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## **EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN (EMT) CERTIFICATION PROCESS**

### **PURPOSE**

To establish a process by which individuals obtain Yolo County Emergency Medical Services Agency (YEMSA) certification as an EMT.

### **AUTHORITY**

Health & Safety Code, Division 2.5, Chapter 4, Article 1, §§ 1797.204, 1797.210, 1797.212  
California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 1.5, Article 4, § 100026

### **DEFINITIONS**

**Emergency Medical Technician:** Also known as Emergency Medical Technician-Basic (EMT-B), they are individuals who are specially trained to provide out-of-hospital care, Basic Life Support (BLS), in medical emergencies. There are many different types of EMTs, each with different levels of training. EMTs have a limited Scope of Practice and comprehensive education, clinical experience or clinical skills. EMTs are often employed by ambulances services, fire departments, and police departments. They have successfully completed an EMT course that meets the requirements of the California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 1.5, has passed all required tests, and has been certified by a California EMT certifying entity.

### **POLICY**

- I. YEMSA certification is required for all prehospital personnel functioning as an EMT in the YEMSA region.
- II. This policy does not apply to personnel who are certified by another EMT certifying entity (CAL FIRE, California Highway Patrol [CHP], etc.).
- III. No individual shall hold himself or herself out to be an EMT unless that individual is currently certified such by YEMSA or another EMT certifying entity.

### **PROCEDURE**

- I. Initial EMT Certification Requirements
  - A. An individual who meets one (1) of the following criteria shall be eligible for initial certification upon fulfilling the requirements specified in item (B) of this section of the policy:
    1. Pass the written examination and skills examination and have either:
      - a. A valid EMT course completion record, dated within the past twelve (12) months, from a YEMSA Approved EMT training program, or
      - b. Possess a valid course completion record or other documented proof of successful completion, dated within the past twelve (12) months, of any initial training program that meets or exceeds the United States (U.S.) Department of Transportation (DOT) Emergency Medical



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- Responder National Emergency Medical Services Educational Standards and Instructional Guidelines, or,
- c. A current and valid out-of-state EMT certificate.
  2. Possess a current and valid National Registry EMT registration certificate.
  3. Possess a current and valid out-of-state or National Registry EMT Intermediate or Paramedic certificate.
  4. Possess a current and valid California Advanced EMT or EMT-II certification or a current and valid California Paramedic license.
- B. In addition to meeting one (1) of the criteria specified in item (A) of this section of the policy, to be eligible for initial certification, an individual shall:
1. Be eighteen (18) years of age or older.
  2. Complete a criminal history background check no longer than sixty (60) days prior to the date the certification application is submitted.
  3. Complete an application form that contains this statement: "I hereby certify **under penalty of perjury** that all information on this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I understand that any falsification or omission of material facts may cause forfeiture on my part of all rights to EMT certification in the State of California. I understand all information on this application is subject to verification, and I hereby give my express permission for this certifying entity to contact any person or agency for information related to my role and function as an EMT in the State of California."
  4. Disclose any certification or licensure action:
    - a. Against an EMR, EMT, Advanced EMT, or EMT-II certificate, or any denial of certification by a California Local EMS Agency, including any active investigations;
    - b. Against a Paramedic license, or any denial of licensure by the California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA), including any active investigations;
    - c. Against any EMS-related certification or license of another state or other issuing entity, including any active investigations; or
    - d. Against any health-related license.
  5. Pay the established certification fees, which are non-refundable and non-transferable and provide copies of the following:
    - a. A course completion record or current certification card from another certifying entity indicated in item (A) of this policy.
    - b. A copy of a valid U.S. state-issued driver's license or identification card.
    - c. A copy of a current and valid Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certification card which is taught to the curriculum standards of the 2015 American Heart Association (AHA) Basic Life Support (BLS) for Healthcare Providers CPR/Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Program, or equivalent level.
- C. Upon completion of the above, and confirmation that the applicant meets all the criteria specified in the California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9,



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Chapter 2, Article 4, an individual shall be certified as an EMT. YEMSA shall issue a wallet-sized EMT certificate card within ten (10) business days which is valid throughout the State of California.

- D. The effective date of initial certification shall be the day the certificate is issued.
  - E. The expiration date for an initial EMT certificate shall be as follows:
    - 1. For an individual who meets the criteria listed in items (A.1.a) or (A.1.b) of this policy, the expiration date shall be the last day of the month two (2) years from the effective date of the initial certification.
    - 2. For an individual who meets the criteria listed in item (A.1.c), (A.2), (A.3), or (A.4) of this policy, the expiration date shall be the lesser of the following:
      - a. The last day of the month two (2) years from the effective date of the initial certification; or
      - b. The expiration date of the certificate or license used to establish eligibility under item (A) of this policy.
  - F. The EMT shall be responsible for notifying YEMSA of her/his proper and current mailing address and shall notify YEMSA in writing within thirty (30) calendar days of any and all changes of the mailing address, giving both the old and the new address, and EMT certification number.
  - G. An EMT shall be certified by only one (1) certifying entity during a certification period.
- II. Denial, Suspension or Revocation of a YEMSA EMT and/or State of California Certificate
- A. YEMSA EMT and/or State of California certification may be denied, suspended, or revoked for any act that is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of an EMT and is evidence of a threat to the public health and safety, per the Health & Safety Code, Division 2.5, Chapter 4, Article 1, § 1798.200.
- III. Application Processing
- A. A completed and signed application and all required supporting documentation must be submitted to YEMSA prior to processing. Incomplete applications will not be processed.
  - B. Incomplete applications will be maintained by YEMSA for sixty (60) days awaiting required supporting documentation. All applications not completed within sixty (60) days will be destroyed.
  - C. YEMSA will process completed applications within ten (10) business days.