NOR-CAL EMS	2401	Paramedic Accreditation/Re-Accreditation
Nor-Cal EMS Policy & Procedure Manual		PARAMEDIC Certifications
Effective Date: 01/01/2026		Next Revision: 01/2029
Approval: Jeffrey Kepple MD – MEDICAL DIRECTOR		SIGNATURE ON FILE

Purpose:

To define the requirements for an individual receiving initial accreditation and re-accreditation as a Paramedic recognized by the Nor-Cal EMS Medical Director.

Policy:

1) All paramedics employed by an approved Nor-Cal EMS ALS provider are required to obtain accreditation in the Nor-Cal EMS region.
2) Once accredited; in order to work as a paramedic in the Nor-Cal EMS Region, all paramedics must remain affiliated with an approved Nor-Cal EMS ALS provider and are required to maintain continuous accreditation.
3) No individual shall hold themselves out as a Paramedic unless that individual holds a current and valid Paramedic license.
4) A Paramedic is responsible for notifying California EMSA within thirty (30) calendar days of any changes in mailing or e-mail address.

Procedure:

Paramedic Initial Accreditation

Applicants shall submit their application for accreditation prior to beginning employment as a Paramedic. A currently licensed Paramedic in the State of California may begin employment within the Nor-Cal EMS region while completing the accreditation process. Paramedics may be allowed to work within the State Basic Scope of Practice, as a second paramedic until s/he is accredited. This interim status may be maintained for a maximum of forty-five (45) days while completing the accreditation process.

The following criteria shall be met:

1) Possess a current State of California Paramedic License.
2) Submit a completed Paramedic Accreditation Application.
3) Submit fee as set by Nor-Cal EMS. All fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.
4) Submit a copy of a current healthcare provider CPR Certification, ACLS, and PALS / PEPP.
5) Submit a copy of a valid picture ID (driver's license, California ID card, Passport or valid military ID).
6) Once the application for accreditation is accepted, the applicant may then start local orientation and training, see 2402 Initial Paramedic Accreditation Form for requirements.
7) Nor-Cal EMS 2402 Initial Paramedic Accreditation Form must be completed and submitted within the forty-five (45) day temporary accreditation period.
8) The applicant must complete a Nor-Cal EMS Paramedic Accreditation Orientation prior to the exam and within the forty-five (45) day temporary accreditation period.
9) A testing date will be provided for the applicant to take the accreditation examination.
10) The paramedic shall successfully complete the Nor-Cal EMS Scope of Practice written examination with a minimum score of 80%. An applicant may take the examination three times within a 45-day period of time. After three attempts, an applicant must wait six months before taking the exam.
11) If the applicant fails to complete this process within forty-five (45) days, the individual shall re-

start the accreditation process.

a) The application process must also be re-started by an applicant that has made three attempts to successfully complete the Nor-Cal EMS Scope of Practice written examination and is waiting the requisite six months (see item 9).

Paramedic Orientation:

Orientation and initial training listed on the 2402 Initial Paramedic Accreditation Form is to be completed by the employer and includes the following items:

1) Orientation to the Nor-Cal EMS region to include policies, procedures, and training as identified in the 2402 Initial Paramedic Accreditation Form.
2) County policies or ordinances that have special requirements, if applicable to provider agency.
3) Confirmation of training for any Optional Scope items for the Nor-Cal EMS region.
4) A supervised field evaluation is to be completed with an approved preceptor to consist of a minimum of five (5) ALS contacts. If the paramedic has completed his/her internship in the Nor-Cal EMS Region, the ALS contacts may be waived by the EMS Medical Director.

Emergency Temporary (90-Day) Authorization:

1) This is an emergency temporary process to authorize Paramedics to work in the Nor-Cal EMS region.
2) Must currently be licensed and accredited with another California Local EMS Agency in order to qualify for this process.
3) Personnel approved to work with temporary accreditation SHALL be scheduled with personnel who are permanently authorized/accredited in the Nor-Cal EMS region.
4) Procedure:
   a) A letter requesting the implementation of this emergency procedure shall be submitted to the Nor-Cal EMS Medical Director for approval. This letter must outline the need for temporary accreditation and be signed by either the Agency Medical Director or Manager.
   b) Once approved, the following shall be submitted to the Nor-Cal EMS Certification Department:
      i) Current Paramedic license in the State of California.
      ii) Current Paramedic accreditation card from California LEMSA.
      iii) Current healthcare provider CPR Certification.

Paramedic Accreditation Renewal*:*

Submit the following to Nor-Cal EMS upon receipt of the applicant's renewed California Paramedic license:

1) A completed Paramedic Reaccreditation Application.
   i) A completed application and all required supporting documentation must be submitted prior to processing. Incomplete applications will not be processed and if not completed within 60 days will be destroyed.
2) Copy of renewed California Paramedic License.
3) Fee as set by Nor-Cal EMS. All fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.
4) Valid picture ID (driver license, California ID card, Passport or valid military ID).
5) Completed Policy 2404 Paramedic/MICN Skills Competency Verification Form.
6) Completed Policy 2403 Paramedic Continuing Education Form reflecting the following trainings per accreditation period:
   a) Completion of all CQI requirements which include the following certifications:
      i) Healthcare provider level CPR.
      ii) PALS or PEPP Certification Card.
      iii) ACLS.
      iv) Minimum First Responder Awareness level for hazardous materials.
      v) Awareness and training in Nor-Cal EMS MCI Plan.

Lapse in Accreditation:

1) If accreditation has lapsed less than one year (twelve months) an increased renewal of accreditation fee will be assessed.
2) If accreditation has lapsed greater than one year (twelve months), the applicant must follow the procedure for initial accreditation with the required testing and initial accreditation fees.