

SIERRA-SACRAMENTO VALLEY EMS AGENCY

PROGRAM POLICY

REFERENCE NO. 902

SUBJECT: ADVANCED EMT (AEMT) CERTIFICATION, RECERTIFICATION AND LOCAL ACCREDITATION

PURPOSE:

To establish a mechanism for an individual to be certified or accredited as an Advanced EMT (AEMT) by the S-SV EMS Agency.

AUTHORITY:

California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.62, 1797.107, 1797.118, 1797.171, 1797.175, 1797.211, 1797.218 and 1797.2.

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 3, Section 100123, 100124 and 100125. Chapter 10, Article 4, Section 100347

California Penal Code, Sections 11075 and 11105.2

POLICY:

No individual shall hold himself or herself out to be an Advanced EMT (AEMT) unless that individual is currently certified as such by the S-SV EMS Agency.

DEFINITIONS:

A. Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT) – means:

1. A California certified EMT with additional training in limited advanced life support (LALS) according to the standards prescribed in the California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 3, and who has a valid Advanced EMT wallet-sized certificate card issued pursuant to this policy, or;
2. An individual who was certified as an EMT-II prior to July 1, 2010, whose scope of practice includes the S-SV EMS approved Advanced EMT Scope of Practice as well as the Local Optional Scope of Practice specified in S-SV EMS policy Reference No. 802 'Advanced EMT Scope of Practice', and who was part of an EMT-II program in effect on January 1, 1994.

B. Advanced EMT Certifying Entity – for the purposes of this policy means the S-SV EMS Agency Medical Director

Effective Date: 07/01/2011

Date last Reviewed / Revised: 06/11

Next Review Date: 06/2013

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Approved:

SIGNATURE ON FILE
S-SV EMS Medical Director

SIGNATURE ON FILE
S-SV EMS Regional Executive Director

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PROCEDURE

I. INITIAL CERTIFICATION:

A. In order to be eligible for initial certification an individual shall:

1. Possess a current EMT certificate issued in the State of California.
2. Have an Advanced EMT course completion record or other documented proof of successful completion of the topics contained in an approved Advanced EMT training program.
3. Pass, by pre-established standards, a competency based written and skills Advanced EMT certifying examination developed by the Advanced EMT certifying entity and selected by the California EMS Authority. The examination shall include both written and skills testing portions designed to determine an individual's competence for certification as an Advanced EMT. On July 1, 2013, the California EMS Authority will transition to the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians Advanced EMT written and skills examination.
4. Complete the following criminal history background check requirements:
 - a. Submit a completed request for "Live Scan Applicant Submission Form, BCII 8016 (Rev 06/09)," to the California DOJ for a state and federal Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) search in accordance with the provisions of Section 11105 (p) (1) of the California Penal Code; and,
 - b. The CORI request shall include a subsequent arrest notification report in accordance with the provisions of Section 11105.2 of the California Penal Code; and,
 - c. The Advanced EMT applicant will designate that both the state and federal CORI search results and the subsequent arrest notification reports shall be reported to the S-SV EMS Agency and the California EMS Authority.
5. Complete an application that contains the following statement:

"I hereby certify under penalty of perjury that all information on this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I understand that any falsification or omission of material facts may cause forfeiture on my part of all rights to Advanced EMT certification in the state of California. I understand all information on this application is subject to verification, and I hereby give my express permission for this certifying entity to contact any person or agency for information related to my role and function as an Advanced EMT in California."

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6. Disclose any certification or licensure action:
 - a. Against any EMT related certification or license in California, and/or entity per statutes and/or regulations of that state or other issuing entity, including active investigations, or;
 - b. Against an EMT certificate, Advance EMT certificate or a Paramedic license, or health related license, or;
 - c. Any denial of certification by a LEMSA or in the case of paramedic licensure a denial by the California EMS Authority.
 7. Pay the established fees. Fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.
 8. Furnish a copy of a valid U.S. state-issued Drivers License or identification card.
 9. Furnish a copy of a current CPR certification which is taught to the curriculum standards of the American Heart Association, American Red Cross or the National Safety Council at the Health Care Provider or equivalent level.
 10. Provide proof of affiliation with an approved Advanced EMT and/or pre-existing EMT-II service provider.
 11. Complete a pre-certification field evaluation.
 12. Complete the additional training specified in the Advanced EMT Local Optional Scope of Practice, S-SV EMS policy Reference No. 802 'Advanced EMT Scope of Practice', if applicable.
- B. An individual, who possesses a current California Advanced EMT certificate in one or more counties in California, shall be eligible for certification upon fulfilling the requirements listed in sub-section A, items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of this 'Initial Certification' section of the policy, and meets the following requirements:
1. Provides satisfactory evidence that his/her training included the required course content as specified in the Advanced EMT Model Curriculum, (EMSA #133, June 2008).
 2. Successfully completes training and demonstrates competency specified in the Advanced EMT Local Optional Scope of Practice, S-SV EMS policy Reference No. 802 'Advanced EMT Scope of Practice', if applicable.
- C. An individual currently licensed in California as a Paramedic is deemed to be certified as an Advanced EMT, except when the Paramedic license is under suspension, with no further testing required. In the case of a Paramedic license under suspension, the Paramedic shall apply to the S-SV EMS Agency for Advanced EMT certification.

