





**SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
EMERGENCY
MEDICAL SERVICES**

EMS POLICY	306
Effective:	April 2025
Approval: EMS Director Travis Kusman, MPH	Signed: 
Approval: EMS Medical Director Greg Gilbert, MD	Signed: 

BLS AGENCY AND PUBLIC SAFETY OPTIONAL SKILLS

I. PURPOSE

This policy describes the criteria and process for BLS and Public Safety agencies applying for approval to utilize “Optional Scope” skills in the provision of prehospital clinical care.

II. AUTHORITY

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 2, Article 2, Section 100066.04

III. DEFINITION

Emergency Medical Services Agency (“LEMSA”) [or “Agency”]: The San Mateo County EMS Agency is designated as the Local Emergency Medical Services Agency (LEMSA) and is statutorily charged with primary responsibility for administration and medical control of emergency medical services in San Mateo County.

IV. APPLICANT CRITERIA

- A. BLS agencies must meet Title 22 optional scope requirements including, but not limited to LEMSA approved: Curriculum, skills training, testing, mandatory reporting to LEMSA, and minimum two (2) year training cycle for any approved optional scope(s) of practice.
- B. Public Safety agencies must be POST certified and meet optional scope requirements including but not limited to the LEMSA approved: Curriculum, skills training, testing, mandatory reporting to LEMSA, and minimum two (2) year training cycle for any approved optional scope(s) of practice.
- C. Any participating agency **MUST** train and approve every field provider to the same level, as well as maintain, and submit training records to the LEMSA at initial training and every two (2) years thereafter.

V. NOTIFICATION

Upon approval or revocation of optional scope for BLS or Public Safety agency, the LEMSA will notify all EMS responders and the Base Hospital.

VI. REVOCATION

The LEMSA reserves the right to revoke approval of any Optional Scope of practice or program at any time.

- A. Failure to meet the following specific obligations and/or comply with any LEMSA or

Title 22 requirements may constitute cause for revocation:

1. Completion, documentation, and submission of minimum two-year training cycle for all employees.
2. Documentation submitted to the LEMSA for each intervention/ deployment applicable to patient care within 24 hours.
3. Annual agency reporting for total number of deployments/ interventions.
4. Fulfill any ad-hoc reporting request within two (2) business days.

VII. APPLICATION PROCESS

The Agency Chief or Director shall submit a formal letter of application for specific skill(s) and supporting documentation that includes:

- A. Proposed training curriculum that meets Title 22 criteria;
- B. Test material for didactic portion of curriculum;
- C. Testing parameters and sign-off for practical skills evaluation;
- D. Plan to maintain optional scope education and skills testing at minimum two (2) year training cycle;
- E. Protocol for optional scope intervention;
- F. Documentation plan for skill/ intervention(s); and
- G. Plan and format for ad-hoc and annual reporting.