

Medical Response to School Bus Accidents

Effective January 5, 2004, the following response plan will be utilized by the Anderson County Emergency Medical Service when responding to school bus accidents occurring in Anderson County:

1. Dispatch will notify the Anderson County Emergency Medical Services and Fire/Rescue of the location of the vehicle accident involving a school bus.
2. Anderson County Emergency Medical Services will, if units are not already committed to other emergency runs, dispatch two (2) EMS units to the scene.
3. Anderson County Emergency Medical Services personnel responding will notify the Director of Public Safety and the Asst. Director of EMS of the school bus accident and its location. Both will respond to the bus accident scene for command and control functions.
4. 911 Dispatch will issue a “all page” for all off-duty EMT’s and Paramedics to report to the EMS station and advise them that a school bus accident with injuries has occurred. This should be done immediately after the initial EMS units are dispatched.
5. Anderson County EMS Personnel arriving at the scene will provide the 911 Central Dispatch with an “initial assessment” of the accident scene. Other needed resources shall be requested at this time by EMS personnel.
6. Anderson County EMS Personnel will triage, treat, and transport those persons injured from the scene to an appropriate medical facility who require immediate medical attention. Incident Command will be utilized.
7. EMS command personnel (Director of Public Safety & EMS Asst. Director) shall keep a list of those persons transported from the scene and to which medical facility they were transported. This information shall be given immediately to the appropriate Anderson County School System personnel and to law enforcement personnel.
8. 911 Central Dispatch will notify Frankfort Regional Medical Center if more than two patients will be transported to their facility. Frankfort Regional Medical Center will be the primary receiving facility for persons injured in school bus accidents except for those patients who require transport to a Level 1 trauma center. The University of Kentucky Medical Center will serve as the Level 1 trauma center for such events.
9. EVERY passenger on the school bus MUST be assessed by either a paramedic, registered nurse, or emergency medical technician BEFORE being released from the scene of the bus accident. Upon release, Anderson County EMS or Fire/Rescue personnel utilized by the Anderson County EMS shall release a student ONLY to their parents, legal guardian, or to the Superintendent of Anderson County Schools or his/her authorized designee.

A complete ambulance trip sheet must be filled out on EVERY student and passenger on the school bus and if they are not transported to a medical facility, a medical release form must be signed on every person who is not transported.

10. After those passengers who require immediate transport to an appropriate medical facility are removed from the accident scene, the EMS Command Staff will coordinate with the Superintendent of Schools or his/her authorized designee, to determine if there is a need to transport the other students to the Anderson County Middle School for further evaluation, treatment, and controlled release to parents or legal guardians.
11. If such a decision is made, 911 Central Dispatch will notify the Anderson County Middle School that students will be transported to their facility.
12. Students must be transported to the Anderson County Middle School by the Anderson County School System. This will be the responsibility of the Anderson County School System. A paramedic, emergency medical technician, registered nurse, or firefighter will ride on the school bus transporting students to the Anderson County Middle School. The number of trained personnel who ride the school bus will be determined by the EMS Command on scene.
13. Before departing the accident scene, a complete roster of all bus passengers will be secured by EMS Command personnel. All students and passengers should be accounted for prior to the departure for Anderson Middle School.
14. 911 Central Dispatch should dispatch a minimum of two law enforcement officers to the Anderson Middle School in the event that students from a school bus accident are being transported there for evaluation, treatment, and controlled release to parents or legal guardians. Additional law enforcement personnel may be requested/assigned at the discretion of the Anderson County Sheriff or City Police Chief.
15. The Anderson County School System is expected to have school personnel on site at the Anderson County Middle School to register in all students and passengers who are to be evaluated, examined, transported to medical facilities from the Anderson County Middle School, or eventually released to parents or legal guardians.
16. Once registered in at the Anderson County Middle School, students will be taken according to gender to a section of the Anderson County Multi-Purpose Room. A representative of the Anderson County School System must be in the student area at all times.
17. Each student will be examined and evaluated by a paramedic, registered nurse, emergency medical technician, or physician. A school representative must be present in the examination area at all times. If possible, a law enforcement official may be present in the examination area. Appropriate gender personnel will be utilized if at all possible during the examination process for paramedics and emergency medical technicians.
18. Appropriate medical forms will be filled out for each student examined. A parent or legal guardian **MUST** sign a medical release form.
19. If, after examination and evaluation, it is determined that the student does not need to be transported to a medical facility, the student will be released to a “law enforcement screening” section to secure whatever immediate accident information that may be needed.
20. Following the “law enforcement screening” area, the student will be released to authorized representative (s) of the Anderson County School System who shall release the student to their

parents or legal guardian according to policies established by the Anderson County Board of Education.

General Assumptions:

(a) Mutual Aid will be requested as needed by the Anderson County EMS. EMS Command Personnel (Dir. Of Public Safety & Asst. Director of EMS) will authorize such mutual aid requests. Frankfort Fire & EMS will generally be the first mutual aid request. Incident Command will be followed at all times.

(b) Local physicians may be called by Central Dispatch to assist with student evaluation and examination procedures at the Anderson County Middle School.

(c) The Anderson County Health Department may be called upon EMS request to assist with school bus accidents.

(d) Anderson County EMS will work with the Principal of the Anderson County Middle School to have enough medical forms and medical equipment and supplies on hand to deal with 70 school bus passengers.

(e) Anderson County School System Personnel will be responsible for making sure that all passengers involved in a school bus accident remain on scene until released by police or EMS personnel.

(f) Communication will flow “freely” and “efficiently” between police, EMS, and School System personnel during such an event.

(g) The Superintendent of Anderson County Schools or his/her designee and the Transportation Director shall be the “key” contacts for local emergency response officials.

(h) “Any” information concerning the school bus accident must be released by the (1) Superintendent of Schools, (2) Sheriff of Anderson County, or (3) Chief of Lawrenceburg Police.

(i) Correct rosters will be made available on scene by the Anderson County School System to local emergency response officials.