

**Compendium of Statutes and Regulations  
Related to EMT and Paramedic Scope of Practice  
During Mutual Aid in California**

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# Introduction

## ***Purpose***

To clarify the existing laws and regulations pertaining to when and under what conditions a Paramedic, AEMT or EMT, whether licensed/certified inside or outside California, may legally function in their respective EMS classification during transport, mutual aid and disasters in California.

## ***Legal Authority***

Health & Safety Code, Section 1797.170(b)

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9:

- Chapter 2 (EMT), §100061, §100062(c), §100064(a) (f) and (l)
- Chapter 3 (AEMT), §100126(a)
- Chapter 4 (Paramedic), §100142, §100144(c), §100145(b), §100165(a) and (l)

## ***Definition of Mutual Aid***

In general, mutual aid is the concept of resource sharing in which similar organizations assist each other during emergencies and day-to-day operations. For the purposes of this document, mutual aid will encompass the following:

### **Auto/Instant Aid**

Agreements between two or more jurisdictions where the nearest available resource is dispatched to an emergency irrespective of jurisdictional boundaries or where two or more agencies are automatically dispatched simultaneously to predetermined types of emergencies. This type of mutual aid agreement is typically utilized on a day-to-day basis.

### **Mutual Aid**

Agreements between two or more jurisdictions to provide assistance across jurisdictional boundaries, when requested, as a result of the circumstances of an emergency exceeding local resources.

### **Disaster Assistance**

Similar to mutual aid but are requests for assistance in the event that a disaster overwhelms local resources. These requests may be under existing mutual aid agreements or the result of unforeseen needs arising from a particularly large-scale disaster.

## **Scope of Practice During Mutual Aid**

### ***California EMS Personnel***

The rules for California licensed/certified EMS personnel are the same regardless of whether for daily response and transport needs (includes auto/instant aid, mutual aid, inter-facility transport and aero-medical transport) or in response to a declared disaster or major wildfire. The following are the rules for California EMS personnel responding outside their jurisdiction.

#### **Paramedic**

California Paramedics may practice anywhere in California provided all of the following conditions are met:

- a) They are in possession of a valid California Paramedic License
- b) They are accredited by a local EMS agency
- c) They are affiliated with an ALS provider that is approved by the local EMS agency with whom they are accredited
- d) They may utilize the scope of practice for which s/he is trained and accredited according to the policies and procedures established by his/her accrediting local EMS agency, which shall include an "Out-Of-County Response" Policy.

#### **AEMT**

California AEMTs may practice anywhere in California provided all of the following conditions are met:

- a) They are in possession of a valid California AEMT Certificate
- b) They are accredited by a local EMS agency
- c) They are affiliated with an LALS or ALS provider that is approved by the local EMS agency with whom they are accredited
- d) They may utilize the scope of practice as defined by the local EMS agency with whom they are accredited

#### **EMT**

A California certified EMT is recognized as an EMT statewide regardless of where in California they are certified. However, if they are accredited in an optional skill, they may not practice that skill outside the geographic area designated by the accrediting medical director. EMTs may utilize their EMT Scope of Practice in a volunteer capacity and for any provider. There is no requirement for an EMT to be affiliated with a provider.

### ***Out-of-State EMS Personnel***

The rules for out-of-state licensed/certified EMS personnel are the same regardless of whether for daily response and transport needs (includes auto/instant aid, mutual aid,

inter-facility transport and aero-medical transport) or in response to a declared disaster or major wildfire. The following are the rules for out-of-state EMS personnel (excluding federally or tribal licensed/certified personnel) responding/operating in California.

### **Paramedic**

An out-of-state Paramedic may temporarily practice in California provided all of the following conditions are met:

- a) They are in possession of a valid Paramedic license/certificate issued by another state or country
- b) They are approved by the medical director of the local EMS agency to practice in jurisdiction of the local EMS system
- c) They may utilize the scope of practice as defined by the jurisdiction with whom they are licensed/certified
- d) They will observe any limits placed on their scope of practice by the local medical director, should the local medical director exercise that option

There is no requirement for an out-of-state Paramedic to be affiliated with an approved ALS provider.

