I. PURPOSE

To establish a mechanism for application and approval/reapproval of Paramedic training programs in the County of San Diego.

II. AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section 1797.208.

III. POLICY

A. All Paramedic training programs must meet requirements as set forth in the California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 4; and County of San Diego, Emergency Medical Services (CoSD EMS) requirements as listed in the attached training program application.

B. All Paramedic training programs must provide a training program consisting of no less than 1090 hours to include:
   1. A minimum of 450 hours of didactic and skills lab
   2. A minimum of 480 hours of field internship with a minimum of 40 Advanced Life Support (ALS) contacts
   3. A minimum of 160 hours of hospital clinical training

C. All Paramedic training programs must have approval of the CoSD EMS prior to the program being offered.

D. Program approval shall be for four years following the effective date of approval and may be renewed every four years subject to the procedure for program approval.

E. All approved Paramedic training programs shall be subject to periodic review by the CoSD EMS and may also be reviewed by the State of California EMS Authority. This review may involve periodic review of all program materials and periodic on-site evaluations.
F. All approved training programs shall notify CoSD EMS in writing in advance (when possible, and in all cases within 30 days) of any change in course content, hours of instruction, course director, program medical director, provisions for hospital clinical experience, or field internship.

G. Noncompliance with any criterion required for program approval, use of any unqualified teaching personnel, or noncompliance with any other applicable provision of the California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 4 may result in suspension or revocation of program approval by the CoSD EMS. An approved Paramedic training program shall have no more than 60 days from date of written notice to comply with the regulations.

H. Training programs that are also approved ALS providers must meet additional requirements as per other County policies. Failure to meet the ALS provider requirements may jeopardize the program status.

I. Training programs shall carry liability insurance on their students.

IV. PROCEDURES

A. To receive program approval by all requesting training programs shall submit all materials requested on CoSD EMS Policy P-301A (P-301 Attachment A) “Application Form – Paramedic Training Program”.

B. Program approval or disapproval shall be made in writing by the CoSD EMS to the requesting training program within a reasonable period of time after receipt of all required documentation. This period of time shall not exceed three months.

C. The CoSD EMS shall establish the effective date of program approval in writing upon the satisfactory documentation of compliance with all program requirements.

V. ATTACHMENTS

A. P-301A (P-301 Attachment A): Application Form – Paramedic Training Program