

PURPOSE: The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for issuing Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) certification in the San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system.

AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section 1797.220; & 1798 et seq.; California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 12, Section 100404.

POLICY:

I. Initial Certification:

- A. In order to be eligible for EMR certification by the San Joaquin County EMS Agency (SJCEMSA), an individual shall:
1. Submit a completed EMR certification application.
 2. Possess a valid EMR course completion record issued from a program approved by the SJCEMSA.
 3. Apply for certification within two years of the date of course completion.
 4. Be eighteen (18) years of age or older.
 5. Submit copies of the following:
 - a. Valid state identification card (i.e., driver's license) or valid federal identification (i.e., military identification).
 - b. Current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) for the Professional Rescuer or Healthcare Provider, issued from the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, or programs approved by the SJCEMSA.
 - c. EMR course completion record.
 6. Submit proof of employment with an approved San Joaquin County EMR provider agency or be a current San Joaquin County disaster healthcare volunteer (DHV).
 7. Pay the certification fee established by the Board of Supervisors. All fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.

II. Maintenance of Certification:

- A. In order to maintain certification, an EMR shall:
1. Submit a completed EMR application, no later than thirty (30) days prior to expiration of their certification.
 2. Possess a current EMR certification issued by SJCEMSA.
 3. Obtain at least twelve (12) hours of EMS continuing education (CE) from an

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- approved EMS CE provider or successfully complete a twelve-hour EMR refresher course from an approved SJCEMSA training program.
4. Submit the following:
 - a. Completed Emergency Medical Responder Skills Competency Verification form (EMS Form # 2210A).
 - b. Valid state identification card (i.e., driver's license) or valid federal identification (i.e., military identification).
 - c. Current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) for the Professional Rescuer or Healthcare Provider, issued from the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, or programs approved by the SJCEMSA.
 5. Submit proof of employment with an approved San Joaquin County EMR provider agency or proof of being a current San Joaquin County DHV.
 6. Pay the certification fee established by the Board of Supervisors. All fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.
 7. A California certified EMR who is a member of the Armed Forces of the United States and whose certification expires while deployed on active duty, or whose certification expires less than six (6) months from the date they return from active duty deployment, with the Armed Forces of the United States shall have six (6) months from the date they return from active duty deployment to complete the requirements of Section II. In order to qualify for this exception, the individual shall:
 - a. Submit proof of his or her membership in the Armed Forces of the United States, and
 - b. Submit documentation of his or her deployment starting and ending dates.
 - c. EMS CE credit may be given for documented training that meets the requirements of California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 11, while the individual was deployed on active duty.
 - d. The continuing education documentation shall include verification from the individual's Commanding Officer attesting to the training attended.

III. Lapsed Certification:

- A. Applicants who have allowed their certification to expire beyond six (6) months but less than twelve (12) months shall be required to complete an additional six (6) hours of EMS CE for a total of eighteen (18) hours of EMS CE within the last twenty-four (24) months.
- B. Applicants who have allowed their certification to expire beyond twelve (12) months but less than twenty-four (24) months shall be required to complete an

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additional twelve (12) hours of EMS for a total of twenty-four (24) hours of EMS CE within the last twenty-four (24) months and shall pass the written and skills examinations required for initial certification.

- C. Applicants who have allowed their certification to expire beyond twenty-four (24) months shall complete all of the requirements of initial certification including successful completion of an approved EMR training course.

IV. Certification Dates:

- A. The effective date of the initial EMR certification shall be the date the certificate is issued after the individual has satisfactorily completed all certification requirements and has applied for certification. The certification expiration date will be the final day of the final month of the two-year period, except in the following instances:

1. For applicants meeting the requirements for maintaining certification greater than six months prior to expiration, the effective date of certification shall be the date the applicant satisfactorily completes all requirements and has applied for certification and the certification is issued. The new certification expiration shall be the final day of the final month of the two-year period.

- V. Falsification of any of the certification/recertification documents may result in the denial of the application.

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