



EMS Personnel Division

— TOOLS, TIPS, AND HOT TOPICS —

Paramedic Accreditation Reminder

The Central Registry database has been updated to provide local EMS agencies (LEMSAs) with a more efficient and timely way to report paramedic accreditations. With a special log-in provided by the EMS Authority, LEMSAs are able to update paramedic licenses with accreditation information in real time. This will remove the need for LEMSAs to send accreditation reports to the EMS Authority.

- When entering an accreditation - do not enter an "end date;" the accreditation "end date" will be auto-populated in the *public registry look-up* based on the paramedic license expiration.
- If an accreditation end date *is* entered by a LEMSA, that is the date that will be reflected on the *public registry look-up* as the accreditation expiration date.

If you are interested in getting a login and instructions for the registry accreditation process, please send a request to: ML0helpdesk@emsa.ca.gov.

LEMSAs not electing to utilize the Central Registry process must continue with the monthly accreditation reporting per Section 100166 (j) of Chapter 4. Paramedic: "The LEMSA shall submit to the Authority the names and dates of accreditation for those individuals it accredits within twenty (20) working days of accreditation."

Public Safety Regulations Update

EMSA proposed revisions to the Chapter 1.5 First Aid Standards for Public Safety Personnel to address outdated first responder curriculum and to address emerging health and safety issues including: anaphylaxis, drug overdoses and the need for integrated tactical response among public safety personnel and EMS providers.

Following several public comment periods and revisions to the proposed regulation text, the Chapter 1.5 regulations were approved by the Commission on EMS during the December 3, 2014 meeting. The regulations have been submitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for review and approval. If approved, we anticipate the newly titled "Chapter 1.5. First Aid and CPR Standards and Training for Public Safety Personnel" regulations will be effective April 1, 2015.

Epinephrine Auto-injector Training for Lay Rescuers

A workgroup of subject matter experts have collaborated in developing regulation text to implement the epinephrine auto-injector training and certification standards as authorized by Senate Bill 669 (Huff, Chapter 725) for off-duty prehospital emergency personnel and lay rescuers. This training will allow trained individuals to use an epinephrine auto-injector to assist a person suffering from anaphylaxis.

We anticipate releasing the proposed regulations for an initial 45-day public comment period in late January 2015. Please contact Corrine Fishman with questions concerning the epinephrine auto-injector training program by phone at (916) 431-3727, or by email at corrine.fishman@emsa.ca.gov.

Transitional Courses and the NREMT

Have you noticed the increase in calls from EMS personnel asking how to find a transition course? We can better serve EMS personnel and reduce phone calls by posting a list of available transition courses on the EMSA website.

Please send an email with information about approved transitional courses (including those that are incorporated into a refresher training) and we will post those on the EMSA website to assist EMS personnel in locating a course. Emails can be directed to betsy.slavensly@emsa.ca.gov.

Transition courses are a requirement for recertification with the National Registry of EMT (NREMT) as part of NREMT's commitment to fully implement their transition to the new National EMS Scope of Practice Model, National Education Standards, and relevant Instructional Guidelines, which is also the goal of the EMS Authority.

Tip: Completion of a transition course is not necessary to maintain California EMT certification or paramedic licensure.



EMT 2010 Central Registry

Not in the Registry? Not certified!

An EMT is not *legally certified* until the certification is entered into the Central Registry according to State regulations (Chapter 10, Article 2, Section 100344).

Don't let this happen to you! When documentation of certification is "on-file" but not in the registry, the EMT will be required to reinstate as a lapsed EMT and fulfill all of the necessary requirements, which may include completion of an EMT training course and or passing the NREMT exams.

Tip: Don't print an EMT certification card until the certification has been entered into the Central Registry.

Searching for an EMT

When searching for an EMT in the Central Registry, use the following steps to save you time:

- Search by social security number (SSN) and
- Verify date of birth (DOB)

Searching by name only may lead to duplicate entries into the registry, or entries into the wrong EMT record. Reviewing the details will save you time and frustration down the road.

Revised Central Registry User Application

Due to your suggestions, the form to add new users and inactivate existing users has been revised for ease of use. You will find this form on the [EMT page](http://www.emsa.ca.gov/EMT) (www.emsa.ca.gov/EMT) of the website in the section EMT Central Registry: Information for Certifying Entities. Please fill out this form and email it to mlohelpdesk@emsa.ca.gov with the keywords NEW USER or DELETE USER in the subject line of the email.

We maintain an authorized user list so it is important to submit a Central Registry User Application for all new users and anyone who is no longer in your employ or needs to be inactivated. Registry user email addresses are used to allow us faster response time in technical assistance as well as the dissemination of this quarterly newsletter!

