

POLICY: 211.00
TITLE: Emergency Medical Responder Certification

EFFECTIVE: 1/1/2025
REVIEW: 1/2028
SUPERCEDES:

APPROVAL SIGNATURES ON FILE IN EMS OFFICE

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONDER CERTIFICATION

I. AUTHORITY

Section 2.03 of the EMS System Guidelines California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.94, 1797.182 and 1797.210; California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 1.5, Chapter 2.

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Agency" means the Mountain Counties Emergency Medical Services Agency.
- B. "Approved Training Program" means an Agency-approved Emergency Medical Responder Training Program which is taught to the standards of the National Standard curriculum which includes first aid practices and CPR.
- C. "Certification" means the issuance of a card or certificate which verifies that an individual has successfully met the requirements contained in this policy.
- D. "Emergency Medical Responder" (formerly known as First Responder) means an individual who has successfully completed a 40-Hour Emergency Medical Responder course which is taught to the standards of the National Standard curriculum and has met all certification requirements. "Candidate" means an individual who is applying for certification as an Emergency Medical Responder.
- E. "Initial Certification" means certification of a candidate who has never previously held a valid Emergency Medical Responder certification with this Agency.
- F. "Lapsed Certification" means certification has expired.
- G. "Re-Certification" means re-issuance of certification issued by the Agency.

III. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide a mechanism whereby individuals may acquire certification as an Emergency Medical Responder.

IV. POLICY

The Agency shall issue Emergency Medical Responder certification to those candidates that meet the requirements of this policy.

A. Initial Certification:

To be eligible for initial Emergency Medical Responder certification in the Agency an individual shall:

1. Successfully complete an Agency-approved Emergency Medical Responder course;
2. Pass, by preestablished standards, a competency-based written and skills certifying examination, approved by the Agency;

3. Be currently certified in Professional Rescuer or Healthcare Provider cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) by the American Heart Association, Red Cross, National Safety Council or other course approved by the Agency;
 4. Be currently certified in automatic external defibrillation (AED) by the American Heart Association, Red Cross, National Safety Council or other course approved by the Agency.
 5. Apply for certification within one year of the date of course completion;
 6. Be eighteen years of age or older;
 7. Complete an Agency-approved application;
 8. Complete and sign an affidavit stating that the applicant is not precluded from certification for reasons defined in Section 1798.200 of the Health and Safety Code;
 9. Submit a copy of a State of California Driver's License or State of California Identification Card, US Passport, or U.S. Military identification Card for identification purposes;
 10. Complete a live scan criminal background check by the California Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation;
 11. Pay the approved Agency certification fee;
- B. Verification of compliance with Agency Policy 853.00- Prehospital Training Standards.
- C. 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 will be the final day of the final month of the subsequent two (2) year period.
- D. Re-certification:
To be eligible for Emergency Medical Responder re-certification in the Agency an individual shall:
1. Submit proof of successfully completing twelve hours of EMS continuing education from an approved EMS CE provider;
 2. Submit a completed skills competency verification form by direct observation of an actual or simulated patient contact. Skills competency shall be verified by an individual currently licensed or certified as an EMT, AEMT, Paramedic, RN, PA or Physician and who shall be designated by the applicant's first response provider or by the Agency. The skills requiring verification of competency are:
 - a. Patient examination, trauma;
 - b. Patient examination, medical
 - c. Airway emergencies;
 - d. Breathing emergencies;
 - e. Automated external defibrillation;
 - f. Circulation emergencies;
 - g. Neurologic emergencies;
 - h. Soft tissue injuries;
 - i. Musculoskeletal injuries;
 - j. Obstetrical emergencies.
 3. Be currently certified in Professional Rescuer or Healthcare Provider cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) by the American Heart Association, Red Cross, National Safety Council or other course approved by the Agency;

4. Be currently certified in automatic external defibrillation (AED) by the American Heart Association, Red Cross, National Safety Council or other course approved by the Agency;
 5. Be eighteen years of age or older;
 6. Complete a statement stating that the individual applying for certification is not precluded from certification for reasons defined in Section 1798.200 of the Health and Safety Code;
 7. Submit a copy of a State of California Driver's License or State of California Identification Card, US Passport or Military Identification Card for identification purposes;
 8. If the recertifying Emergency Medical Responder has not previously completed a live scan criminal background check by the California Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, they will be required to do so.
 9. If the re-certification requirements are met within six months prior to the expiration date, the effective date of certification will be the expiration date of the current certification period.
 10. If the re-certification requirements are met greater than six months prior to the expiration date, the effective date of certification will be the date the applicant 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 subsequent two-year period.
- E. Lapses in Certification:
1. Applicants who have allowed their certification to expire beyond six months, but less than twelve-months shall be required to complete an additional 6 hours of EMS continuing education
 2. Applicants who have allowed their certification to expire beyond twelve months but less than twenty-four months shall be required to complete an additional twelve hours of EMS continuing education.
 3. Applicants who have allowed their certification to expire beyond twenty-four months shall complete all of the requirements for initial certification including the successful completion of an Agency-approved EMR Course.
- F. Abandonment of Application: An application shall be considered abandoned, if the requirements for certification have not been completed and submitted to the EMS Agency within 90 days of the Livescan form or notice of incomplete application has been mailed to the applicant. The EMS Agency may allow for one, thirty (30) day extension of the initial 90-day period, under extreme circumstances. Once an application has been deemed abandoned applicants must reapply, meet the requirements and pay any applicable fees prior to issuance of a certification.
- G. Emergency Medical Responder certification shall be denied, or an Emergency Medical Responder certification may be suspended or revoked if they meet any of the following:
- i. Has committed any sexually-related offense specified under Section 290 of the Penal Code

- ii. Been convicted of murder, attempted murder, or murder for hire
- iii. Been convicted of two or more felonies
- iv. Is on parole or probation for any felony
- v. Been convicted and released from incarceration during the preceding fifteen years of the crime of manslaughter or involuntary manslaughter
- vi. Been convicted and released from incarceration during the preceding ten years for any offense punishable as a felony
- vii. Been convicted of two misdemeanors within the preceding five years for any offense relating to the use, sale, possession, or transportation of narcotics or addictive or dangerous drugs
- viii. Been convicted of two misdemeanors within the preceding five years for any offense relating to force, violence, threat, or intimidation.
- ix. Been convicted within the preceding five years of any theft related misdemeanor.
- x. Has committed any act within the preceding seven years involving fraud or intentional dishonesty for personal gain

H. Upon successful completion of all Certification requirements, the candidate shall be issued Certification for a maximum period of two (2) years. The effective date of certification shall be the date the candidate satisfies all certification requirements. The certification expiration date will be the final day of the final month of the two (2) year period.