### **AEMT**

There is no provision in either California Statute or Regulations for non-California AEMTs to temporarily practice in California.

### **EMT**

An out-of-state EMT may temporarily practice in California provided all of the following conditions are met:

- a) They are in possession of a valid EMT license/certificate issued by another state OR are a Nationally Registered EMT (NREMT)
- b) They are approved by the medical director of the local EMS agency to practice in jurisdiction of the local EMS system
- c) They may utilize the scope of practice as defined by the jurisdiction with whom they are licensed/certified
- d) They will observe any limits placed on their scope of practice by the local medical director, should the local medical director exercise that option

### ***Federal EMS Personnel***

The rules for federally licensed/certified EMS personnel are the same regardless of whether for daily response and transport needs (includes auto/instant aid, mutual aid, inter-facility transport and aero-medical transport) or in response to a declared disaster or major wildfire. The following are the rules for federally licensed/certified EMS personnel responding/operating on non-federal land in California or on federal lands that are part of the local EMS system. Federal EMS personnel responding on federal

lands that are not part of the local EMS system do not need to notify the local medical director.

### **Paramedic**

A Paramedic who is licensed/certified by a federal entity or who is under the jurisdiction of the federal government may temporarily practice in California provided all of the following conditions are met:

- a) They are in possession of a valid Paramedic license/certificate issued by the either federal government or another state or country
- b) They are approved by the medical director of the local EMS agency to practice in jurisdiction of the local EMS system
- c) They may utilize the scope of practice as defined by the jurisdiction with whom they are licensed/certified
- d) They will observe any limits placed on their scope of practice by the local medical director, should the local medical director exercise that option

### **AEMT**

There is no provision in either California Statute or Regulations for non-California EMT-IIs to temporarily practice in California.

### **EMT**

An out-of-state EMT may temporarily practice in California provided all of the following conditions are met:

- a) They are either a Nationally Registered EMT (NREMT) OR are in possession of a valid EMT license/certificate issued by one of the following agencies of the federal government:
  - Any branch of the Armed Forces (including the US Coast Guard)
  - The National Park Service
  - The Bureau of Land Management
  - The US Forest Service
- b) They are approved by the medical director of the local EMS agency to practice in jurisdiction of the local EMS system
- c) They may utilize the scope of practice as defined by the entity with whom they are licensed/certified
- d) They will observe any limits placed on their scope of practice by the local medical director, should the local medical director exercise that option

## ***Tribal EMS Personnel***

This section applies only to tribal EMS personnel when the tribe is NOT part of the local EMS system and who issue their own tribal EMS licenses and certifications. EMS personnel from tribes that do not issue their licenses/certifications would fall into one of the above categories based on where they are licensed/certified. The rules for Tribally licensed/certified EMS personnel are the same regardless of whether for daily response and transport needs (includes auto/instant aid, mutual aid, inter-facility transport and aero-medical transport) or in response to a declared disaster or major wildfire. The following are the rules for tribal EMS personnel responding/operating in California outside their tribal lands.

### **Paramedic**

A tribally licensed/certified Paramedic may temporarily practice in California provided all of the following conditions are met:

- a) They are in possession of a valid Paramedic license/certificate issued by the either federal government or another state or country
- b) They are approved by the medical director of the local EMS agency to practice in jurisdiction of the local EMS system
- c) They may utilize the scope of practice as defined by the jurisdiction with whom they are licensed/certified
- d) They will observe any limits placed on their scope of practice by the local medical director, should the local medical director exercise that option