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- D. In order for an individual, whose National Registry EMT-Intermediate or Paramedic or out-of-state EMT-Intermediate certification or Paramedic license/certification has lapsed, to be eligible for certification in California as an Advanced EMT the individual shall:
1. For a lapse of less than six (6) months, the individual shall comply with the requirements listed in sub-section A, items 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the 'Recertification' section of this policy.
 2. For a lapse of six (6) months or more, but less than twelve (12) months, the individual shall comply with the requirements listed in sub-section A, item 2 of the 'Recertification After Lapse in Certification' section of this policy.
 3. For a lapse of twelve (12) months or more, but less than twenty-four (24) months, the individual shall comply with the requirements listed in sub-section A, item 3 of the 'Recertification After Lapse in Certification' section of this policy.
 4. For a lapse of twenty-four (24) months or more, the individual shall complete an entire Advanced EMT course and comply with all of the requirements listed in sub-section A of this 'Initial Certification' section of the policy.
- E. An individual who possess a current and valid out-of-state or National Registry EMT-Intermediate certification or Paramedic license/certification shall be eligible for certification upon fulfilling the requirements listed in sub-section A, items 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of this 'Initial Certification' section of the policy.
- F. A Physician, Registered Nurse, or a Physician Assistant currently licensed by the State of California shall be eligible for Advanced EMT certification upon:
1. Providing documentation that his/her training included the required course content as specified in the Advanced EMT Model Curriculum, (EMSA #133, June 2008).
 2. Successfully completing five (5) documented ALS contacts in a prehospital field internship which meet the following requirements:
 - a. An ALS patient contact shall be defined as the student performance, by the trainee, of one or more of the following skills on a patient:
 - Administration of intravenous fluids and/or medications specified in S-SV EMS policy Reference No. 802 'Advanced EMT Scope of Practice'.
 - Perilaryngeal airway adjunct insertion.
 - Insertion of intravenous lines to administer isotonic balanced salt solution on patients.
 - Defibrillation of a patient in ventricular fibrillation.

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- b. The five (5) ALS patient contacts shall be distributed among these skills. Each ALS patient contact by an Advanced EMT student shall be documented in writing on a standard form and shall be signed by the training program medical director as verification of the fact that the ALS contact met the criteria set forth in this section.
- 3. Fulfilling the requirements listed in sub-section A, items 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of this 'Initial Certification' section of the policy.
- G. The Advanced EMT certifying entity shall provide for adequate certification tests to accommodate the eligible individuals requesting certification within their area of jurisdiction, but in no case less than once per year, unless otherwise specified by the S-SV EMS Agency.
- H. The Advanced EMT certifying entity may waive portions of, or all of, the certifying examination for individuals who are currently certified as an Advanced EMT or EMT II in California. In such situations, the S-SV EMS Medical Director shall issue a certificate, which shall have as its expiration date, a date not to exceed the expiration date on the individual's current certificate.
- I. An individual currently accredited by a California LEMSA in the EMT Optional Skills contained in California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 2, Section 100064 may be given credit for training and experience for those topics and scope of practice items contained in S-SV EMS policy Reference No. 802 'Advanced EMT Scope of Practice'. The S-SV EMS Agency shall evaluate prior training and competence in the EMT Optional Skills and determine what, if any, supplemental training and certification testing is required for an individual to be certified as an Advanced EMT. This provision will sunset on July 1, 2011.
- J. The Advanced EMT certifying entity shall issue a wallet-sized certificate card to eligible individuals, using the single California EMS Authority approved wallet-sized certificate card format. The wallet-sized certificate card shall contain the following:
 - 1. Name of the individual certified.
 - 2. Date the certificate was issued.
 - 3. Date of expiration.
 - 4. Certification status.
 - 5. Registry number, generated by the registry.
- K. All California issued Advanced EMT wallet-sized certificate cards shall be printed by the Advanced EMT certifying entity using the central registry criteria, pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 10, Section 100344.

