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**EMT- 1 CERTIFICATION (# 3200)**

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**Authority:** See Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 2, Article 4 for complete certification requirements.

**1. INITIAL CERTIFICATION** – An individual shall be eligible for EMT-1 certification upon successful completion of the following requirements:

- 1.1 Provide a photocopy of a course completion certificate from an approved California EMT-1 training program. Out-of-state applicants see Section 3.
- 1.2 For EMT courses ending before September 1, 2004: Submit documentation of successful completion of a written and skills certifying examination from an approved California EMT-1 training program.

For EMT courses ending after September 1, 2004: Submit documentation of successful completion of the NREMT written certifying examination and successful completion of the skills verification from an approved California EMT-1 training program.

Note: Individuals completing an EMT Program in Alameda County do not have to submit documentation of their skills certifying examination.

- 1.3 Apply for certification within two years of course completion.
- 1.4 Complete an Alameda County EMT-1 Certification Application.
- 1.5 Submit documentation of current certification in CPR (a photocopy of the card is acceptable proof) that is equivalent to the American Heart Association's Healthcare Provider level.
- 1.6 Submit a Department of Justice Live Scan background check (employees of Alameda County Public Safety agencies who had a background check as part of the hiring process are exempt from this requirement). See the *Background Checks* policy #3203 for more information.
- 1.7 Submit a copy of a photo id: current driver's license, ID card, or valid military ID card.
- 1.8 Be eighteen years of age.
- 1.9 Pay the \$35.00 non-refundable application fee.
- 1.10 EMT-1 certification shall be issued upon successful completion of 1.1 - 1.9 above. The expiration date shall be two years from the last day of the month in which the completed certification application paperwork was received and approved by the Alameda County EMS Agency. EMT-1 certificates issued by Alameda County are valid statewide.

**2. RECERTIFICATION** – In order to maintain certification an individual must recertify every two years. An individual shall be eligible for EMT-1 recertification upon successful completion of the following requirements:

- 2.1 Possess a current California EMT-1 certificate or National Registry EMT-1 certificate. If your EMT certificate has expired, please see Section 4 *Lapsed Certificates* for special instructions.

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- 2.2 Submit documentation of successful completion, every two years of:
- An approved EMT-1 refresher course (by submitting a course completion certificate from an approved training program); or,
  - 24 hours of continuing education through an approved CE Provider. This does not include recertification testing. Examples of CE include: classes and conferences, organized field care audits, and online and media-based productions.
- 2.3 Submit documentation of successful completion, every two years, of a skills verification exam. The Skills Competency Verification form must be submitted with your recertification application. This can be done by:
- Skills testing at the completion of a 24-hour refresher class or
  - Skills testing at an EMT-1 Training Program.
- 2.4 Submit documentation of current certification in CPR (a photocopy of the card is acceptable proof) that is equivalent to the American Heart Association's Healthcare Provider level.
- 2.5 Complete an Alameda County EMT-1 Recertification Application.
- 2.6 If this is the first time an individual has applied for certification in Alameda County, or the first recertification after September 1, 2002, an applicant must submit a Department of Justice Live Scan background check with the application (employees of Alameda County Public Safety agencies who had a background check as part of the hiring process are exempt from this requirement). See the Background Checks policy #3203 for more information.
- 2.7 Submit a copy of a photo id: current driver's license, ID card, or valid military ID card.
- 2.8 Pay the \$35.00 non-refundable application fee.
- 2.9 EMT-1 certification shall be issued upon successful completion of 2.1 - 2.8 above. The expiration date shall be two years from the last day of the month in which the recertification requirements are successfully completed.
- 2.10 An individual may apply for recertification up to 6 months before the current certificate expires. The new expiration date will be two years from the current expiration date.

**3. OUT-OF-STATE APPLICANTS** – EMT applicants from outside California must follow the general application process and provide the information below. Upon verification of the application a new EMT card will be issued with the same expiration date as is on the current out-of-state EMT card. The individual must provide:

- Proof within the last two years of either an out-of-state EMT card or completion of an EMT-1 training course
- Proof of a NREMT card or take the NREMT written exam
- If you have not taken the NREMT exam, complete a 24-hour refresher class
- Proof of completion of a local skills verification exam
- Contact information for the EMS agency that issued your card so your certification status can be verified

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**4. LAPSED CERTIFICATES** – An individual may not work as an EMT or represent him/herself as an EMT with a lapsed certificate. There are no extensions. Once a certificate has expired, an individual will need to:

- For a card expired six months or less, take the skills verification exam
- For a card expired more than six months but less than a year, complete 36 hours of CE plus the skills verification exam
- For a card expired for more than one year but less than two years, complete 48 hours of CE plus the written NREMT exam and a skills verification exam
- For a card expired two years or more, retake an entire EMT course

**5. CHALLENGE EXAMINATION** – Only a currently licensed physician, registered nurse, physician assistant, vocational nurse, currently licensed EMT-P, or an individual with documented evidence of successfully completing an EMT training program of the Armed Forces as defined in Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 2, section 100078 is eligible to take a challenge exam. A list of examination sites can be obtained from the EMS office.

**6. PARAMEDIC/EMT-II CERTIFYING AS AN EMT**

- 6.1 An individual who is currently licensed as a paramedic or certified as an EMT-II in California is considered to be a certified EMT-1 (except when the paramedic license or EMT-II certificate is under suspension) without any additional testing.
- 6.2 A currently licensed EMT-P who wants to obtain a separate EMT-1 certificate should complete the application process and submit a copy of his/her current EMT-P license to the EMS Office. The expiration date of the EMT-1 certificate will be the same as the expiration date of the EMT-P license.