Reinstating a Lapsed EMT Certification

Rather than creating a new license record for an EMT who is lapsed more than 24 months, the registry has been modified to add a "Reinstate" tab. With this change, a LEMSA or certifying entity will reinstate an expired certification rather than issuing a new EMT number to a previously certified EMT, regardless of how long the certification has lapsed.

A procedure for reinstating a lapsed license is available on EMSA's website, at the bottom of the [EMT page](#).

Tip: Book mark the [EMT page](#) to access Central Registry user guides.

How to Change a Name or Search an Alias

Ever wondered how to change a name when an EMT has a marital status change or prefers to use a nickname? Maybe you are searching for someone who used a different name in the past. This procedure is now available on the [EMT page](#)!

Need to reprint an EMT Card?

Central Registry users now have permission to re-queue and print an EMT card through the registry. This procedure will allow a user to reprint an EMT card within six months of the initial print. As with all registry procedures, you can locate the re-queue procedure at the bottom of the [EMT page](#). Thank you for your suggestions to make the registry more user friendly - keep them coming!

Most Common "Glitches" When Recertifying EMTs

1. Compatibility View Settings - a guide can be found on the [EMT page](#) of the EMSA website.
2. Make Complete Tab - anytime an EMT status reflects "pending," the certification record must be completed in the Applicant edit module of the registry. Finishing the "Requirements Checklist" and "Make Complete" tab will activate the EMT in the registry.
3. Initial eligibility and expiration dates - a chart to assist in identifying eligibility for initial EMT certification, recertification and lapsed certification expiration dates can be found on the [EMT page](#) of the EMSA website.
4. Adding a blank Background Check line that contains no information - this will cause an error and the inability to complete the process. NLI submissions should be reported on the same line as the CORI status and original ATI number.

5. Leaving the SSN blank in the Person Record - this is a requirement and will cause an error if it is left blank.

Tip from Central Registry users: Save the EMS Personnel Newsletter in a binder or create a folder on your computer for easy reference!

Do you have suggestions for procedures that you would like to see on the [EMT page](#)? Send your requests to betsy.slavensky@emsa.ca.gov.

Grandfathering Rules and the Letter of Verification

Have you heard the term "grandfather" and wondered what it meant? (See Chapter 10, section 100348, Responsibility of Certifying Entity and/or employers Prior to July 1, 2010).

If you are certifying a new EMT or an EMT is changing from one certifying entity to another:

STOP! They are not "grandfathered" and the letter of verification does not apply.

To meet the "grandfather" criteria, an EMT certificate holder must have had a state level "only" criminal background check that includes subsequent arrest notification on file with their certifying entity prior to July 1, 2010.

Prior to July 1, 2010, certifying entities were required to provide EMSA with a letter of verification certifying that the individual EMT certification records submitted to the EMS Authority for upload into the Central Registry are not precluded from EMT certification based on "the shall deny" criteria in Chapter 6, Section 100214.3 (c) (1-9), Denial or Revocation of a Certificate. See the next section for more information about the denial and revocation of an EMT or Advanced EMT certificate.

Chapter 6, Section 100214.3, Subsection (f), lists exceptions to the denial or revocation of a certificate. The exceptions are that this section shall not apply to those certificate holders who obtain their California certificate prior to the effective date, July 1, 2010, unless the certificate holder is convicted of any misdemeanor or felony after July 1, 2010 or, the certificate holder "committed any" sexually related offense specified under Section 290 of the Penal Code or, the certificate holder failed to disclose to the certifying entity any prior convictions when completing his/her application for initial EMT certification or certification renewal.

EMTs certified after June 30, 2010 cannot be grandfathered.

- An EMT certificate holder who "was" grandfathered and changes certifying entities must be treated like an initial applicant.
- The EMT certificate holder must submit prints for a DOJ background check to include both the Department of Justice and the FBI criminal history screening for the new certifying entity, whether they were previously grandfathered or not.

This rule applies to everyone. The certifying entity is responsible for conducting a review of both the DOJ and FBI results. When the certifying entity is not a LEMSA, then that certifying entity shall advise a certification or recertification applicant whose conduct indicates a potential for disciplinary cause to apply to a LEMSA. (See Chapter 6, Section 100214.3).

Still have questions about grandfathering? Please email mlohelpdesk@emsa.ca.gov, or call Shona Merl at (916) 431-3692.

