

SIERRA-SACRAMENTO VALLEY EMS AGENCY PROGRAM POLICY

REFERENCE NO. 901

SUBJECT: EMT-I CERTIFICATION AND RECERTIFICATION

PURPOSE:

To establish a mechanism for an individual to be certified as an EMT-I in the State of California

AUTHORITY:

California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.80, 1797.170, 1797.175, 1797.177, 1797.210, and 1798.200

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Section 100201, etc.

California Penal Code, Section, 11100-11113

POLICY:

Any individual certified as an EMT-I shall be recognized as an EMT-I on a statewide basis. No individual shall hold himself or herself out to be an EMT-I unless that individual is currently certified as such by the local EMS Agency or other certifying authority.

I. INITIAL CERTIFICATION:

- A. In order to be eligible for certification, an individual shall:
1. Have a valid EMT-I course completion record or other documented proof of successful completion of an approved EMT-I course, or
 2. Have documentation of successful completion of an approved out-of-state EMT-I training course, within the last two years which meets the requirements of this Chapter.
 3. Apply for certification within two years of the date of course completion.
 4. Pass an S-SV approved competency-based written and skills certifying examination. Effective April 1, 2005 the S-SV written certification examination will be the National Registry EMT Basic written Examination.
 5. Be eighteen years of age or older.

Effective Date: 06/01/2008

Date last Reviewed / Revised: 03/08

Next Review Date: 03/2011

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Approved:

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6. Comply with other reasonable requirements, as may be established by the EMT-I certifying authority (See Section IV of this policy "CERTIFICATION AND RECERTIFICATION PROCEDURE).
- B. In order for an individual, whose California EMT-II certification or Paramedic License has lapsed, to be eligible for certification as an EMT-I the individual shall:
1. For a lapse of less than six months, the individual shall comply with the requirements for maintaining EMT-I Certification.
 2. For a lapse of six months or more, but less than twelve months, the individual shall comply with the requirements for maintaining EMT-I certification and complete an additional twelve hours of continuing education for a total of 36 hours of training.
 3. For a lapse of twelve months or more, but less than 24 months, the individual shall comply with the requirements for maintaining EMT-I certification and complete an additional twenty-four hours of continuing education for a total of 48 hours of training and the individual shall pass the written and skills certification exam.
 4. For a lapse of twenty-four months or more the individual shall complete an entire EMT-I course and comply with the requirements of initial certification.
- C. An individual currently licensed in California as a Paramedic or currently certified in California as an EMT-II is deemed to be certified as an EMT-I with no further testing required, except when the paramedic license or EMT-II certification is under suspension. In the case of a paramedic license under suspension, the paramedic shall apply to a local EMS agency for EMT-I certification.
- D. An individual who meets one of the following criteria shall be eligible for certification upon fulfilling the requirements of subsections A 5, and 6 of this section.
1. Possesses a current and valid National Registry EMT-Basic certificate,
 2. Possesses a current and valid out-of-state or National Registry EMT-Intermediate or Paramedic certificate.
- E. An individual who possesses a current and valid out-of-state EMT-I certificate, shall be eligible for certification upon fulfilling the requirements of subsections A 4, 5, and 6 of this section.
- F. Certification as an EMT-I shall be for a maximum of two (2) years except in the following cases:
1. A person who possesses a current and valid out-of-state EMT-I, EMT-Intermediate or Paramedic certification or a current and valid National Registry EMT-Basic, EMT-Intermediate or Paramedic certification, the

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expiration date shall be the same expiration date as stated on the out-of-state or National Registry certification.

- G. The effective date of certification shall be the date the individual satisfactorily completes all certification requirements and has applied for certification.
- H. The certification expiration date will be the final day of the final month of the two year period.

II. MAINTAINING EMT-I CERTIFICATION

- A. In order to maintain certification, an EMT-I shall:
 - 1. Possess a current EMT-I Certification issued in California.
 - 2. Obtain at least twenty-four hours of continuing education hours (CEH) from an approved continuing education provider in accordance with the provisions contained in the Prehospital Continuing Education Chapter, Chapter 11, Division 9, Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations and S-SV EMS Agency Policy 1001, or
 - 3. Successfully complete a twenty-four hour refresher course from an approved EMT-I training program.
 - 4. An individual who is currently licensed in California as Paramedic or certified as an EMT-II, or who has been certified within six (6) months of the date of application, may be given credit for continuing education hours earned as a Paramedic or EMT-II to satisfy the continuing education requirement for EMT-I recertification as specified in this Chapter.
 - 5. Submit a completed skills competency verification form, EMSA-SCV (07/03). Skills competency shall be verified by direct observation of an actual or simulated patient contact. Skills competency shall be verified by an individual who is currently certified or licensed as an EMT-I, EMT-II, Paramedic, RN, PA, or physician and who shall be designated by an EMS approved training program (EMT-I training program, paramedic training program or continuing education provider) or an EMS service provider. The skills requiring verification of competency are:
 - a. Patient examination, trauma patient
 - b. Patient examination, medical patient
 - c. Airway emergencies
 - d. Breathing emergencies
 - e. Automated external defibrillation
 - f. Circulation emergencies
 - g. Neurological emergencies
 - h. Soft tissue injuries

