

## Voluntary Health Care Services vs. Special Event

### Voluntary Health Care Service (NRS 629)

**NRS 629.400 Legislative declaration.** The Legislature hereby finds and declares that:

1. Access to high-quality health care service is of concern to all persons;
  2. Access to such service is severely limited for some residents of this State, particularly those who reside in remote, rural areas or in the inner city;
  3. Physicians and other providers of health care have traditionally worked to ensure broad access to health care service;
  4. Many providers of health care from this State and other states or territories of the United States are willing to volunteer their services to address the health care needs of Nevadans who may otherwise not be able to obtain such service; and
  5. It is the public policy of this State to encourage and facilitate the provision of voluntary health care service.
- (Added to NRS by [2013, 2280](#))

**NRS 629.430 “Sponsoring organization” defined.** “Sponsoring organization” means an organization that:

1. Organizes or arranges for the provision of voluntary health care service in association with one or more providers of health care; and
  2. Is registered with the Division pursuant to [NRS 629.460](#).
- (Added to NRS by [2013, 2280](#))

**NRS 629.440 “Voluntary health care service” defined.** “Voluntary health care service” means professional health care service that is provided to a patient by a provider of health care:

1. Without charge to the patient or to a third party on behalf of the patient; and
  2. In association with a sponsoring organization.
- (Added to NRS by [2013, 2280](#))

**NRS 629.490 Regulations.** The Division shall adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of [NRS 629.400](#) to [629.490](#), inclusive.  
(Added to NRS by [2013, 2282](#))

NRS	Requirements
629.450	A provider of health care <u>may</u> provide voluntary health care service in Nevada in association with a <b>sponsoring organization</b> .
	A provider of health care <b>shall not</b> provide voluntary health care in Nevada if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Their professional license or certificate is suspended or revoked, or has been suspended or revoked within the immediately preceding 5 yrs, pursuant to disciplinary proceedings in Nevada or in any other state or territory in the USA.</li><li>• If service provided is outside the scope of practice authorized by the professional license or certificate; or</li><li>• Has not actively practiced his/her professional continuously for the immediately preceding 3 yrs.</li></ul>
	Provider of health care shall not accept compensation of any type, directly or indirectly, or any other benefit or consideration from any person or other source for the provision of this serve.
629.460	Sponsoring organization must register with the Division
629.470	Each provider of health care shall obtain or carry a policy of professional liability insurance
629.480	Provider of health care shall report to the Division: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Any suspended or revocation of license or certificate or any other disciplinary action</li><li>• Any charge or complaint of malpractice</li><li>• If no license or certificate is required in their home state/territory, then must submit to the Division fingerprints for background check.</li></ul>

## Voluntary Health Care Services vs. Special Event

### **Special Event (NRS 450B)**

**NRS 450B.655 “Dedicated advanced life support ambulance” defined.** “Dedicated advanced life support ambulance” means an ambulance equipped to provide advanced life support that:

1. Is capable of transporting a patient from a special event to a hospital but, upon delivering the patient, immediately returns to the site of the special event; and
2. Is staffed by:
  - (a) At least one licensed attendant who is an emergency medical technician and one licensed attendant who is a paramedic; or
  - (b) At least two other attendants, each with an equivalent or a higher level of skill than the levels described in paragraph (a) and each of whom is licensed pursuant to this chapter or exempt from licensure pursuant to subsection 6 of [NRS 450B.160](#).

(Added to NRS by [2013, 1869](#); A [2015, 521](#))

**NRS 450B.660 “First-aid station” defined.** “First-aid station” means a fixed location at the site of a special event that is staffed by:

1. At least one licensed attendant who is an emergency medical technician, advanced emergency medical technician or paramedic; or
2. A person with a higher level of skill than the levels described in subsection 1 who is capable of providing emergency medical care within his or her scope of practice and is licensed pursuant to this chapter or exempt from licensure pursuant to subsection 6 of [NRS 450B.160](#).

