

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 until the applicant takes the scheduled accreditation examination.
6. All communication related to requirements, application, scheduling, and results will be coordinated through the paramedic coordinator or the program director of the approved paramedic training program within Los Angeles County. All requirements shall be met a minimum of one week prior to the scheduled Paramedic Accreditation examination.


EFFECTIVE: 04-01-99

REVISED: 01-01-22

SUPERSEDES: 02-01-19

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APPROVED:   
Director, EMS Agency

  
Medical Director, EMS Agency

7. 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.

POLICY:

I. Eligibility Requirements

A. California Licensed Paramedic

To apply for accreditation, a paramedic shall:

1. Be currently 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 not limited to the current EMS Update training.

B. Paramedic Intern

1. Be enrolled in and have successfully completed the didactic and clinical portions of an approved paramedic training program in Los Angeles County.
2. Possess a current basic life support certification for Healthcare Provider (AHA) or Professional Rescuer (ARC) which meets the current American Heart Association Guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care and remain current during the entire internship.
3. Be currently certified in California and remain current during the entire internship as one of the following:
  - a. EMT
  - b. AEMT
4. Complete all mandatory EMS Agency programs, to include, but not limited to the current EMS Update training through a Los Angeles County approved paramedic training program, or Los Angeles County EMS continuing education program approved to provide the update.

**II. Application Requirements****A. Licensed Paramedic**

The accreditation applicant shall submit, a minimum of one week prior to the Accreditation examination, the following:

1. A complete Los Angeles County EMS Agency Paramedic Accreditation Application.
2. Payment of the established fee.
3. 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.
4. Proof of completion of the current EMS Update training.
5. A copy of the current California State Paramedic license.

**B. Paramedic Intern**

The paramedic training program shall submit for each intern, a minimum of one month prior to the Accreditation examination, the following:

1. A complete Los Angeles County EMS Agency Paramedic Accreditation Application.
2. A copy of the current California EMT/AEMT certification.
3. A copy of the current basic life support certification.
4. Proof of completion of the current EMS Update training.

**III. Examination****A. Licensed Paramedic**

1. Applicant must pass the written examination.
2. An applicant who fails the written examination may reapply per the requirements outlined in Section II. A. of this reference.

**B. Paramedic Intern**

1. Applicant must pass the written examination.
2. An applicant who fails the written examination may retake the examination one time as scheduled by the Agency in conjunction with the Paramedic Training Program.

3. After two unsuccessful attempts, prior to the scheduling of a final attempt, complete remediation through the approved paramedic training program or ALS provider agency and submit documentation of remediation.

#### IV. Issuance of Accreditation

- A. Upon completion of the requirements in Sections I.–III. of this reference, the EMS Agency shall issue Los Angeles County Accreditation card and letter with the following information:
  1. Name of accredited paramedic
  2. Los Angeles County EMS Agency accreditation number
  3. Accreditation effective and expiration dates
  4. Logo for Los Angeles County and the EMS Agency
- B. 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 not be limited to EMS Update training.
- C. Paramedic students shall be issued accreditation as identified in Sections IV. of this reference, if within one year of passing the accreditation examination they submit the following:
  1. Proof of completion of mandatory EMS Agency training programs
  2. Proof of current California paramedic licensure
  3. Payment of the established fee

#### V. 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 agency approved to utilize paramedics in Los Angeles County.
3. Complete all 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 V. A. of this reference, the EMS Agency shall issue Los Angeles County Accreditation renewal card as per Section IV. of this reference.

**VI. 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 agency approved to utilize paramedics in Los Angeles County.
3. Complete 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 agency approved to utilize paramedics in Los Angeles County.
3. Complete mandatory EMS Agency training programs.
4. Complete the Accreditation Process per the requirements in Sections I.-III. of this reference.

**C. Issuance of Accreditation**

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

**CROSS REFERENCES:**

Prehospital Care Manual:

Ref. No. 802,           **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Scope of Practice**  
Ref. No. 802.1,       **Los Angeles County EMT Scope of Practice - Field Reference**  
Ref. No. 803,           **Los Angeles County Paramedic Scope of Practice**  
Ref. No. 803.1,       **Los Angeles County Paramedic Scope of Practice - Field Reference**  
Ref. No. 901,           **Paramedic Training Program Approval**

**Paramedic Accreditation Application**