

**EMS Personnel****Date: 07/01/2023****Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Certification/Recertification****Policy #2100****I. Purpose:**

A. To establish the requirements for EMT certification and recertification in Imperial County.

**II. Authority:**

A. California Health and Safety Code – Division 2.5: Emergency Medical Services 1797.170, 1797.175, 1797.210

B. California Code of Regulations, Title 22 – Division 9, Sections 100079-100083

**III. Definitions:**

A. Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) – a person who has successfully completed an EMT course that meets the requirements established by CCR Title 22, Division 9, has passed all required tests, and has been certified by a California EMT certifying entity.

B. California EMT Certifying Entity – a public safety agency or the office of the State Fire Marshal, if the agency has a training program for EMT personnel that is approved pursuant to the standards set forth in the California H&SC, Division 2.5, or the Medical Director of a California Local EMS Agency.

**IV. Policy:**

A. To be eligible for certification as an EMT in Imperial County, the candidate must meet the following criteria:

1. Initial Certification

- a. Must be 18 years of age or older.
- b. Must hold a valid EMT Course Completion Record from an approved EMT course issued within two (2) years of the date of application.
- c. Possess a current BLS card (AHA Healthcare Provider or equivalent as approved by ICEMS)
- d. Submit to a California Department of Justice (DOJ) live scan and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) criminal background check if not yet completed for Imperial County EMS.
- e. Submit a completed EMT Certification/Recertification Form found on the ICEMS website.
- f. Successfully pass the EMS Protocol & Policy exam. Exams can be scheduled directly with the County EMS office.
- g. Pay local and state established fees.

**EMS Personnel****Date: 07/01/2023****Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Certification/Recertification****Policy #2100**

- h. Provide proof of affiliation with an approved EMS service provider.
  - i. Successfully complete a precertification field evaluation by a designee of the EMS Medical Director.
  - j. An EMT shall only be certified by one (1) EMT certifying entity during a certification period.
  - k. Certification as an EMT shall be valid for a maximum of two (2) years from the effective date of certification. The expiration date shall be the final day of the month of the (2) year period.
  - l. Disclose any certification or licensure action against an EMS certification or license issued by a California LEMSA or the California EMS Authority, an EMS certification or license issued by another state or certifying entity, any health-related license, to include any active investigations
  - m. Disclose any pending or current criminal investigations.
  - n. Disclose any pending criminal charges.
  - o. Disclose any prior criminal convictions.
  - p. Disclose each certifying entity or LEMSA to which the applicant has applied for certification in the previous 12 months.
2. Recertification
- a. Possess a current EMT Certification issued in California.
  - b. Complete 24 hours of approved continuing education (CE) within two (2) years prior to application of recertification.
  - c. Submit a completed EMT Certification/Recertification Form found on the ICEMS website.
  - d. Possess a current BLS card (AHA Healthcare Provider or equivalent as approved by ICEMS)
  - e. Submit to a California Department of Justice (DOJ) live scan and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) criminal background check if not yet completed for Imperial County EMS.
  - f. Submit a Skills Competency Verification Form found on the ICEMS website.

**EMS Personnel****Date: 07/01/2023****Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Certification/Recertification****Policy #2100**

- g. Beginning July 1, 2019, an EMT renewing his or her certification for the first time shall submit documentation of successful completion of the following training by an approved EMT training program or approved CE provider:
  - i. The use and administration of naloxone or other opioid antagonist that meets the standards and requirements of CCR Title 22, Division 9, Section 100075, subsection (c).
  - ii. The use and administration of epinephrine by auto-injector that meets the standards and requirements of CCR Title 22, Division 9, Section 100075, subsection (d).
  - iii. The use of a glucometer that meets the standards and requirements of CCR Title 22, Division 9, Section 100075, subsection (e).
  - iv. If an individual possesses a current California-issued paramedic license or California Advanced EMT certificate, then the individual need not comply with 1-3 above.
- h. Submit completion of skill for mechanical ventilation devices for continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) in the spontaneously breathing patient.
  - i. Pay local and state established fees.
3. **Lapse in Certification:** In addition to the above requirements, individuals who wish to be eligible for reinstatement after their California EMT certificate has expired shall also meet the following requirements:
  - a. For a lapse of less than six (6) months, the individual shall meet the requirements for recertification identified in the section above.
  - b. For a lapse of six (6) months or more, but less than twelve (12) months, the individual shall comply with the original requirements for recertification and completed an additional twelve (12) hours of continuing education for a total of thirty-six (36) hours of training.
  - c. For a lapse of twelve (12) months or more, but less than twenty-four (24) months, the individual shall comply with the original requirements for recertification and complete an additional twenty-four (24) hours of continuing education, for a total of forty-eight (48) hours of training and pass the written and skills certification exam.

**EMS Personnel****Date: 07/01/2023****Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Certification/Recertification****Policy #2100**

- d. For a lapse of greater than twenty-four (24) months the individual shall complete an entire EMT course and comply with the original requirements for initial certification.

**B. Notification responsibilities:**

1. The EMT shall be responsible for notifying Imperial County EMS of his/her proper and current mailing and residential address and shall notify Imperial County EMS in writing within thirty (30) calendar days of any and all changes of the mailing and residential address, giving both the old and new address, and California EMT central registry number.

**C. Denial of Certification/Recertification:**

1. An application for certification and recertification shall be denied without prejudice and does not require an administrative hearing when an applicant does not meet the requirements for certification or recertification, including but not limited to:
  - a. Failure to pass certification or recertification examination.
  - b. Lack of sufficient continuing education.
  - c. Failure to furnish additional information or documents requested by the certifying entity.
  - d. Failure to pay any required fees.
2. The denial shall be in effect until all requirements for certification or recertification are met. If a certificate expires before recertification requirements are met, the certificate shall be deemed a lapsed certificate and subject to the provision pertaining to lapsed certificates.

**D. An individual who is a member of the reserves and is deployed for active duty with a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States, whose California EMT certificate expires during the time the individual is on active duty or less than six (6) months from the date the individual is deactivated/released from active duty, may be given an extension of the expiration date of the individual's EMT certificate for up to six (6) months from the date of the individual's EMT certificate upon compliance with the following provisions:**

1. Provide documentation from the respective branch of the Armed Forces of the United States verifying the individual's dates of activation and deactivation/release from duty.

**EMS Personnel**

**Date: 07/01/2023**

**Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Certification/Recertification**

**Policy #2100**

2. If there is no lapse in certification, meet the requirements for recertification. If there is a lapse, meet the requirements of a lapsed certification.
3. Provide documentation showing that the CE activities submitted for the certification renewal period were taken not earlier than thirty (30) calendar days prior to the effective date of the individual's EMT certificate that was valid when the individual was activated for duty and not later than six (6) months from the date of deactivation/release from duty.
4. For an individual whose active duty requires the use of EMT skills, credit may be given for documented training that meets the requirements of Chapter 11, EMS CE Regulations (Division 9, Title 22, California Code of Regulations) while the individual was on active duty. The documentation shall include verification from the individual's Commanding Officer attesting to the classes attended.

APPROVED:

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Katherine Staats, MD, FACEP

EMS Medical Director