(Added to NRS by [2013, 1870](#); A [2015, 521](#))

**NRS 450B.665 “Host organization” defined.** “Host organization” means:

1. If a permit was obtained for a special event, the person who obtained the permit; or
2. If a permit was not obtained for a special event, the person who sponsored the special event.

(Added to NRS by [2013, 1870](#))

**NRS 450B.670 “Roving emergency medical technician team” defined.** “Roving emergency medical technician team” means a team at the site of a special event that:

1. Consists of two or more licensed attendants who are emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians or paramedics; and
2. Has the medical supplies necessary to provide emergency medical care.

(Added to NRS by [2013, 1870](#); A [2015, 521](#))

**NRS 450B.675 “Roving intermediate emergency medical technician team” defined.** “Roving intermediate emergency medical technician team” means a roving emergency medical team that consists of two or more licensed attendants who are advanced emergency medical technicians or paramedics.

(Added to NRS by [2013, 1870](#); A [2015, 521](#))

**NRS 450B.680 “Significant number” defined.** “Significant number” means, with regard to:

1. Contacts by emergency medical personnel with persons who attended a special event, the number of contacts is 0.7 percent or more of the total number of persons who attended the special event; and
2. Patients transported to a hospital, the number of patients transported from the special event to the hospital by ambulance or private vehicle is 15 percent or more of the total number of contacts at the special event by emergency medical personnel with persons who attended the special event.

(Added to NRS by [2013, 1870](#); A [2015, 521](#))

**NRS 450B.685 “Special event” defined.** “Special event” means a temporary event, including, without limitation, a concert or sporting event, at which 2,500 or more persons are projected to be in attendance at the same time. The term does not include a temporary event held at a location which is designed to host concerts, sporting events, conventions, trade shows and any other similar events and which has permanently established methods for providing first-aid or emergency medical services at the location.

(Added to NRS by [2013, 1870](#))

Voluntary Health Care Services vs. Special Event

NRS	County Population	Attendance	Requirements
450B.690	100,000 or more	2,500 – 9,999	1 First Aid Station if: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The special event is a concert; or</li> <li>2) 3 or more of the following factors apply to the special event:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Involves a high risk activity (racing, sports)</li> <li>○ Poses environmental hazards (extreme heat, cold)</li> <li>○ Average age of the persons attending the event is less than 25 yrs old or more than 50 yrs old</li> <li>○ Large number of persons attending have acute or chronic illnesses</li> <li>○ Alcohol is sold, or, if the event has been held before and there is a history of alcohol or drug use by persons who attend</li> <li>○ Density of the number of persons attending the event increases the difficulty regarding access to the persons who are attending who require emergency medical care or the transfer of persons to an ambulance</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
		10,000 – 14,999	If the event meets 1) or 2) above: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 First Aid Station with automated external defibrillator; and</li> <li>• Roving EMT team at the site of the special event</li> </ul>
		15,000 – 49,999	If the event meets 1) or 2) above: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 First Aid Station and staff the station with at least 1 registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or paramedic in lieu of an EMT; and</li> <li>• Provide 2 or more roving intermediate EMT teams.</li> </ul>
	<b>City Population</b> Less than 25,000		Requirements do not apply if there is a fire fighting agency within the city other than a volunteer fire department and the city has adopted a plan for providing EMS at the special event.
450B.695	100,000 or more	2,500 – 14,999	1 dedicated advanced life support ambulance if: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Special event is located more than 5 miles from the closest hospital; or</li> <li>2) Has been held before and there is a history of a significant number of:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Contacts by emergency medical personnel with persons who attend the special event to provide emergency medical care; or</li> <li>○ Persons who attend the special event who were transported as patients from the special event to a hospital</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
		15,000 – 49,999	If event meets 1) or 2) above: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least 2 dedicated advanced life support ambulances</li> </ul>
	<b>City Population</b> Less than 25,000		Requirements do not apply if there is a fire fighting agency within the city other than a volunteer fire department and the city has adopted a plan for providing EMS at the special event.
450B.700	50,000 or more		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 or more First Aid Stations;</li> <li>• 2 or more physicians licensed pursuant to NRS 630 or 633 who have experience providing EMS</li> <li>• 2 or more roving EMT teams; and</li> <li>• 2 or more dedicated advance life support ambulances.</li> </ul>
	<b>City Population</b> Less than 25,000		Requirements do not apply if there is a fire fighting agency within the city other than a volunteer fire department and the city has adopted a plan for providing EMS at the special event.