### **AEMT**

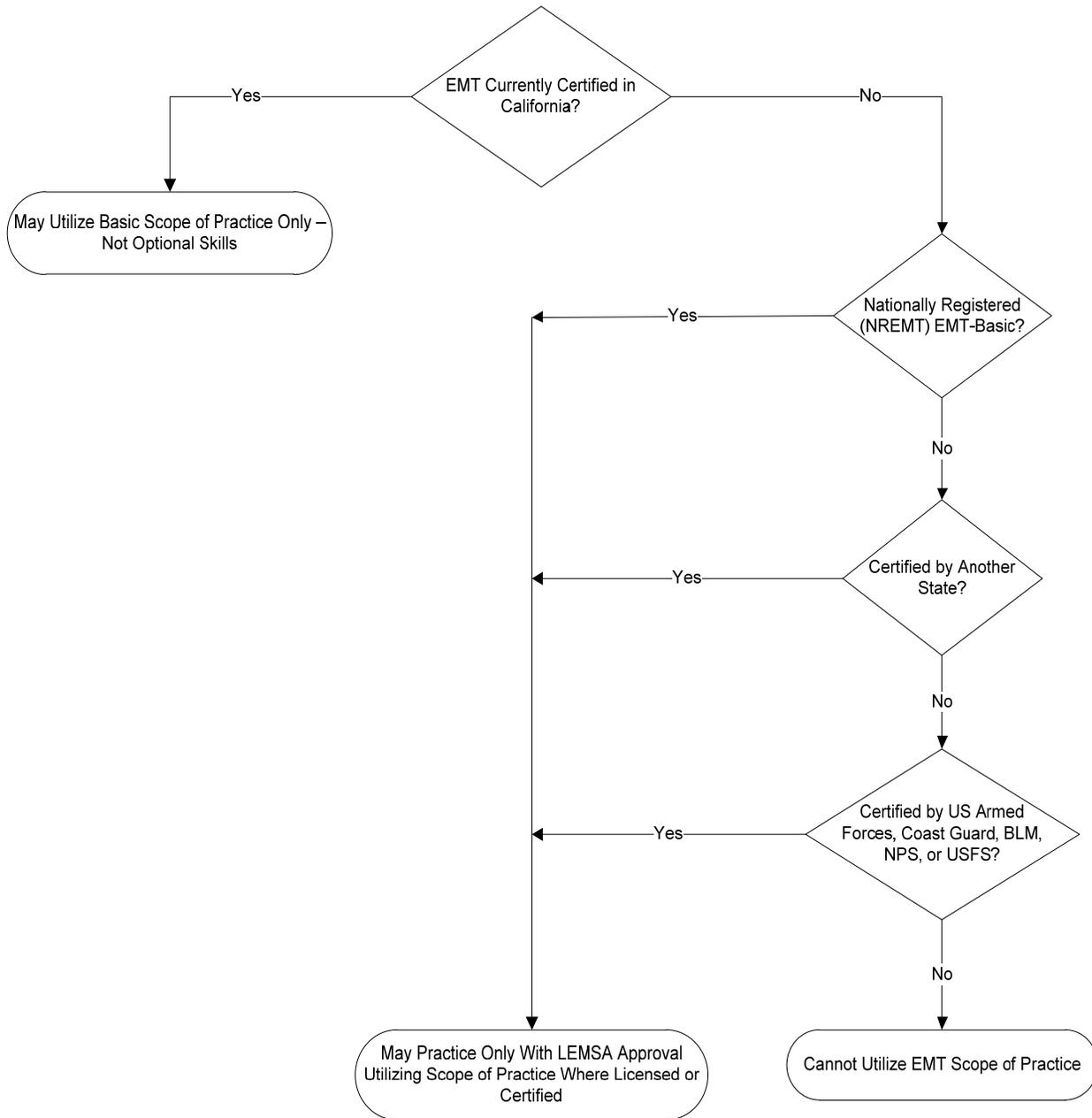
There is no provision in either California Statute or Regulations for non-California EMT-IIs to temporarily practice in California.

