

- I. **Authority:** Health & Safety Code Section 1797.214, 1797.220.
- II. **Purpose:** To identify the scope and role of the San Diego County emergency medical services (EMS) continuing education (CE) program for prehospital personnel.
- III. **Policy:**
 - A. The CE program for prehospital personnel shall be recognized as an important link in the San Diego County system-wide quality improvement process, and will receive oversight from the EMS Medical Director (or designee).
 - B. The CE program shall be implemented in accordance with Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 11 of the California Code of Regulations.
 - C. Within the requirements of San Diego policies regarding Paramedic accreditation, EMT-B certification, and MICN authorization, the County of San Diego, EMS branch will accept CE activities approved by other California local EMS agencies (or through their approved providers of CE), for recertification/authorization/accreditation purposes or re-establishing lapsed certification or licensure.
 - D. The County of San Diego, EMS Branch shall publish and maintain the Guidelines for Authorized Providers of Continuing Education for Personnel in San Diego County manual and make that manual available to approved providers and potential providers. The manual shall identify the requirements for the provider designation and renewal process, guidelines for qualifications of program personnel, specific guidelines for course approval, and other material specific to designated CE providers.
 - E. EMS shall maintain a list of current approved CE providers, including the contact person for the program, approval issue date and expiration date, and assigned provider number.

Document revised 3/1/2012

Approved:



Administration



EMS Medical Director

SUBJECT: CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR PREHOSPITAL PERSONNEL

Date: 3/01/2012

- F. CE activities offered by San Diego EMS approved providers, in accordance with San Diego guidelines, shall be considered to be "approved" by County of San Diego EMS.
- G. In addition to approval for CE activities presented by approved providers, EMS may, at its discretion, award CE credits for other activities not presented by approved providers. These include (but are not limited to) the following:
1. Nationally Recognized Curricula. - Programs offered using nationally recognized curricula, such as the Red Cross/Heart Association CPR-C program, Prehospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS), or ACLS may be utilized for recertification/licensure purposes regardless of the provider's CE Providership status. It will be the responsibility of the participant to maintain a course completion record and course outline that indicates the total hours of the individual's participation (in activities relevant to the individual's level) for audit purposes.
 2. National Standard Curriculum refers to the curricula developed under the auspices of the United States Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for the specified level of training of EMS Personnel.
- H. The EMS Branch will not pre-authorize course outlines from non-approved CE Providers to determine their possible acceptance for recertification purposes. Nationally recognized curricula presented by non-providers may be accepted and approved by the County, but individual courses, conferences, or other activities will not be recognized if they are not sponsored and approved by an authorized provider.
- I. EMTs who have attended courses from non-providers (except in the case of a course using a nationally recognized course curriculum) must submit ALL OF THE FOLLOWING AT THE TIME OF RECERTIFICATION/REACCREDITATION if they

Document revised 3/1/2012
Approved:



Administration



EMS Medical Director

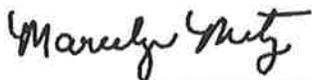
wish recertification credit:

1. Title of course, name of instructor, location, and telephone number of presenter.
2. Date of course, course outline, course learning objectives and a copy of course evaluation form.
3. The number of hours of information/experience relevant to EMT activities.

The EMT should be informed that there is no guarantee of acceptance of these courses for recertification. EMTs are reminded that extra activities may be required for recertification if the hours from a non-provider are rejected by the EMS Branch.

- J. EMS will NOT review individual courses offered by non-approved providers for Paramedic CE credit. Paramedics wishing credit for activities sponsored by organizations located in California counties other than San Diego County should contact that county's local EMS agency. Paramedics should contact the California EMS Authority for information on approval for courses offered by providers from out of state.
- K. EMS maintains the authority to approve continuing education activities, which may exceed the scope of the CE Guidelines Manual published by EMS. Any such determination by EMS is solely at its discretion.

Document revised 3/1/2012
Approved:



Administration



EMS Medical Director