Examples

**Remote Area Medical (RAM)**

- RAM partners with Nevada community coalitions to provide medical care (general medical, dental, and vision) through mobile clinics in isolated, impoverished, or underserved communities; all services and support are provided at no charge to the patient.
- Two to three RAM events are held annually throughout Nevada (in 2016, two RAM events were authorized: Silver Springs and Pahrump).
- The Division receives a sponsoring organization registration for each RAM community event through the participating coalition (i.e. healthy communities coalition and Nye communities coalition in 2016) with a list of potential providers of voluntary health care service for each event.
- The Division reviews the registration for completeness and compliance, and then audits the list of out-of-state, licensed providers of voluntary health care service listed within the registration documentation.
- If the Division finds a listed provider to be non-compliant with NRS 629.400-490, the Division will not approve the sponsoring organization registration until documented confirmation of provider compliance, or documented provider removal from the list is received.
- Once approved, the Division sends Approval of Registration, and the sponsoring organization is authorized to proceed with provisions of voluntary health care service for the specified event(s).

**Burning Man**

- Burning Man is held annually in the Black Rock Desert, approximately 12 miles northeast of Gerlach off County Road 34.
- The population in the Black Rock Desert soars to approximately 70,000 creating Black Rock City; the Burning Man event itself lasts nine days.
- Burning Man has applied for, and received, Sponsoring Organization Registration with the Division in 2015 and 2016 so they can staff their six first aid stations with out-of-state licensed medical volunteers who only provide basic first aid, basic level care.
  - However, due to provisions of NRS 450B.660 and 450B.700, two of the six total first aid stations are continuously staffed with at least one Nevada-certified EMT or higher staff at all times throughout the nine-day period.
- The higher level of advanced medical care in 2015 and 2016 was provided by an out-of-state vendor, CrowdRx. CrowdRx hired Nevada licensed health care providers to work for them to assist in providing the higher level of medical care at the event.
- CrowdRx obtains a Nevada license for their onsite medical facility and laboratory (Rampart Clinic) at Burning Man through the Nevada Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance (HCQC) as an “Independent Center for Emergency Care.”
- All of Burning Man’s six first aid stations operate under the same Medical Director as the advanced level of care to ensure continuity of care.
- Burning Man has also utilized NRS 629.400-490 to ensure liability coverage with volunteer licensed out-of-state psychologists and the like for behavioral health needs during the event
  - (NRS 629.031 gives definition of “providers of health care” which may be covered under NRS 629.400-490).
- NRS 450B.650-700 were approved during the 2013 and 2015 Legislative Session and also applies to Burning Man.
- The DPBH Host Organization Application for a Special Event was created and asks for detailed information including a field specifically to describe how the Host Organization will meet the requirements as outlined in NRS 450B.650-700 and requests descriptions of on-site medical communication capabilities, plan to inform attendees regarding access to emergency medical care and for specific hazards such as severe weather, description of plan for emergency evacuation of the event site, and a map of the special event site including routes of ingress and egress.
- All requirements of NRS 450B.700 are provided by the advanced level care agency hired by Burning Man (e.g. CrowdRx in 2015 and 2016 – who utilizes Nevada professionals to help meet these requirements).