

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for issuing and maintaining Mobile Intensive Care Nurse (MICN) authorization by the San Joaquin County EMS Agency (SJCEMSA).

AUTHORITY:

Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section 1797.5, 1797.210, 1797.220, and 1798.207. California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 4 Section 100169(b) (8).

POLICY:

I. Initial Authorization

- A. In order to be authorized as an MICN in San Joaquin County, the candidate shall:
1. Submit a completed MICN application.
  2. Be a currently licensed registered nurse, in good standing, in the State of California.
  3. Have at least one year of experience as a full-time RN in a critical care area such as ED, ICU, or CCU in the past two (2) years. This experience needs to be verified by the prehospital liaison nurse (PLN) at the base hospital, who shall complete the verification section of the MICN Application.
  4. Apply for authorization within thirty (30) days of MICN course completion, unless previously authorized as an MICN.
  5. Submit copies of the following prior to the first day of MICN authorization training
    - a. Copy of current and valid State of California Registered Nurse License verification printout from <https://www.rn.ca.gov/online/verify.shtml>.
    - b. Current and valid state identification card (i.e., driver's license) or current valid federal identification (i.e., military identification).
    - c. Current and valid Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certification.
    - d. Current and valid certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) for the Professional Rescuer or Healthcare Provider, issued from the American Heart

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- Association, American Red Cross, or programs approved by the SJCEMSA.
- e. Current and valid Trauma Nursing Core Course (TNCC)
  - f. Pay the application fee.
6. Successfully complete the SJCEMSA MICN Course comprised of:
    - a. Minimum of twenty-four (24) hours of didactic instruction;
    - b. Eight (8) hours of ambulance field observation with an SJCEMSA approved emergency ambulance service provider;
  7. On the first day of instruction submit proof of completion of the following prerequisites:
    - a. ICS-100 Introduction to Incident Command System,
    - b. ICS-200 ICS for Single Resource and Initial Action Incidents.
    - c. SJCEMSA Minimally Interrupted Cardiac Resuscitation (MICR) Video and Post Test.
  8. Successfully pass, with a score of 80% or higher, a closed book examination of SJCEMSA policies.
  9. Pass with a score of 75% or higher, a proctored radio exam.
- B. An MICN who has completed the requirements of I. A. 1 – 7 may work as an interim MICN, for an approved San Joaquin County Base Hospital pending completion of the authorization process. The interim MICN shall work under the direct supervision of an SJCEMSA authorized MICN.
- C. Interim status may be maintained for a maximum of ninety (90) days. If the interim MICN does not complete the authorization process within ninety (90) days, the individual shall re-start the authorization process. At the discretion of the SJCEMSA this time frame may be extended following a written request from the applicant and an explanation as to why the authorization process was not completed during the initial ninety (90) day time period.
- D. The following components of the authorization process shall be completed by the interim MICN under the direct supervision of the base hospital coordinator/PLN:
1. Ten (10) actual or simulated ALS base contacts.
  2. Demonstrate knowledge of skills and medications which are part of the San Joaquin County paramedic scope of practice.
  3. The PLN shall document the orientation/training on the MICN Orientation Verification Form (2610A) and submit it to SJCEMSA.
- E. Individuals applying for authorization shall receive notification of the SJCEMSA's decision to approve or deny authorization within thirty (30) days of submission of a complete application packet.
- F. The effective date of initial authorization shall be the day the authorization

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is issued.

- G. The expiration date for an initial MICN Authorization shall be concurrent with the expiration date of the State of California Register Nurse License.
- H. The SJCEMSA Medical Director shall evaluate any candidate who fails to successfully complete the authorization process. The Medical Director may recommend further evaluation or training or deny authorization.

