



POLICY NO:	PER 2
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## EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN (EMT) CERTIFICATION, RENEWAL AND REINSTATEMENT

**Authority:** Health and Safety Code Division 2.5, Section 1797.210, Title 22 California Code of Regulations, Section 100079 and California Penal Code, Section 11105

**Purpose:** The purpose of this policy is to provide direction for individuals that are interested in becoming certified as EMT’s in California through the San Mateo County EMS Agency.

### Definitions:

Certifying Examinations – the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technician (NREMT) EMT Written and EMT Skills examinations to test an individual applying for certification as an EMT.

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) – a person who has successfully completed an EMT-Basic or EMT-I course that meets the requirements of the California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 2, has passed all required examinations, and has been certified by a California EMT certifying authority/entity.

EMT Certifying Authority/Entity – an agency authorized to certify and recertify Emergency Medical Technicians. For San Mateo County, the San Mateo County EMS Agency is the EMT Certifying Entity.

### Requirements for Initial/New EMT Certification

In order to be eligible for certification as an EMT, an applicant must:

1. Be at least eighteen (18) years of age, documented by a California Driver License, California ID or U.S. passport.
2. Complete a State and Federal (DOJ/FBI) fingerprinting criminal history background check (Live Scan) for the San Mateo County EMS Agency and State of California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) listed as the contributing and additional response agencies respectively.
3. Meet ONE of the following training/education criteria:

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- a. Pass the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) written and skills examinations AND have one of the following:
    - i. A valid EMT course completion record from a California-approved initial EMT course within the past two (2) years; *or*
    - ii. Documentation of successful completion of an approved out-of-state initial EMT training course, within the last two (2) years, that meets the requirements for a California EMT training program; *or*
    - iii. A current and valid out-of-state EMT certificate.
  - b. Possess a current and valid National Registry EMT registration certificate (NREMT card).
  - c. Possess a current and valid out-of-state or National Registry Advanced EMT (EMT-Intermediate) or Paramedic certificate.
  - d. Possess a current and valid California Advanced EMT or EMT-II certification or a current and valid California Paramedic license.
4. Complete and sign the San Mateo County EMS Agency EMT [Application](#), that includes the affidavit “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 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 EMT in California.”
5. Disclose the following:
- a. Any prior and/or current certification, licensure, or accreditation action, investigations, or denial of, an EMT, Advanced EMT, Paramedic, or health-related license.
  - b. Any pending or current criminal investigations, pending criminal charges, or prior convictions.
  - c. Any certifying entity or LEMSA to which the applicant has applied for certification in the previous 12 months.
6. Provide a copy of a current CPR/AED card.
7. Pay the appropriate State and County EMT certification fees. See EMS website for details.

## Requirements for Certification Renewal:

In order to be eligible for certification renewal, an applicant must:

1. Provide a copy of the most recent EMT Certification card issued in California.
2. Complete and provide proof of a successfully completed California EMT Skills Competency Verification using form [EMSA-SCV 01/17](#).
  - a. Skills competency must be verified by direct observation of an actual or simulated hands-on patient contact, by an individual who is currently certified or licensed as an EMT, AEMT, Paramedic, Registered Nurse, Physician's Assistant, or Physician AND who shall be designated by an EMS approved training program (EMT training program, AEMT training program, Paramedic training program or CE provider), or an EMS service provider.
  - b. Demonstration of Epinephrine & Naloxone Administration (i.e. skill 9) will remain optional until **July 1, 2019**, when new training requirements go into effect (see #10 below).
3. Complete and sign the San Mateo County EMS Agency EMT [Application](#).
4. Disclose the following:
  - a. Any prior and/or current certification, licensure, or accreditation action, investigations, or denial of, an EMT, Advanced EMT, Paramedic, or health-related license
  - b. Any pending or current criminal investigations, pending criminal charges, or prior convictions
  - c. Any certifying entity or LEMSA to which the applicant has applied for certification in the previous 12 months
5. Provide a copy of a current CPR/AED card for the Professional Rescuer from the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross or Cal Fire. An AHA Heartsaver card with specific modules will be considered.
6. Provide a copy of a current California Driver License (to stay consistent w/previous EMT Cert requirements), California I.D. or U.S. passport.
7. If the applicant has not previously obtained a DOJ/FBI Fingerprinting Background Check (Live Scan) for the San Mateo County EMS Agency for EMT certification, one must be obtained for renewal.
8. Provide documentation of completion of **twenty-four (24) hours** of continuing education certificates, with a minimum of twelve (12) instructor based CE hours, from

an approved California EMS CE Provider, or Commission on Accreditation for Prehospital Continuing Education (CAPCE) Provider. (KR – may be outdated, but I thought CECBEMS was the approval authority?) (GF – CECBEMS is now CAPCE. Approved CA CE Providers are also accepted – see EMSA page).