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- L. The effective date of certification shall be the date the individual satisfactorily completes all certification requirements and has applied for certification. Certification as an Advanced EMT shall be valid for a maximum of two (2) years from the effective date of certification. The certification expiration date shall be the final day of the month of the two (2) year period.
- M. An individual currently certified as an Advanced EMT by the provisions of this 'Initial Certification' section of the policy is deemed to be certified as an EMT with no further testing required.
- N. The Advanced EMT shall be responsible for notifying the Advanced EMT certifying entity of her/his proper and current mailing address and shall notify the Advanced EMT certifying entity in writing within thirty (30) calendar days of any and all changes of the mailing address, giving both the old and the new address, and Advanced EMT registry number.
- O. The Advanced EMT certifying entity shall issue, within forty-five (45) calendar days of receipt of a complete application as specified in the 'Initial Certification' section of this policy, a wallet sized Advanced EMT certificate card to eligible individuals who apply for an Advanced EMT certificate and successfully complete the Advanced EMT certification requirements.
- P. An Advanced EMT shall only be certified by one (1) Advanced EMT certifying entity during a certification period.

II. RECERIFICATION

- A. In order to recertify, an Advanced EMT shall:
 - 1. Possess a current Advanced EMT Certification issued in California.
 - 2. Obtain at least thirty-six (36) hours of continuing education hours (CEH) from an approved continuing education (CE) provider in accordance with the requirements contained in S-SV EMS 'EMT / AEMT Continuing Education Requirement Overview' Policy, Reference No. 1001-A.
 - 3. Disclose any certification or licensure action against an EMT, Advanced EMT, EMT-II certificate or a Paramedic license or any denial of certification by a LEMSA or in the case of Paramedic licensure, a denial by the California EMS Authority.
 - 4. Complete the criminal history background check listed in sub-section A, item 4 of the 'Initial Certification' section of this policy, if not previously completed.
 - 5. Complete an application and other processes as specified in sub-section A, items 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of the 'Initial Certification' section of this policy.

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6. Submit a completed Advanced EMT skills competency verification form, EMSA-AEMT SCVF (S-SV EMS Reference No. 902-A).
 - a. 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 Advanced EMT, Paramedic, Registered Nurse, Physician Assistant, or Physician and who shall be designated as part of a skills competency verification process approved by the S-SV EMS Agency. The skills requiring verification of competency are:
 - Injection (IM or SQ)
 - Peripheral IV
 - IV Push Medication
 - Inhaled medications
 - Blood Glucose Determination
 - Perilaryngeal Airway Adjunct
- B. If the Advanced EMT recertification requirements are met within six (6) months prior to the expiration date, the Advanced EMT certifying entity shall make the effective date of certification the date immediately following the expiration date of the current certificate. The certification expiration date will be the final day of the final month of the two (2) year period.
- C. If the Advanced EMT recertification requirements are met greater than six (6) months prior to the expiration date, the Advanced EMT certifying entity 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 not exceed two (2) years and shall be the final day of the final month of the two (2) year period.
- D. An individual who is deployed for active duty with a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States, whose Advanced EMT or EMT-II certificate expires during the time the individual is on active duty or less than six (6) months from the date the individual is deactivated/released from active duty, may be given an extension of the expiration date of his/her Advanced EMT certificate for up to six (6) months from the date of the individual's deactivation/release from active duty in order to meet the renewal requirements for his/her Advanced EMT certificate upon compliance with the following provisions:
 1. Provide documentation from the respective branch of the Armed Forces of the United States verifying the individual's dates of activation and deactivation / release from active duty.
 2. If there is no lapse in certification, meet the requirements of sub-section A, items 1 through 6 of this 'Recertification' section of this policy. If there is a lapse in certification, meet the requirements listed in the 'Recertification After Lapse in Certification' section of this policy.

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3. Provide documentation showing that the CE activities submitted for the certification renewal period were taken not earlier than thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of the individual's Advanced EMT or EMT-II certificate that was valid when he/she was activated for duty and not later than six (6) months from the date of deactivation/release from active duty.
 - a. For an individuals whose active duty required him/her to use his/her Advanced EMT or EMT-II skills, credit may be given for documented training that meets the requirements contained in S-SV EMS 'EMT / AEMT Continuing Education Requirement Overview' Policy, Reference No. 1001-A while the individual was on active duty. The documentation shall include verification from the individual's Commanding Officer attesting to the classes attended.
- E. The Advanced EMT certifying entity shall issue a wallet-sized certificate card to eligible individuals who apply for Advanced EMT recertification. The certificate shall contain the information listed in sub-section J of the 'Initial Certification' section of this policy.

