



Emergency Medical Services Agency Prehospital Care Manual **Policy 205**

PARAMEDIC ACCREDITATION

Effective Date January 22, 2007
Replaces June 22, 2005

Resources

[EMS Personnel Application](#)
[Paramedic Accreditation Brochure](#)

I. Purpose

To provide California Licensed Paramedics accreditation to practice in Santa Clara County. Local accreditation includes paramedic basic scope of practice and the following State approved paramedic local optional scope of practice items;

- A. Pediatric endotracheal intubation
- B. Pediatric intraosseous (IO) infusion
- C. External Cardiac Pacing (ECP)
- D. Administration of Amyl Nitrite
- E. Administration of Pralidoxime Chloride (including Mark I antidote kits)

II. Eligibility

- A. Current Paramedic Licensure in the State of California
- B. Affiliation with an approved Santa Clara County (SCC) advanced life support provider agency.

III. Application Process

- A. Upon receipt of a completed application and the established fee, the Agency will review all documents.

1. An accreditation applicant may not practice in the basic or local optional scope of practice prior to submitting an application for accreditation. Once the Agency has received the application, the applicant may practice under the direct supervision of an Agency accredited paramedic.
 2. The paramedic must successfully complete a provider-based local system training program within 30-days of application, that includes the following State approved optional scope of practice items; (a) pediatric endotracheal intubation, (b) pediatric intraosseous infusion, (c) external cardiac pacing, (d) administration of Amyl Nitrite, and (e) administration of Pralidoxime Chloride (including Mark I antidote kits). A certificate of completion of local system training is valid for no more than six (6) months.
- B. The applicant must pass the Paramedic Accreditation Examination (may be completed prior to application with employer's approval). The exam results are valid for six (6) months. After the six months time limit, the applicant will have to reapply and retest.
- C. Failure to successfully complete the application process within thirty (30) days of submitting an application to the Agency will result in denial of accreditation.
- D. A paramedic may apply for accreditation no more than three (3) times within any twelve (12) month period.

IV. Accreditation

- A. Submit a letter from the paramedic's affiliated agency requesting issuance of accreditation from the Agency.
- B. Upon satisfying all accreditation requirements, the Agency will notify the paramedic accreditation applicant and the provider agency of the applicant's accreditation approval.
- C. The paramedic must successfully complete an orientation of the local EMS system as prescribed by the Agency. The paramedic will be able to receive accreditation prior to attending the system orientation, however, if the system orientation is not completed within six (6) months, accreditation will be discontinued.

- D. In order to maintain accreditation, SCC paramedics must successfully complete the annual EMS Update and any other required training deemed appropriate by the Agency.
- E. An individual may not function as a paramedic, after the due date, if the training has not been completed. However, with a department,s/company's approval, a paramedic may maintain accreditation if the required training is completed no greater than sixty (60) days after the due date *if* the individual is not working as a paramedic (injuries, leave of absence, etc.). Failure to complete within sixty days will result in loss of Paramedic Accreditation.

V. Transfer of Paramedic Accreditation

Transfer of accreditation is not automatic but may be requested by the new employer (ALS Provider)

- A. The new Paramedic Coordinator must submit a letter to the EMS Agency requesting continued accreditation of the transferring paramedic.
- B. The new Paramedic Coordinator must submit an updated EMS Personnel Application for the paramedic with appropriate signatures to the EMS Agency.
- C. The new Paramedic Coordinator may have the paramedic go through entire accreditation process including completion of the Paramedic Accreditation Exam and EMS System Orientation.

VI. Loss of Accreditation

Local Accreditation may be discontinued for the following reasons:

- A. Failure to complete the annual EMS Update and any other required training deemed appropriate by the Agency in required timelines.
- B. Failure to complete an orientation of the local EMS system within six (6) months of receiving Paramedic Accreditation.
- C. Withdrawal of affiliation sponsorship by an approved Santa Clara County advanced life support provider agency.
- D. Loss of State of California Paramedic Licensure.

E. Suspended or revoked as authorized by the State EMS Authority.

Any individual that has had their accreditation discontinued is required to complete the entire Paramedic Accreditation process again (including fees and testing) should they desire to regain Santa Clara County Paramedic Accreditation.