

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SUBJECT: **PARAMEDIC ACCREDITATION**

REFERENCE NO. 1006

PURPOSE: To define the requirements for Los Angeles County paramedic accreditation.

AUTHORITY: California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section 1797-1799  
California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Chapter 4

DEFINITIONS:

**Accreditation:** Authorization by the EMS Agency Medical Director to practice as a paramedic within Los Angeles County.

**Continuous Accreditation:** Accreditation shall be continuous as long as licensure is maintained and the local EMS agency requirements are met.

**Reaccreditation:** Renewal of accreditation when there has been a lapse in California State licensure and/or local EMS agency accreditation.

PRINCIPLES:

1. A paramedic accredited by Los Angeles County may practice as a paramedic while employed, on-duty, and sponsored by an agency approved to utilize paramedics in Los Angeles County.
2. Accredited paramedics shall adhere to the current EMS Agency prehospital care policies, procedures, protocols, and medical guidelines.
3. Accredited paramedics shall notify the EMS Agency, in writing, of personal information changes within 30 days.
4. Approved agencies shall notify the EMS Agency, in writing, of all sponsorship changes by submitting required data on the Change of Status/Data Update Form or a letter on official provider agency letterhead signed by the Paramedic Coordinator or Chief. In the event that a paramedic is employed by more than one approved agency, a primary sponsor shall be designated. All other agencies shall be designated as secondary sponsors.
5. Upon receipt of all application requirements and verification of current California paramedic licensure, the individual may begin working for the employing agency within the California Paramedic Basic Scope of Practice if accompanied by a Los Angeles County Accredited Paramedic during the current accreditation process.
6. Upon successful completion of accreditation requirements, the EMS Agency shall issue paramedic accreditation that coincides with the same expiration date as the California paramedic license.

EFFECTIVE: 4-01-99

REVISED: 03-01-14

SUPERSEDES: 7-30-11

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APPROVED:

  
Director, EMS Agency

  
Medical Director, EMS Agency

## POLICY:

## I. Initial Accreditation

## A. Eligibility Requirements

To apply for accreditation, a paramedic shall:

1. Be employed and sponsored by one of the following agencies approved to utilize paramedics in Los Angeles County:
  - a. EMS Agency
  - b. Paramedic provider agency
  - c. Paramedic training program
2. Possess a valid State of California paramedic license.
3. Complete all mandatory EMS Agency programs, to include, but may not be limited to:
  - a. Current EMS Update training during the period offered to the public.
  - b. NBC/WMD training by one of the following:
    - i. Proof of successful completion of an approved Los Angeles County paramedic training program.
    - ii. Proof of completion of the Los Angeles County EMS Agency NBC/WMD training course.
    - iii. Proof of completion of another NBC/WMD course with a copy of the course objectives that meets the objectives as outlined in the Los Angeles County EMS Agency NBC/WMD training course.

**NOTE: NBC/WMD training shall be completed within six (6) months of initial application to maintain accreditation status.**

## B. Accreditation Process

1. The accreditation applicant shall submit, a minimum of one week prior to the Accreditation examination, the following:
  - a. A complete Los Angeles County EMS Agency Paramedic Accreditation Application
  - b. Payment of the established fee

- c. A signed letter of sponsorship on official provider agency letterhead or complete the sponsoring agency approval section of the application form signed by the Paramedic Coordinator or Chief of an approved paramedic provider agency
- d. A copy of the current California State Paramedic license

**NOTE: Upon receipt of the above and verification of current California Paramedic licensure, the individual may begin working for the employing agency within the California Paramedic Basic Scope of Practice if accompanied by a California licensed/Los Angeles County Accredited Paramedic until the applicant's scheduled accreditation examination.**

- 2. Applicant must pass the written examination.
- 3. An applicant who fails the written examination may reapply per the requirements outlined in Section I.B.1. of this reference.
- 4. Examination results and Accreditation status shall be provided to the applicant and the Paramedic Coordinator of the sponsoring agency.

C. Issuance of Accreditation

- 1. Upon completion of the requirements in Section I.A. and B. of this reference, the EMS Agency shall issue Los Angeles County Accreditation card with the following information:
  - a. Name of accredited paramedic
  - b. Los Angeles County EMS Agency accreditation number
  - c. Accreditation effective and expiration dates
  - d. Logo for Los Angeles County and the EMS Agency
  - e. Signature of the EMS Agency Medical Director
- 2. Accreditation shall remain valid through the expiration date if all mandatory EMS Agency training programs are completed and documentation is submitted within the required time frames to include, but may not be limited to:
  - a. EMS Update training during the time when offered to the public
  - b. NBC/WMD training within six (6) months of initial application

II. Continuous Accreditation

A. Eligibility Requirements

To maintain continuous accreditation, a paramedic shall:

1. Maintain continuous California Paramedic state licensure.
2. Be currently employed and sponsored by an approved paramedic provider agency.
3. Complete current mandatory EMS Agency training programs.
4. Submit the following prior to Accreditation expiration:
  - a. A complete Paramedic Accreditation Application
  - b. Proof of continuous California Paramedic licensure

**B. Issuance of Accreditation**

Upon completion of the requirements in Section II.A of this reference, the EMS Agency shall issue Los Angeles County Accreditation renewal card as per Section I.C. of this reference.

**III. Reaccreditation following a lapse**

**A. Eligibility Requirements With a Lapse of Less Than Six (6) Months**

To be eligible for reaccreditation, a paramedic shall:

1. Possess a valid State of California paramedic license.
2. Be currently employed and sponsored by an approved paramedic provider agency.
3. Complete current mandatory EMS Agency programs.
4. Submit the following:
  - a. A complete Paramedic Accreditation Application
  - b. Payment of the established fee
  - c. Proof of current California Paramedic licensure

**B. Eligibility Requirements With a Lapse of Six (6) Months or More**

To be eligible for reaccreditation, a paramedic shall:

1. Possess a valid State of California paramedic license
2. Be currently employed and sponsored by an approved paramedic provider agency.
3. Complete current mandatory EMS Agency training programs.

4. Complete the Accreditation Process per the requirements in Section I.B. of this reference.

C. Issuance of Accreditation

Upon completion of the applicable requirements in Section III of this reference, the EMS Agency shall issue Los Angeles County Accreditation renewal card as per Section I.C. of this reference.

CROSS REFERENCES:

Prehospital Care Manual:

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|-----------------|--|
| Ref. No. 802,   | <b>Los Angeles County EMT Scope of Practice</b>                      |
| Ref. No. 802.1, | <b>Los Angeles County EMT Scope of Practice (Table Format)</b>       |
| Ref. No. 803,   | <b>Los Angeles County Paramedic Scope of Practice</b>                |
| Ref. No. 803.1, | <b>Los Angeles County Paramedic Scope of Practice (Table Format)</b> |

**Paramedic Accreditation Application**