III. RECERTIFICATION AFTER LAPSE IN CERTIFICATION

- A. The following requirements shall apply to an individual whose Advanced EMT Certification has lapsed to be eligible for recertification:
 1. For a lapse of less than six (6) months, the individual shall comply with the requirements listed in sub-section A, items 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the 'Recertification' section of this policy.
 2. For a lapse of six (6) months or more, but less than twelve (12) months, the individual shall comply with the requirements listed in sub-section A, items 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the 'Recertification' section of this policy, and complete an additional twelve (12) hours of continuing education for a total of forty-eight (48) hours of training.
 3. For a lapse of twelve (12) months or more, but less than twenty-four (24) months, the individual shall comply with the requirements listed in sub-section A, items 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the 'Recertification' section of this policy, and complete an additional twenty-four (24) hours of continuing education for a total of sixty (60) hours of training. The individual shall also pass the written and skills certification exam as specified in sub-section A, item 3 of the 'Initial Certification' section of this policy.
 4. For a lapse of greater than twenty-four (24) months, the individual shall complete an entire Advanced EMT course and comply with all of the requirements listed in sub-section A of the 'Initial Certification' section of this policy.

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- B. Individuals who are a member of the reserves and are deployed for active duty with a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States, whose Advanced EMT or EMT-II certificate expires during the time they are on active duty may be given an extension of the expiration date of their Advanced EMT or EMT-II certificate for up to six (6) months from the date of their deactivation/release from active duty in order to meet the renewal requirements for their Advanced EMT certificate upon compliance with the provisions listed in sub-section D of the 'Recertification' section of this policy, and sub-section A of this 'Recertification After Lapse in Certification' section of the policy.
- C. The effective date of recertification shall be the date the individual satisfactorily completes all certification requirements and has applied for recertification. The certification expiration date shall be the final day of the final month of the two (2) year period.
- D. The Advance EMT certifying entity shall issue a wallet-sized certificate card to eligible individuals who apply for recertification and successfully complete the recertification requirements. The certificate shall contain the information listed in sub-section J of the 'Initial Certification' section of this policy.

IV. LOCAL ACCREDITATION

Advanced EMT personnel who are currently certified by another LEMSA may be accredited to work as an Advanced EMT in the S-SV EMS Region upon meeting the following criteria:

- A. Maintain certification in good standing as an Advanced EMT with another California LEMSA at all times while working as an Advanced EMT in the S-SV EMS Region.
 - 1. The individual must provide the S-SV EMS Agency with a current copy of their Advanced EMT Certification from another LEMSA upon initial accreditation and must provide a copy of their new certification card to the S-SV EMS Agency for reaccreditation upon Advanced EMT recertification with another LEMSA.
 - 2. The S-SV EMS approved LALS relevant employer is responsible for ensuring that the individuals Advanced EMT certification from another LEMSA is current and valid when they are working as an Advanced EMT in the S-SV EMS Region.
 - 3. The individual is not allowed to work as an Advanced EMT in the S-SV EMS Region if their Advanced EMT Certification from another LEMSA is suspended or revoked.
 - 4. The individual and the S-SV EMS approved LALS relevant employer must notify the S-SV EMS Agency within three (3) working days of notification of any action taken related to the individuals Advanced EMT Certification from

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another LEMSA including probation, suspension or revocation of their Advanced EMT Certification.

- B. Maintain employment with an S-SV EMS Approved LALS provider.
 - 1. The individual must work only part time as an Advanced EMT in the S-SV EMS Region.
 - 2. Individuals who work solely or primarily as an Advanced EMT in the S-SV EMS Region must be certified as an Advanced EMT by the S-SV EMS Agency.
- C. Furnish a copy of a U.S government issued Drivers License or identification card for identification purposes upon initial accreditation.
- D. Complete an S-SV EMS orientation class and pass an S-SV EMS examination on S-SV EMS policies and protocols with a minimum score of 80%. If the examination is failed twice, an orientation shall be repeated prior to re-testing.
- E. An Advanced EMT certified by another LEMSA will follow S-SV EMS policies and protocols when working as an Advanced EMT in the S-SV EMS Region.
- F. All other California State Regulations and S-SV EMS policies regarding Advanced EMT incident investigations, determination of action, notification and administrative hearing processes will apply to Advanced EMT personnel who are certified by another LEMSA and accredited to work as an Advanced EMT in the S-SV EMS Region.

V. APPLICATION PROCESSING

- A. A completed and signed application and all required supporting documentation must be submitted to the S-SV EMS Agency prior to processing. Incomplete applications will not be processed.
 - 1. Incomplete applications will be maintained by the S-SV EMS Agency for 60 days awaiting required supporting documentation. All applications not completed within 60 days will be destroyed.
- B. The S-SV EMS Agency will process completed applications within 10 business days.

CROSS REFERENCES:

Policy and Procedure Manual

EMT / AEMT Incident Investigations, Determination of Action, Notification and Administrative Hearing Process, Reference No. 903