### **EMT**

When approved by the medical director of the local EMS agency a tribally licensed/certified EMT may temporarily utilize the Scope of Practice for which they have been trained only if they are also a Nationally Registered EMT (NREMT).

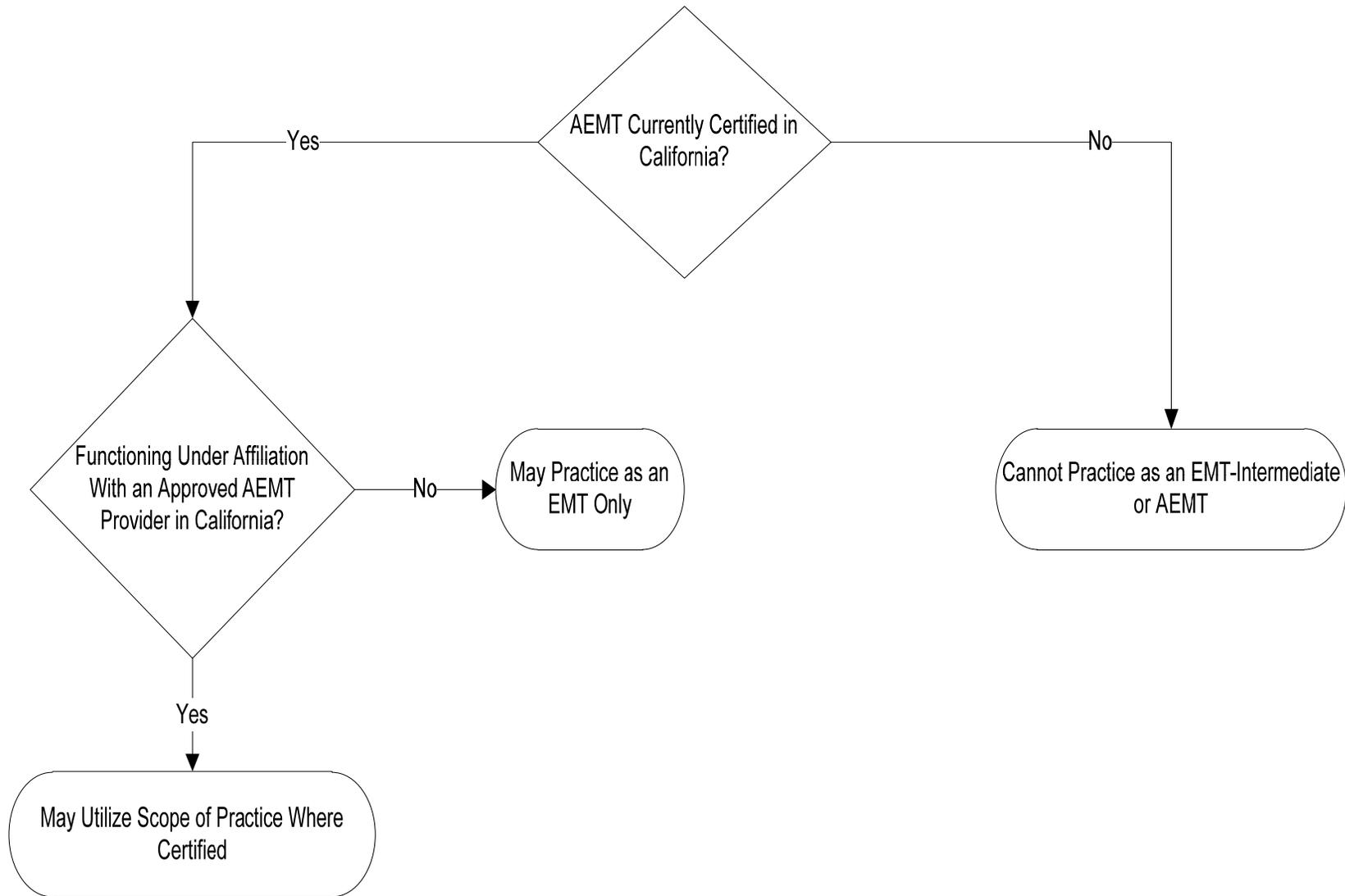
## **Appendix A: Decision Trees for License/Certification Recognition**