## II. Re-Authorization

- A. In order to be eligible for re-authorization in San Joaquin County an individual shall:
  - 1. Submit a completed MICN re-authorization form thirty (30) days prior to the expiration date of their current MICN Authorization.
  - 2. Submit copies of the following
    - a. Copy of current and valid State of California Registered Nurse License verification printout from <https://www.rn.ca.gov/online/verify.shtml>
    - b. Current and valid state identification card (i.e., driver's license) or current and valid federal identification (i.e., military identification).
    - c. Current and valid ACLS certification.
    - d. Current and valid 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.
  - 3. Complete the following requirements every two (2) years and document on the MICN Continuing Education Form, 2610B:
    - a. Twelve (12) hours of approved EMS continuing education that shall at a minimum include:
      - i. Completion of six (6) base hospital case reviews held by San Joaquin General Hospital or SJCEMSA.
  - 4. Successfully complete mandatory training sessions as may be required by SJCEMSA. These sessions may include training and testing on new or revised local EMS policies and procedures, or other topics pertinent to prehospital care in the San Joaquin County EMS system.
- B. MICN re-authorization shall expire on the same date as the applicant's State of California RN License.

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III. CQI Process

- A. If through the CQI process the employer or SJCEMSA Medical Director determines that an MICN needs additional training, observation or testing, the employer or the SJCEMSA Medical Director may create a specific and targeted program of remediation based upon the identified need of the MICN. If there is disagreement between the employer and the Medical Director, the decision of the Medical Director shall prevail.

IV. Lapsed Authorization

- A. In order for an individual whose authorization has lapsed to be eligible for renewal, the following applies:
1. For a lapse of less than twenty-four (24) months, requirements listed in II. A. 1 – 6 must be met.
  2. For a lapse of more than twenty-four (24) months, all requirements listed in I. must be met.

- V. MICN's shall be responsible for notifying the SJCEMSA of his/her proper and current mailing address and shall notify the SJCEMSA in writing within thirty (30) calendar days.

- VI. Falsification of any of the authorization documents may result in denial of authorization and referral to the appropriate state licensing body for disciplinary action.

VII. Testing:

- A. An applicant is allowed to take the PAO/PSR course examination a maximum of three (3) times.
1. First Attempt: During initial PAO course or PSR course.
  2. Second Attempt: May be scheduled after a one (1) week waiting period from the initial examination.
  3. Third Attempt: May be scheduled following completion of four (4) hours of remedial training pertaining to the San Joaquin County EMS Policies.
  4. If the applicant's authorization lapses because of repeated attempts to pass the examination then the Paragraph III shall apply. Additionally, after three (3) failed attempts the SJCEMSA Medical Director may suspend or revoke the applicant's authorization until such time that the applicant passes the

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- examination.
- B. It is a misdemeanor for any person to knowingly and willfully engage in conduct that subverts or attempts to subvert any certification or licensing examination or the administration of an examination, conducted pursuant to the Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, including any authorization examination process. Unlawful conduct includes:
1. Conduct that violates the security of the examination material.
  2. Removing from the examination room any examination materials without authorization.
  3. The unauthorized reproduction by any means of any portion of the actual licensing or certification examination.
  4. Aiding by any means the unauthorized reproduction of any portion of the actual licensing or certification examination.
  5. Paying or using professional or paid examination-takers, for the purpose of reconstructing any portion of the licensing or certification examination.
  6. Obtaining or attempting to obtain examination questions or other examination material from examinees or by any other method, except by specific authorization before, during, or after an examination.
  7. Using or purporting to use any examination questions or materials that were improperly removed or taken from any examination for the purpose of instructing or preparing any applicant for examination.
  8. Selling, distributing, buying, receiving, or having unauthorized possession of any portion of a future, current, or previously administered licensing or certification examination.
  9. Communicating with any other examinee during the administration of a licensing or certification examination.
  10. Copying answers from another examinee or permitting one's answers to be copied by another examinee.
  11. Having in one's possession during the administration of the licensing or certification examination any books, equipment, notes written or printed materials, or data of any kind, other than the examination materials distributed, or otherwise authorized to be in one's possession during the examination.
  12. Impersonating any examinee or having an impersonator take the licensing or certification examination on one's behalf.
- C. The penalties provided for in Health and Safety Code Section 1798.207 are not exclusive remedies and shall not preclude remedies provided pursuant to any other provision of law.

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- D. In addition to any other penalties, a person found guilty of violating Health and Safety Code Section 1798.207 shall be liable for the actual damages sustained by the agency administering the examination not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) and the costs of litigation.

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