



SAN BENITO COUNTY

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

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PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES
Healthy People in Healthy Communities

SAN BENITO COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY PARAMEDIC ACCREDITATION TO PRACTICE

Policy No.: 3010

Effective Date: May 1, 2010

Reviewed: May 1, 2010

Approved By: 
EMS Agency Medical Director

I. PURPOSE

To provide a process for a California State licensed paramedic to work and perform paramedic skills as established by San Benito County EMS Policies and Procedures.

II. AUTHORITY

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Section 100165 – 100166. [EMSA Publication #130 – Paramedic Accreditation Policy.](#)

III. DEFINITION

“Accreditation” means authorization by San Benito County EMS Agency to practice as a Paramedic within San Benito County.

IV. PROCEDURE

To be accredited to work as a Paramedic in San Benito County, an individual shall:

- A. Possess a current and valid California Paramedic license.
- B. Possess a current Basic CPR (BCLS) certification (AHA Healthcare Provider or equivalent).
- C. Possess a current Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certification.
- D. Possess a current Advanced Pediatric Life Support (PALS) certification –or- Pediatric Education for Prehospital Personnel (PEPP) certification.

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- E. Apply to San Benito County EMS Agency for accreditation.
- F. Pay established accreditation fees if applicable.
- G. Successfully complete an orientation of the San Benito County EMS system which shall include policies and procedures, treatment protocols, radio communications, hospital/facility destination policies, and other unique system features.
- H. Successfully complete training in any local optional scope of practice for which the paramedic has not been trained and tested.
- I. Complete a field evaluation of no more than ten (10) ALS patient contacts and provide proof of successful completion to the EMS Agency within thirty (30) calendar days. The field evaluation shall only be used to determine if the paramedic is knowledgeable to begin functioning under the San Benito County Policies and Procedures. The paramedic accreditation applicant may practice as a second paramedic until s/he is accredited.
- J. The paramedic accreditation applicant may only perform the local optional scope of practice while in the presence of the field evaluator who, in all cases, is ultimately responsible for patient care.
- K. The EMS Agency shall notify the individual applying for accreditation of the decision whether or not to grant accreditation within 30 calendar days of submission of a complete application. The “complete application” includes the provider agency’s written documentation that all accreditation requirements have been successfully met.
- L. If the paramedic accreditation applicant does not complete accreditation requirements within 30 calendar days, then the applicant may be extended, but not to exceed a total of 90 calendar days, upon the written recommendation of the applicant’s Field Training Officer (field evaluator). San Benito County EMS Agency limits the number of times that a paramedic applies for initial accreditation to no more than three times per year.
- M. The EMS Agency Medical Director shall evaluate any candidate who fails to successfully complete the field evaluation and may recommend further evaluation or training as required ensuring the paramedic is competent.
- N. Accreditation to practice shall be continuous as long as required licensure and certifications are maintained and the paramedic continues to meet all requirements for updates in policy, procedure, protocol and optional scope of practice and continues to meet the requirements of the system-wide CQI program.
- O. The EMS Agency Medical Director may suspend or revoke accreditation if the paramedic does not maintain current licensure, required certifications or meet accreditation requirements.
- P. During an interfacility transfer, a paramedic may utilize the scope of practice for which s/he is trained and accredited according to the policies and procedures established by San Benito County EMS Agency



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- Q. During a mutual aid response into another jurisdiction, a paramedic may utilize the scope of practice for which s/he is trained and accredited according to the policies and procedures established by San Benito County EMS Agency.

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