## EMT Recognition for California Mutual Aid

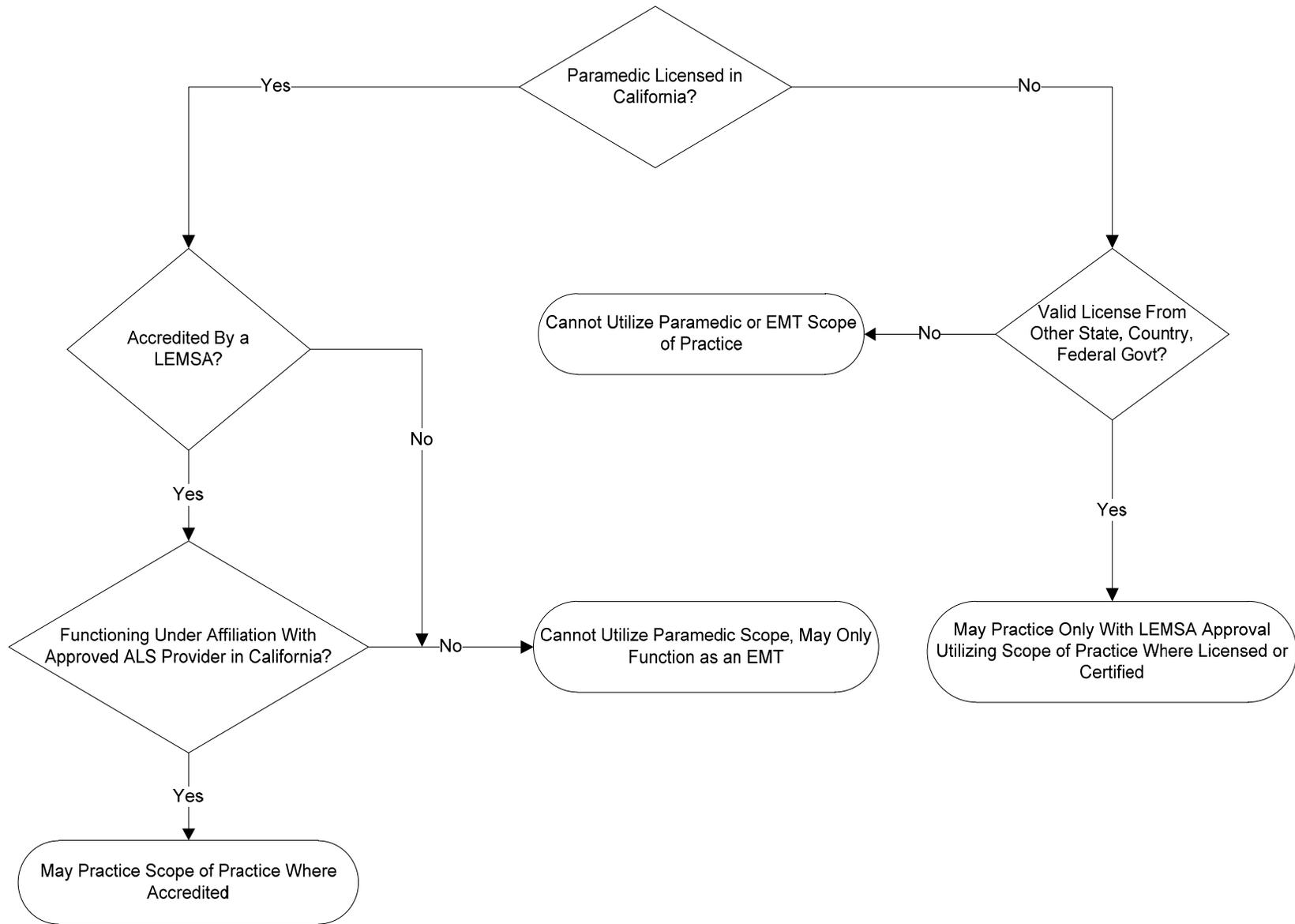


Legend  
 BLM – Bureau of Land Management  
 NPS – National Parks Service  
 USFS – US Forest Service

## ***AEMT Recognition for California Mutual Aid***



# Paramedic Recognition for California Mutual Aid



## **Appendix B: Referenced California Code and Regulations**

## ***Health & Safety Code***

Section 1797.170(b)

“Any individual certified as an EMT-I pursuant to this act shall be recognized as an EMT-I on a statewide basis, and recertification shall be based on statewide standards. Effective July 1, 1990, any individual certified as an EMT-I pursuant to this act shall complete a course of training on the nature of sudden infant death syndrome which is developed by the California SIDS program in the State Department of Health Services in consultation with experts in the field of sudden infant death syndrome.”

## ***California Code of Regulations***

**Title 22, Division 9:**

### **CHAPTER 2. EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN**

§ 100061. Local Accreditation.

“Local accreditation” or “accreditation” or “accredited to practice” as used in this Chapter, means authorization by the LEMSA to practice the optional skill(s) specified in Section 100064. Such authorization assures that the EMT has been oriented to the LEMSA and trained in the optional skill(s) necessary to achieve the treatment standard of the jurisdiction.

§ 100062. Application of Chapter to Operation of Ambulances.

(c) EMTs who are not currently certified in California may temporarily perform their scope of practice in California, when approved by the medical director of the LEMSA, in order to provide emergency medical services in response to a request, if all the following conditions are met:

(1) The EMTs are registered by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians or licensed or certified in another state or under the jurisdiction of a branch of the Armed Forces including the Coast Guard of the United States, National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior-Bureau of Land Management, or the United States Forest Service; and

(2) The EMTs restrict their scope of practice to that for which they are licensed or certified.

