

PARAMEDIC **7216**
(New October 2015)

PURPOSE **7216.1**
(New October 2015)

This policy section outlines the roles and responsibilities regarding the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) Emergency Medical Services Program staff and CAL FIRE Paramedics regarding licensure and accreditation to practice.

The Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) and Local Emergency Medical Services Agencies (LEMSAs) are responsible for providing oversight for paramedic licensure and accreditation to practice.

Paramedic accreditation to practice is issued through individual LEMSAs in the geographical area that the paramedic practices.

AUTHORITY **7216.2**
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- United States National Highway Safety and Traffic Administration National Emergency Medical Services Education Standards, DOT HS 811 077C, 2010
- California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5
- California Penal Code, Part 4
- California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9
- California Emergency Medical Services Authority
- Governing California Local Emergency Medical Services Agency
- National Registry for Emergency Medical Technicians
- American Heart Association

RELATED POLICIES **7216.3**
(New October 2015)

- 1000 CAL FIRE Personnel Handbook
- 1800 CAL FIRE Health and Fitness Handbook
- 4000 CAL FIRE Training Handbook
- 4300 CAL FIRE Fire Protection Training Handbook
- 7000 CAL FIRE Fire Operations Handbook
- 7700 CAL FIRE Emergency Incident Management Handbook
- 8500 CAL FIRE Cooperative Fire Services Handbook

RESPONSIBILITIES

7216.4

(New October 2015)

Paramedic Licensed Employee

- Ensures required EMS training requirements are met (refer to the appropriate CAL FIRE handbook)
- Ensures all training/certification/licensure requirements are met
- Notifies supervisor (employer) regarding any action that may affect EMS certification/licensure

Initial Licensure

CAL FIRE employees hired as paramedics are responsible for meeting the requirements for paramedic licensure. Information on paramedic licensure is found in the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 4 and on EMSA's website found in the 7200 CAL FIRE Emergency Medical Services Handbook, Appendix 1.

Information received from criminal offender record information (CORI) reports, otherwise known as background results, that may negatively affect employment, certification or licensure must be furnished to the applicant by the Certifying Entity/Authority.

Local Accreditation to Practice

CAL FIRE employees hired as paramedics are responsible for meeting the requirements for accreditation to practice and complying with the appropriate LEMSA accreditation guidelines. Refer to the 7200 CAL FIRE Emergency Medical Services Handbook, Appendix 1 for the links to the appropriate LEMSA websites.

Licensure Renewal

CAL FIRE employees hired as paramedics are responsible for meeting the requirements for license renewal and accreditation to practice. Paramedics are responsible for recertifying every two years. Information on paramedic license renewal is found in the CCR, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 4 and EMSA's website found in the 7200 CAL FIRE Emergency Medical Services Handbook, Appendix 1.

Allowances for active military personnel that function as paramedics in California are found in the CCR, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 4.

Lapses in Certification

Refer to the CCR, Division 9, Chapter 4, Section 100166 for information regarding requirements for lapses in paramedic licensure.

Paramedic to Emergency Medical Technician Reciprocity

A currently licensed paramedic is considered to be certified as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) or an Advanced EMT (AEMT), unless the paramedic license is suspended, with no further testing required. Should a paramedic wish to practice as an EMT/AEMT, the applicant must complete the EMT certification process, including completion of an application and the Live Scan process; and, if applying for an AEMT certification, optional scope requirements set forth by jurisdictional LEMSA. The expiration date of the certificate shall be the same as the license.

CAL FIRE Supervisor

- Assists paramedic staff with licensure as needed
- Coordinates with Unit/Program EMS Coordinator as needed

Unit/Program EMS Coordinator

- Ensures paramedic classifications maintain licensure and local accreditation, and the paramedic(s) continues to meet local requirements regarding policy, procedure, and protocol
- Coordinates with Unit/Program paramedics and EMSA/LEMSAs to ensure required continuing education and accreditation to practice is maintained
- Coordinates with EMS Program on paramedic issues as needed

Unit Chief/Program Manager

- Designates Unit/Program staff to ensure maintenance of licensure and local accreditation for paramedic(s) is maintained

Region Chief/Deputy Director

- Directs Unit Chief/Program Manager to ensure all public safety personnel meet minimum training standards

EMS Program Staff

- Assists Units/Programs with paramedic related issues
- Coordinates with EMSA/LEMSAs regarding paramedic issues as needed

EMS Physician

- Assists Units/Programs and coordinates with LEMSAs/EMSA regarding paramedic issues as directed

EMS Program Manager

- Assists Units/Programs with paramedic issues as needed

EMS Chief

- Supervises EMS Program Manager
- Coordinates with stakeholders regarding any paramedic issues

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