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- i. Musculoskeletal injuries
 - j. Obstetrical emergencies
6. EMT-I training programs, paramedic training program, continuing education providers, and EMS service providers located in the S-SV EMS Region who designate qualified individuals to verify skills competency, shall submit the names of the individuals and proof of experience or training in EMT-I skills testing/verification to S-SV EMS Agency.
 7. If the maintenance of certification requirements are met within six months prior to the expiration date, the EMT-I Certifying Authority shall make the effective date of certification the expiration date of the current certificate. The certification expiration date will be the final day of the final month of the two year period.
 8. If the maintenance of certification requirements are met greater than six months prior to the expiration date, the EMT-I Certifying authority shall make the effective date of certification the date the individual satisfactorily completes all certification requirements and has applied for certification. The certification expiration date shall be the final day of the final month of the two year period.

III. RECERTIFICATION AFTER LAPSE IN CERTIFICATION

- A. In order to be eligible for recertification for an individual whose EMT-I Certification has lapsed, the following requirements shall apply:
 1. For a lapse of less than six months, the individual shall comply with the requirements for maintaining EMT-I certification.
 2. For a lapse of six months or more, but less than twelve months, the individual shall comply with the requirements for maintaining EMT-I certification and complete an additional twelve hours of continuing education for a total of 36 hours of training.
 3. For a lapse of twelve months or more, but less than 24 months, the individual shall comply with the requirements for maintaining EMT-I certification and complete an additional twenty-four hours of continuing education for a total of 48 hours of training and the individual shall pass the written and skills certification exam.
 4. For a lapse of greater than twenty-four months the individual shall complete an entire EMT-I course and comply with the requirements initial certification.
- B. The effective date of certification shall be the date the individual satisfactorily completes all certification requirements and has applied for certification. The certification expiration date shall be the final day of the final month of the two year period.

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IV. CERTIFICATION AND RECERTIFICATION PROCEDURE

A. All eligible candidates shall meet/complete the following:

1. Be 18 years of age or older.
2. Complete an S-SV EMT-I certification/recertification application form.
3. Submit a State of California Department of Justice (DOJ), Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information, Applicant background report.

This requirement may be satisfied when the EMT-I applicant's current employer has:

- a. Completed a background screen that includes but is not limited to a DOJ background check and;
 - b. The employer enters into an agreement with S-SV EMS Agency to notify S-SV upon employer's initial background screening or subsequent arrest notification, when not prohibited by law, of any actions that could preclude EMT-I certification.
4. Pay the EMT-I application-processing fee. Fees are payable by check, money order or cashiers' check. (Cash is not accepted.)
 5. Provide a copy of a U.S. government issued Drivers License or Identification card, for identification purposes only.
 6. Provide a copy of a current American Heart Association or American Red Cross or equivalent CPR for Health Care Provider card.
 7. Submit proof of additional training / skills competency verification for any local EMT-I optional scope of practice accreditation the applicant is seeking or maintaining.
 8. If the EMT-I course was completed at an EMT-I training program located outside the S-SV EMS region: Attach a copy of the course completion record to the application.
 9. If recertifying with CE: Attach copies of CE course completion records to the application form. CE must be from an approved continuing education provider in accordance with the provisions contained in the Prehospital Continuing Education Chapter, Chapter 11, Division 9, Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations and S-SV EMS Agency Policy 1001.
 10. Recertification applicants shall attach a copy of the previous EMT-I certification card to the application.

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11. Recertification applicants: Submit a completed skills competency verification form. EMSA-SCV (07/03). See 901 Addenda A.

Applications will be processed only if the application is complete. Incomplete applications will be returned.

CROSS REFERENCES:

Policy and Procedure Manual

EMT-I Esophageal Tracheal Airway Device Personnel Requirements for Accreditation, Reference No.977