§ 100064. Optional Skills.

(a) In addition to the activities authorized by Section 100063 of this Chapter, LEMSA may establish policies and procedures for local accreditation of an EMT student or certified EMT to perform any or all of the following optional skills specified in this section.

(f) The medical director of the LEMSA shall develop a plan for each optional skill allowed. The plan shall, at a minimum, include the following:

(2) A description of the geographic area within which the optional skill will be utilized, except as provided in Section 100064(l).

(l) During a mutual aid response into another jurisdiction, an EMT may utilize the scope of practice for which s/he is trained, certified and accredited according to the policies and procedures established by his/her certifying or accrediting LEMSA.

### **CHAPTER 3. ADVANCED EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN**

§ 100126. Advanced EMT Service Provider.

(a) A LEMSA with a LALS system, shall establish policies and procedures for the approval, designation and evaluation through its EMSQIP of Advanced EMT service provider(s). These policies and procedures shall include provisions requiring an Advanced EMT to be affiliated with an approved Advanced EMT service provider in order to perform the scope of practice specified in this Chapter.

### **CHAPTER 4. EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN-PARAMEDIC**

§ 100142. Local Accreditation.

"Local Accreditation" or "accreditation" or "accreditation to practice" means authorization by the local EMS agency to practice as a paramedic within that jurisdiction. Such authorization indicates that the paramedic has completed the requirements of Section 100165 of this Chapter.

§ 100144. Application of Chapter.

(c) A paramedic who is not licensed in California may temporarily perform his/her scope of practice in California on a mutual aid response, on routine patient transports from out of state into California, or during a special event, when approved by the medical director of the local EMS agency, if the following conditions are met:

(1) The paramedic is licensed or certified in another state/country or under the jurisdiction of the federal government.

