



Inland Counties Emergency Medical Agency

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Serving San Bernardino, Inyo, and Mono Counties
Tom Lynch, EMS Administrator
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Effective Date: October 1, 2021

Supersedes: NA

ICEMA EMERGENCY DIRECTIVE #2021.10.01

Whereas a State of Emergency exists in San Bernardino County as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

Whereas despite sustained efforts, COVID-19 continues to spread and is impacting all cities and unincorporated areas of San Bernardino County; and

Whereas in response to Governor Newsom's August 16, 2021 Executive Order N-12-21, the California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) directed Inland Counties Emergency Medical Agency (ICEMA) on August 25, 2021, to extend the following actions in order to ensure continued operation of Emergency Medical Services during the COVID-19 outbreak through December 31, 2021 unless otherwise noted below;

IT IS HERBY DIRECTED THAT:

1. AEMTs, EMTs and paramedics (EMT-Ps) shall be allowed to perform their current scope of practice in hospitals, medical facilities, alternate care sites, shelter care sites, in-home settings, or any additional setting approved by the director of the Authority for purposes of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. The requirement for a completed skills competency verification by AEMTs/EMTs for renewal or reinstatement is waived.
3. EMTs that have not completed the NREMT skills exam and have an "Active-Restricted" EMT certification status will have six (6) months from the September 30, 2021, termination date to complete the skills exam. EMTs that fail to complete the psychomotor exam within the required timeframe shall have their EMT certification status changed to "Expired".
3. For the duration of the COVID-19 declared State of Emergency, EMT training programs may allow for the use of high-fidelity simulation, scenarios, or other innovative educational environments, during the 24 hours of clinical training that includes 10 clinical contacts when approved by the EMT training program's approving authority.
4. For the duration of the Covid-19 declared State of Emergency, EMT-P training programs with current EMT-P students shall:
 - a. Inform students in writing of the need to extend clinical and/or field internship placement and an estimated timeline of the extension.
 - b. Allow for student participation in the use of high-fidelity simulation, scenarios, and other innovative educational environments as substitutes for the clinical and field internship training if approved in writing by the medical director, program advisory committee and the

EMT-P training program provider approving authority in conjunction with CoAEMSP training and student terminal competency guidance.

- c. Allow students to use high-fidelity simulation to substitute 20 of the 40 required field internship patient contacts and 10 of the 20 required documented experiences performing the role of team lead.
- d. Allow for students to substitute their required field internship to expand beyond a prehospital emergency setting within an organized EMS system to include healthcare settings that approximate the skills experience needed: including a minimum of 40 documented ALS patient contacts and 220 documented team leads when provided under an approved EMT-P preceptor and approved in writing by the program medical director, program advisory committee and the EMT-P program provider approving authority in conjunction with CoAEMSP training an student terminal competency guidance.

Additionally, the following actions referenced in the ICEMA memo, dated July 29, 2020, EMS Credentialing and Training Requirements pertaining to the temporary suspension of the following required for accreditation or reverification shall expire on December 31, 2021. An EMS provider or hospital may choose to require their employees to obtain these certifications sooner. This suspension of requirements does not apply to initial applicants with no prior EMS certification.

- A valid American Heart Association BLS Healthcare Provider, American Red Cross Professional Rescuer CPR card or equivalent.
- A valid American Heart Association Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) card.

For further details, see <https://emsa.ca.gov/covid19/>.