

POLICY: 211.00  
TITLE: Emergency Medical Responder Certification

EFFECTIVE: 12/12/2018  
REVIEW: 12/2023  
SUPERCEDES:

APPROVAL SIGNATURES ON FILE IN EMS OFFICE

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## EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONDER CERTIFICATION

### I. AUTHORITY

Section 2.03 of the EMS System Guidelines California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.94, 1797.182 and 1797.210; California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 1.5, Chapter 2.

### II. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Agency" means the Mountain-Valley Emergency Medical Services Agency.
- B. "Approved Training Program" means an Agency approved Emergency Medical Responder Training Program which is taught to the standards of the National Standard curriculum which includes first aid practices and CPR.
- C. "Certification" means the issuance of a card or certificate which verifies that an individual has successfully met the requirements contained in this policy.
- D. "Emergency Medical Responder" (formerly known as First Responder) means an individual who has successfully completed a 40 Hour Emergency Medical Responder course which is taught to the standards of the National Standard curriculum and has met all certification requirements. "Candidate" means an individual who is applying for certification as an Emergency Medical Responder.
- E. "Initial Certification" means certification of a candidate who has never held valid Emergency Medical Responder certification with this Agency.
- F. "Lapsed Certification" means an individual whose certification has expired.
- G. "Re-Certification" means applying for a re-issuance of Certification issued by the Agency.

### III. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide a mechanism whereby individuals may acquire certification as an Emergency Medical Responder.

### IV. POLICY

The Agency shall issue Emergency Medical Responder certification to those candidates that meet the requirements of this policy.

V. PROCEDURE

- A. All candidates for certification or re-certification shall:
1. Complete an application that includes:
    - a. A copy of a current driver's license or a government issued identification card.
    - b. A signed affidavit that the candidate is at least 18 years of age.
    - c. A signed affidavit that the candidate is not precluded from certification for reasons defined in Health and Safety Code, Section 1798.200.
    - d. A copy of a current CPR certification which is taught to the curriculum standards of the American Heart Association, American Red Cross or the National Safety Council at the Health Care Provider or equivalent level.
    - e. Payment of appropriate application fee.
  2. Verification of compliance with Agency Policy 853.00- Prehospital Training Standards
  3. For Initial Certification:
    - a. Application must be submitted to the Agency within six (6) months of the date of course completion, unless candidate was certified as an Emergency Medical Responder within the past two (2) years in the state of California or a state that requires successful course completion from an approved program which is taught to the Emergency Medical Responder National Standard curriculum.
    - b. A course completion certificate from an Agency approved Emergency Medical Responder Training Program which is taught to the standards of the Emergency Medical Responder National Standard curriculum which includes first aid practices and CPR.
    - c. Candidates must successfully pass an Agency approved certification exam with a minimum passing score of 80% or proof of National Registry Emergency Medical Responder Certification.
      - 1) Candidates who do not receive a passing score on the Agency exam are eligible to retest two (2) times. If after the third attempt, the candidate does not receive a passing score, they must successfully complete an Emergency Medical Responder initial course in order to reapply for certification.
    - d. A completed Agency approved Verification of Skills Form documenting competency to National Registry standards of the following skills:
      - (1) Patient examination, trauma patient
      - (2) Patient examination, medical patient
      - (3) Airway emergencies (test on one only)

- (a) Mouth-To-Mask with Supplemental Oxygen
- (b) Upper Airway Adjuncts and Suction

(4) Breathing emergencies (test on one only)

- (a) Supplemental Oxygen Administration
- (b) Bag-Valve-Mask Apneic Patient

(5) Automated External Defibrillation

(6) Circulation Emergency - Bleeding Control - Shock Management

(7) Neurological emergencies (test on one only)

- (a) Spinal Immobilization - Seated patient
- (b) Spinal Immobilization - Supine patient

(8) Penetrating Chest Injury

(9) Epinephrine & Naloxone Administration

(10) Obstetrical Emergency

4. For Recertification:
- a. Documentation of successful completion of 16 hours of continuing education in accordance with Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 1.5, Section 100025 of the California Code of Regulations.
  - b. Successful completion of V.A.2.d of this policy.
- B. Upon successful completion of all certification requirements, the candidate will be issued certification. The Certification expiration date will be the final day of the final month of the two (2) year period.
- 1. If the Emergency Medical Responder applies for recertification within six (6) months prior to the expiration date of their current certificate, their new effective date of Certification shall be the day after their current Certification expires.
  - 2. If the Emergency Medical Responder applies for recertification more than six (6) months before their current certificate expires, they will be issued a new beginning Certification date effective the day that they meet the recertification requirements.
  - 3. If the Emergency Medical Responder with lapsed Certification applies for recertification, they will be issued a new beginning Certification date effective the day that they meet the recertification requirements.
- C. An individual with lapsed Certification may be recertified as an Emergency Medical Responder as follows:

1. For a lapse of less than six months, the individual shall comply with all items listed in Section V.A.1 and V.A.3 of this policy.
  2. For a lapse of six months or more, but less than twelve months, the individual shall comply with the requirements of Section V.A.1 and V.A.3. of this policy plus an additional 6 hours of continuing education.
  3. For a lapse of twelve months or more, but less than twenty-four months, the individual shall comply with Section V.A.1 and V.A.3 of this policy, complete an additional 16 hours of continuing education and successfully complete the Certification examination process outlined in V.A.2.c of this policy.
  4. Individuals with lapsed Certification that successfully complete the process outlined in Section V.C of this policy will be issued Certification effective the day that they meet the recertification requirements. The Certification expiration date will be the final day of the final month of the two (2) year period.
  5. Payment of late fees established by the Agency.
- D. Emergency Medical Responder certification shall be denied, or an Emergency Medical Responder certification may be suspended or revoked if they meet any of the following:
1. Has committed any sexually related offense specified under Section 290 of the Penal Code
  2. Been convicted of murder, attempted murder, or murder for hire
  3. Been convicted of two or more felonies
  4. Is on parole or probation for any felony
  5. Been convicted and released from incarceration during the preceding fifteen years of the crime of manslaughter or involuntary manslaughter
  6. Been convicted and released from incarceration during the preceding ten years for any offense punishable as a felony
  7. Been convicted of two misdemeanors within the preceding five years for any offense relating to the use, sale, possession, or transportation of narcotics or addictive or dangerous drugs
  8. Been convicted of two misdemeanors within the preceding five years for any offense relating to force, violence, threat, or intimidation
  9. Been convicted within the preceding five years of any theft related misdemeanor
  10. Has committed any act within the preceding seven years involving fraud or intentional dishonesty for personal gain
- E. Upon successful completion of all Certification requirements, the candidate shall be issued Certification for a maximum period of two (2) years. The effective date of certification shall be the date the candidate satisfies all certification requirements. The certification expiration date will be the final day of the final month of the two (2) year period.

VI. Application Processing

- A. A completed and signed application and all required supporting documentation must be submitted to the MVEMSA prior to processing. Incomplete applications will not be processed.
  - 1. Incomplete applications will be maintained by MVEMSA for 60 days awaiting required supporting documentation. All applications not completed within 60 days will be considered abandoned.
  
- B. MVEMSA will process completed applications within 5-7 business days.