- a. CE hours may be used to renew multiple licensure/certification types as long as they are earned within the licensure/certification cycle being renewed and were not used in a previous cycle.
9. Pay the appropriate State and County EMT certification fees. See website for details.
  10. Effective **July 1, 2019**, EMTs applying for certification renewal for the first time shall submit documentation of successful completion training listed in a., b., and c. of this section, by an approved EMT training program or approved CE provider. Individuals who possess a current California-issued paramedic license or California Advanced EMT certificate, need not comply with this section.
    - a. The use and administration of naloxone, or other opioid antagonist, that meets the standards and requirements of Title 22., Div. 9, Chapter 2 of California Code of Regulations.
    - b. The use and administration of epinephrine by auto-injector that meets the standards and requirements of Title 22., Div. 9, Chapter 2 of California Code of Regulations.
    - c. The use of a glucometer that meets the standards and requirements Title 22., Div. 9, Chapter 2 of California Code of Regulations.

#### **Reinstatement of an EMT Certificate Expired Six (6) Months or Less:**

See Certification Renewal requirements, above.

#### **Reinstatement of an EMT Certificate Expired Greater Than Six (6) Months, Less Than Twelve (12) Months:**

In order to be eligible for reinstatement, an applicant must:

1. Provide documentation of completion of **thirty-six (36) hours** of continuing education (CE) certificates, with a minimum of eighteen (18) instructor based CE hours, from an approved California EMS CE Provider, or Commission on Accreditation for Prehospital Continuing Education (CAPCE) Provider.
  - a. CEs must be completed within the twenty-four (24) months period prior to application for reinstatement.

- b. CE hours may be used to renew multiple licensure/certification types as long as they are earned within the licensure/certification cycle being renewed and were not used in a previous cycle.
2. Complete all other requirements under Certification Renewal (above).

**Reinstatement of an EMT Certificate Expired Greater Than Twelve (12) Months:**

In order to be eligible for reinstatement, an applicant must:

1. Provide documentation of completion of **forty-eight (48) hours** of continuing education certificates, with a minimum of twenty-four (24) instructor based CE hours from an approved California EMS CE Provider, or Commission on Accreditation for Prehospital Continuing Education (CAPCE) Provider.
  - a. CEs must be completed within the twenty-four (24) months period prior to application for reinstatement.
  - b. CE hours may be used to renew multiple licensure/certification types as long as they are earned within the licensure/certification cycle being renewed and were not used in a previous cycle.
2. Provide documentation of current NREMT certificate (i.e. NREMT card).
3. Complete a State and Federal (DOJ/FBI) fingerprinting criminal history background check (Live Scan) for the San Mateo County EMS Agency and State of California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) listed as contributing and additional response agencies respectively.
4. Complete all other requirements under Certification Renewal (above).

**Issuance of EMT Card for Certification, Renewal and Reinstatement:**

1. The San Mateo County EMS Agency will issue a wallet-sized certificate card within forty-five (45) days to eligible individuals who apply for an EMT certificate and successfully complete the requirements for certification.

Initial EMT Certification

1. The effective date of initial certification shall be the day the certificate is issued.
2. The expiration date for an initial EMT certificate shall be the last day of the month two (2) years from the effective date of the initial certification.

Certification Renewal

1. If the EMT renewal requirements are met within six (6) months prior to the current certification expiration date, the San Mateo County EMS Agency shall make the effective date of renewal the date immediately following the expiration date of the current certificate.
2. Certification will expire the last day of the month two (2) years from the day prior to the effective date.
3. If the EMT renewal requirements are met greater than six (6) months prior to the expiration date, the San Mateo County EMS Agency shall make the effective date of renewal the day the certificate is issued. Certification expiration date will be the last day of the month two (2) years from the effective date.

#### Certification Reinstatement

1. Individuals who meet the requirements for reinstatement shall be issued a certificate with effective date of reinstatement the day the certificate is issued.
2. The certification expiration date will be the last day of the month two (2) years from the effective date.

#### **Additional Requirements**

1. The EMT shall be responsible for notifying the certifying entity of her/his proper and current mailing address and shall notify the 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 EMT registry number.
2. An EMT shall only be certified by one (1) certifying entity during a certification period.