



# San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services Agency



<http://www.sjgov.org/ems>

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EMS Policy Memorandum No. 2020-19 (Revised v.3)

DATE: July 20, 2020

TO: All Prehospital Care Providers

FROM: Katherine Shafer, M.D., EMS Medical Director

SUBJ.: Coronavirus (COVID-19) EMS Personnel Applicants (Revised v.3)

The San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Services Agency (SJCEMSA) is implementing provisions to maintain an adequate healthcare workforce per Governor Newsom's Executive Orders N-27-20 and N-39-20. Therefore, I am issuing this directive. This memorandum supersedes SJCEMSA Policy Memorandum No. 2020-19, Coronavirus (COVID-19) EMS Personnel Applicants (Revised v.2). This memorandum is effective through the end of the declared COVID-19 pandemic health emergency.

1. For all certification, accreditation, and authorization applications:

EMS Personnel certification, accreditation, and authorization with expiration dates for March 31, 2020, April 30, 2020, May 31, 2020 and June 30, 2020 have been extended to July 31, 2020. Temporary cards will not be issued for this extension. For the purpose of this extension, when a certification, accreditation, or authorization is renewed, by submission of a complete and valid application, the expiration date will revert to the historical month of expiration.

Valid state identification cards (i.e., driver's license) that have expired during the current COVID-19 pandemic shall be accepted with initial and renewal applications. Prehospital care personnel that would otherwise need to renew their driver's license are hereby required to submit their most current state identification card, even if it is expired, with their application.

2. For EMS Policy No. 2101, EMS Dispatcher Accreditation

Renewal modification: The requirement to complete four (4) hours of ride-along observation with an approved San Joaquin County ALS emergency provider shall be waived during the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. For EMS Policy No. 2210, Emergency Medical Responder Certification

Renewal modification: The requirement to submit a completed EMR Skills Competency Verification Form (EMS Form #2210A) shall be waived during the COVID-19 pandemic.

4. For EMS Policy No. 2310, Emergency Medical Technician Certification

Initial modification: Applicants that submit a “Provisional NREMT” card will be processed with a six-month “active-restricted” EMT certification. A certification card will not be issued. The certification will need to be verified online at <https://emsverification.emsa.ca.gov/verification/>. Once the applicant completes the NREMT requirements and the SJCEMSA is notified, the full certification time will be granted and the card will be printed.

Renewal modifications: The requirement to submit a completed EMT Skills Competency Verification Form (EMSA-SCV (01/17)) shall be waived during the COVID-19 pandemic.

5. For EMS Policy No. 2540, Paramedic Accreditation

Initial modification

Applicants with a “Active-RESTRICTED” paramedic license are required to obtain an unrestricted “Active” license by successfully completing the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) psychomotor exam within six (6) months of the NREMT allowing testing to maintain their accreditation. “Active-RESTRICTED” licenses will be issued a temporary six month accreditation card and will be monitored for NREMT testing availability.

Renewal modification: No modification.

6. For EMS Policy No. 2570, Paramedic Preceptor Authorization

No modification: The requirement that “Paramedic Preceptors shall attend one paramedic preceptor conference each year of the authorization term,” will remain a requirement during the public health emergency. The preceptor conferences scheduled for March 23, 2020 and June 26, 2020 have been cancelled. Authorized Paramedic Preceptors will need to participate in one of the remaining preceptor conferences scheduled for September 21, 2020 or October 16, 2020.

7. For EMS Policy No. 2571, Paramedic Student Field Internship Authorization

Initial modification: No modification.

8. For EMS Policy No. 2610, Mobile Intensive Care Nurse (MICN) Authorization

Initial modification: The requirement to complete eight (8) hours of ride-along observation with an approved San Joaquin County ALS emergency provider shall be suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic. After the MICN applicant successfully completes their

MICN course, SJCEMSA shall issue a temporary authorization not to exceed six (6) months (less time will be issued if the registered nursing license expires prior to six (6) months). MICNs with temporary authorization will then be required to complete within six months from the end of the COVID-19 pandemic eight (8) hours of ride-along observation with an approved San Joaquin County ALS emergency provider.

Renewal modifications: The requirement to complete twelve (12) hours of approved EMS continuing education, that shall at a minimum include six (6) base hospital case reviews held by San Joaquin General Hospital or SJCEMSA, shall be waived until December 31, 2020. Renewal applications submitted after January 1, 2021, will be required to have completed twelve (12) hours of approved EMS continuing education that, shall at a minimum, include six (6) base hospital case reviews held by San Joaquin General Hospital or SJCEMSA.

If you have any questions regarding this memorandum, you may contact Christine Tualla, EMS Specialist by email at [ctualla@sigov.org](mailto:ctualla@sigov.org) or by telephone at (209) 468-6818.