ALS response in Thurston County must have the recommendation of the Medical Program Director and must be current with their Continuing Medical Education and paramedic skills for the certification year. This policy does not apply in the case of a paramedic who has been removed from duty or had protocols revoked or restricted due to patient care concerns. In addition, depending on the length of their absence, the following procedure will apply:

Absence Less than or equal to 90 days

If a paramedic is not available for duty providing patient care as part of a standard ALS response in Thurston County for a period up to and including 90 days, he or she may return to active paramedic duty without any re-entry requirements.

Absence greater than 90 days but less than or equal to 180 days

If a paramedic is not available for duty providing patient care as part of a standard ALS response in Thurston County for a period between 90 and 180 days, he or she must fulfill the following requirements:

- Meeting with Medical Program Director
- Demonstrate Airway Skills in a simulated scenario
- Run a cardiac arrest in a simulated scenario
- Perform up to three re-entry work shifts.

Re-entry work shifts are designed to assist the paramedic returning to active duty by refreshing his/ her cognitive and motor skills and familiarizing the returning paramedic with equipment or guideline changes. These shifts may be scheduled as a third paramedic on a standard ALS response unit, or as a second paramedic with an MPD selected senior paramedic partner.

Absence greater than 180 days

If a paramedic is not available for duty providing patient care as part of a standard ALS response in Thurston County for a period greater than 180 days, he or she must fulfill the following requirements:

- Oral interview with Medical Program Director, ALS coordinator, and his or her contract agency's chief or their designee
- Spend one day with anesthesia to refresh airway skills
- Run a cardiac arrest in a simulated scenario
- Perform up to five re-entry work shifts

For absences greater than 90 days, it is the responsibility of the re-entry paramedic to make an appointment with the Medical Program Director for final endorsement once all of the above requirements including re-entry work shifts have been completed.