(2) The paramedic restricts his/her scope of practice to that for which s/he is licensed or certified.

(3) Medical control as specified in Section 1798 of the Health and Safety Code is maintained in accordance with policies and procedures established by the medical director of the local EMS agency.

§ 100145. Scope of Practice of Paramedic.

(b) A paramedic shall be affiliated with an approved paramedic service provider in order to perform the scope of practice specified in this Chapter.

§ 100165. Accreditation to Practice.

(a) In order to be accredited an individual shall:

(1) Possess a current California paramedic license.

(2) Apply to the local EMS agency for accreditation.

(3) Successfully complete an orientation of the local EMS system as prescribed by the local EMS agency which shall include policies and procedures, treatment protocols, radio communications, hospital/facility destination policies, and other unique system features. The orientation shall not exceed eight classroom hours, except when additional hours are needed to accomplish subsection (a)(4) of this section, and shall not include any further testing of the paramedic basic scope of practice. Testing shall be limited to local policies and treatment protocols provided in the orientation.

(4) Successfully complete training in any local optional scope of practice for which the paramedic has not been trained and tested.

(l) 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 his/her accrediting local EMS agency.

**Appendix C: Sample Request for Temporary Recognition of  
Out-of-State EMS Personnel Form**

# REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY RECOGNITION OF OUT-OF-STATE EMS PERSONNEL RESPONDING ON MUTUAL AID IN CALIFORNIA

(Print or type all information, Use additional forms as necessary)

Out-of-state EMS personnel must obtain authorization from the Local EMS Agency (LEMSA) where they will be working before they may practice in California. Under California Law, out-of-state EMS personnel who have received authorization may utilize the scope of practice for which they have been licensed/certified.

Authorization for temporary recognition is requested for the following medical personnel assigned to:

**INCIDENT:** \_\_\_\_\_ in the **COUNTY(s)** of: \_\_\_\_\_

under the jurisdiction of the following **LEMSA(s)**: \_\_\_\_\_

beginning on \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ and ending on \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

	Full Name	EMT Level (circle)	Certification/ License #	Issuing Agency
1		Basic / Paramedic		
2		Basic / Paramedic		
3		Basic / Paramedic		
4		Basic / Paramedic		
5		Basic / Paramedic		
6		Basic / Paramedic		
7		Basic / Paramedic		
8		Basic / Paramedic		
9		Basic / Paramedic		

**I attest that I have physically examined the certification/licenses of the above individuals.**

		Telephone	( ) -
Medical Unit Leader - Print	Agency	Fax	( ) -
Signature		Date	/ /

		Telephone	( ) -
Medical Director - Print	LEMSA	Fax	( ) -
Signature		Date	/ /

**Appendix D: Local EMS Agency Contact Information**

**Alameda County**

Karl Sporer, M.D.  
EMS Medical Director  
1000 San Leandro Boulevard  
San Leandro, CA 94577  
Phone (main): (510)618-2050  
Fax: (510) 618-2099  
Website:  
<http://www.acphd.org/ems.aspx>

**Central California**

(Fresno, Kings, Madera, and Tulare)  
Jim Andrews, M.D.  
EMS Medical Director  
1221 Fulton Mall, 5th Floor  
PO Box 11867  
Fresno, CA 93775  
Phone: (559) 600-3387  
Fax: (559) 445-3205  
Website:  
<http://www.co.fresno.ca.us/DivisionPage.aspx?id=20253>

**Coastal Valley  
(Sonoma/Mendocino/Napa)**

Mark Luoto, M.D.  
EMS Regional Medical Director  
625 5th Street  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404-4428  
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Website:  
<http://www.coastalvalleysems.org/>