Chapter 6: Denial and Revocation of a Certificate

While on the topic of reviewing DOJ and FBI reports for prospective and/currently certified EMTs, please keep the following Section from Chapter 6 in mind:

100214.3 (c) The medical director *shall* deny or revoke an EMT or Advanced EMT certificate if any of the following apply to the applicant:

- (1) Has committed any sexually related offense specified under Section 290 of the Penal Code.
- (2) Has been convicted of murder, attempted murder, or murder for hire.
- (3) Has been convicted of two (2) or more felonies.
- (4) Is on parole or probation for any felony.
- (5) Has been convicted and released from incarceration for said offense during the preceding fifteen (15) years for the crime of manslaughter or involuntary manslaughter.
- (6) Has been convicted and released from incarceration for said offense during the preceding ten (10) years for any offense punishable as a felony.
- (7) Has been convicted of two (2) or more misdemeanors within the preceding five (5) years for any offense relating to the use, sale, possession, or transportation of narcotics or addictive or dangerous drugs.
- (8) Has been convicted of two (2) or more misdemeanors within the preceding five (5) years for any offense relating to force, threat, violence, or intimidation.
- (9) Has been convicted within the preceding five (5) years of any theft related misdemeanor.

This section of law helps to protect public health and safety and meets the legislative intent of AB 2917 (Torrico, Chapter 274, Statutes of 2007) which established the Central Registry and DOJ/FBI background checks for EMS personnel.

Live Scan Forms

Does your agency use different livescan forms for EMTs?

Applicants such as emergency medical responders (EMR) and dispatchers who livescan must use a different form so that EMSA does not receive a secondary copy of their DOJ and FBI records.

Using livescan forms specific to the applicant type will help to reduce inquiries from EMSA staff about records received without a corresponding EMT record in the central registry.

Help Desk Keywords

Do you know the 4 keywords to submit when requesting assistance to the MLO Help Desk?

KEYWORDS:

PASSWORD

To reset a Central Registry password, be sure to include your user ID in the e-mail body

PRINTER

Having printer issues? Notify EMSA and request assistance (not for print re-queues)

NEW USER

Establish a new Central Registry user by filling out and emailing the "[Blank User Form](#)"

DELETE USER

Delete a Central Registry User by filling out and emailing the "Blank User Form"

Please submit the applicable keyword in the email subject line to: mlohelpdesk@emsa.ca.gov

EMS Authority Contacts: EMS Personnel Division

PARAMEDIC LICENSURE GENERAL INFORMATION:

(916) 323-9875; Paramedic@emsa.ca.gov

Sean Trask (Chief of EMS Personnel Division):

(916) 431-3689; Sean.Trask@emsa.ca.gov

* Oversees Personnel Standards Unit, Paramedic Licensure Unit and Enforcement Unit

Michael Smith (Manager - Enforcement Unit)
(916) 431-3703; Michael.Smith@emsa.ca.gov
* Oversees EMT2010 Enforcement Process and Paramedic Enforcement Unit

Lisa Witchey (Manager - Personnel Standards Unit):
(916) 431-3707; Lisa.Witchey@emsa.ca.gov
* Oversees BLS Program and Regulatory Updates

June Leicht (Manager - Paramedic Licensure Unit):
(916) 431-3702; June.Leicht@emsa.ca.gov
* Oversees Paramedic Licensure Unit and Paramedic Programs, NREMT Representatives, and EMT and Paramedic Billing

Betsy Slavensky (Personnel Standards Unit):
(916) 431-3717; Betsy.Slavensky@emsa.ca.gov
* Provides My License Office (MLO) technical assistance, interpretations and amendments of regulations, and assists EMTs/AEMTs with questions

Shona Merl (Enforcement Unit)
(916) 431-3692; Shona.Merl@emsa.ca.gov
* Handles questions regarding CORIs, EMT disciplinary questions, and interpretations of regulations pertaining to EMT/AEMT discipline.

Brad Beltram (Paramedic Licensure Unit):
(916) 431-3648; Bradley.Beltram@emsa.ca.gov
* Prints and sends the EMT certification cards, returns dishonored checks, and processes EMT and Paramedic invoices

Priscilla Rivera (Paramedic Licensure Unit):
(916) 431-4741; Priscilla.Rivera@emsa.ca.gov
* Monitors CE provider and training program database, and paramedic central registry assistance

Caroline Fudge (Paramedic Licensure Unit):
(916) 431-3652; Caroline.Fudge@emsa.ca.gov
* Handles renewal paramedic licensure applications

(Paramedic Licensure Unit):
(916) 323-9875; Paramedic@emsa.ca.gov
* Processes initial paramedic applications and paramedic challenge applications

(Paramedic Licensure Unit):
(916) 323-9875; Paramedic@emsa.ca.gov
* Manages the paramedic licensure audit program

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