**PURPOSE**

To define the minimum clinical and field internship skill performance requirements for paramedic students trained at Massachusetts Department of Public Health (Department)-accredited EMT training institutions at the paramedic level.

**ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN CLINICAL AND FIELD INTERNSHIPS**

**Only** **paramedic students participating in a training program at a Department-accredited training institution** may participate in clinical and/or field internships. The paramedic student must meet the following prerequisites: 1) maintain current Massachusetts, out-of-state, or National Registry of EMTs (NREMT) certification or licensure as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) at any level below paramedic that is recognized by the state; 2) maintain current card documenting successful completion of a course meeting, at a minimum, the standards established by the Committee on Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiac Care of the American Heart Association in Basic Cardiac Life Support health care professional cardiopulmonary resuscitation; 3) maintain current card documenting successful completion of a course meeting, at a minimum, the standards established by the Committee on Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiac Care of the American Heart Association in Advanced Cardiac Life Support cardiopulmonary resuscitation; 4) successfully complete training prerequisites; and, 5) receive authorization from the Clinical and/or Field Coordinator to initiate the internship.

Training prerequisites for **clinical internship** include successful completion of didactic training, lab training, and all cognitive and psychomotor examinations for skill(s) to be performed. The training program must have a valid affiliation agreement with the clinical site(s) and ensure the training program, clinical site(s) and students are covered by malpractice insurance.

Training prerequisites for **field internship** include successful completion of didactic training, lab training, all cognitive and psychomotor examinations, and clinical internship. The training program must have a valid affiliation agreement with the field internship site(s) and ensure that the training program, field site(s) and students are covered by malpractice insurance.

**PERFORMANCE STANDARDS**

Paramedic students must perform a minimum number of required competencies and skills on patients in their clinical and field internships, in accordance with standards set by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)’s Committee on Accreditation of Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP), in its Accreditation Standard Manual, Appendix G, as updated.

**PRECEPTOR QUALIFICATIONS**

Accredited training institutions operating initial paramedic training programs must develop their own policies for preceptor experience, and provide appropriate supplemental training to ensure preceptor competence.

**DOCUMENTATION**

Accredited training institutions are required to maintain documentation of each paramedic student’s performance during clinical and field internships, in accordance with CAAHEP/CoAEMSP’s as well as National Registry of EMTs’ (NREMT) requirements. Accredited training institutions shall also maintain documentation of their preceptors’ training and qualifications.