**Contra Costa County**

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**El Dorado County**

David R. Brazzel, M.D.  
EMS Medical Director  
415 Placerville Dr. Ste. J  
Placerville, CA 95667  
Phone: (530) 621-6500  
FAX: (530) 621-2758  
Website: [http://www.co.el-dorado.ca.us/Government/EMS/EMS\\_Agency\\_Info.aspx](http://www.co.el-dorado.ca.us/Government/EMS/EMS_Agency_Info.aspx)

**Imperial County EMS Agency**

Bruce E Haynes, M.D.  
EMS Medical Director  
935 Broadway  
El Centro, CA 92243  
Phone: (760) 482-4768  
Fax: (760) 482-4517  
Website:  
<http://www.icphd.org/sub.php?idm=103>

**Inland Counties EMS Agency (ICEMA)  
(San Bernardino, Inyo, Mono)**

Reza Vaezazizi, M.D.  
EMS Medical Director  
1425 South "D" Street  
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0060  
Phone: (909) 388-5823  
Fax: (909) 388-5825  
Website:  
<http://www.sbcounty.gov/icema/>

**Kern County**

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1800 Mt. Vernon Avenue, 2nd Floor  
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Website:  
<http://www.co.kern.ca.us/ems/>

**Los Angeles County**

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10100 Pioneer Blvd., Suite 200  
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670  
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Fax: (562) 941-5835  
Website:  
<http://ems.dhs.lacounty.gov/>

**Marin County**

William Teufel, M.D.  
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899 Northgate Dr., Suite 104  
San Rafael, CA 94903  
Phone: 415-473-6871  
Fax: (415) 473-3747  
Website:  
<http://www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/HH/main/ems/index.cfm>

**Merced County**

James Andrews, M.D.  
EMS Medical Director  
260 East 15th Street  
Merced, CA 95340  
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Fax: (209) 381-1259  
Website:  
<http://www.co.merced.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=581>

**Monterey County**

James Stubblefield, M.D.,  
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1270 Natividad Road  
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Fax: (831) 755-4972  
Website:  
[http://www.mtyhd.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=section&id=20&Itemid=209&lang=en](http://www.mtyhd.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=section&id=20&Itemid=209&lang=en)

**Mountain Valley  
(Alpine, Amador, Calaveras,  
Mariposa, Stanislaus)**

Kevin Mackey, M.D.  
EMS Medical Director  
1101 Standiford Ave #D1  
Modesto, CA 95350  
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**Napa County**

Karen Smith, Public Health  
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2344 Old Sonoma Road.  
Building G Napa , CA 94559  
Phone: (707) 253-4341  
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<http://countyofnapa.org/ems/>

**North Coast  
(Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake)**

Ken Stiver, M.D.  
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3340 Glenwood Avenue  
Eureka, CA 95501  
Phone: (707) 445-2081  
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**Northern California  
(Glenn, Lassen, Modoc,  
Plumas, Sierra, Trinity)**

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0121  
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**Orange County**

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**Riverside County**

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PO Box 7600  
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**Sacramento County**

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**San Benito County**

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EMS Medical Director  
1111 San Felipe Rd., Ste.  
102  
Hollister, CA 95023  
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Website:  
<http://www.sanbenitoco.org/ems/>

**San Diego County**

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6255 Mission Gorge Road  
San Diego, CA 92120  
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Website:  
[http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/hsa/programs/phs/emergency\\_medical\\_services/](http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/hsa/programs/phs/emergency_medical_services/)

**San Francisco County**

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Website:  
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**Santa Barbara County**

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**Santa Clara County**

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<http://www.sccgov.org/sites/ems/Pages/Santa-Clara-County-EMS-Agency.aspx>

**Santa Cruz County**

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<http://www.santacruzhealth.org/phealth/ems/3ems.htm>

**Sierra-Sacramento Valley  
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Placer, Shasta, Siskiyou,  
Sutter, Tehama, Yolo, Yuba)**

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