



---

## **PARAMEDIC ACCREDITATION PROCESS**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to establish a process by which individuals obtain initial accreditation as a Paramedic through the Yolo County Emergency Medical Services Agency (YEMSA).

### **AUTHORITY**

Health & Safety Code, Division 2.5, Chapter 7, § 1797.192  
California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 4, § 100166

### **DEFINITIONS**

**Paramedic:** Also known as Emergency Medical Technician–P (EMT–P) means an individual who is educated and trained in all elements of prehospital Advanced Life Support (ALS); whose Scope of Practice to provide ALS is in accordance with the standards prescribed by California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 4, and who has a valid license issued pursuant to the same.

**Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) certification:** Certifies that the holder has the knowledge and skills necessary to perform high-performance CPR, team dynamics, communication, systems of care, recognition and intervention of cardiopulmonary arrest, immediate post-cardiac arrest, acute dysrhythmia, stroke, and acute coronary syndromes (ACS).

**Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) certification:** Certifies that the holder has the knowledge and skills necessary to systematic approach pediatric assessment, basic life support, PALS treatment algorithms, effective resuscitation, and to improve the quality of care provided to seriously ill or injured children, resulting in improved outcomes.

**International Trauma Life Support/Prehospital Trauma Life Support (ITLS/PHTLS) certification:** Certifies that the holder has the knowledge and skills necessary to rapidly perform the initial evaluation and stabilization of the patient according to nationally recognized standards.

### **INITIAL ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS**

- I. The following requirements must be met to obtain accreditation as a Paramedic within Yolo County:
  - A. Provide proof of employment with an approved ALS Service Provider.
  - B. Provide a copy of a current and valid State of California Paramedic License.
  - C. Provide a copy of a current and valid United States (U.S.) state-issued driver's license or identification card.
  - D. Provide a copy of a current and valid Advance Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certification.
  - E. Provide a copy of a current and valid Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) certification.
  - F. Provide a copy of a current and valid International Trauma Life Support (ITLS), or Prehospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) certification.



# Yolo County Emergency Medical Services Agency

## Certification

Revised Date: August 29, 2019

- G. Complete a YEMSA Paramedic Application, which includes the statement that the individual is not precluded from accreditation for reasons defined in the Health & Safety Code, Division 2.5, Chapter 7, § 1798.200 – 1798.211.
- H. Pay the YEMSA local accreditation fee, which is non-refundable.
- I. Attend a YEMSA Orientation within the ninety (90) calendar days of the initial date of application.
  - 1. Submission of an application and all required documents plus fees are required prior to attending an orientation.
  - 2. Attendees must RSVP to YEMSA in order to attend a YEMSA Orientation.
- J. Successfully complete five (5) consecutive ALS patient contacts with a YEMSA approved Field Training Officer (FTO) within ninety (90) calendar days after attending a YEMSA Orientation.
  - 1. Attendance at a YEMSA Orientation is required prior to the start of the 5 Call process.
  - 2. YEMSA approved evaluators may extend the field evaluation process an additional five (5) patient contacts, for a total of ten (10), when deemed appropriate. Nothing in this section requires that shifts of hospital, field orientation, or preceptor ship be done on consecutive days.
- K. Paramedics failing to maintain the specified accreditation requirements will result in suspension or revocation of accreditation to practice as a Paramedic in Yolo County, and:
  - 1. Paramedics are responsible for notifying YEMSA in writing, within thirty (30) calendar days, of any changes to their mailing address or contact information.
  - 2. Paramedics are responsible for keeping current and valid certifications on file with YEMSA at all times. This means if a certification expires during the Paramedic's accreditation period it's their responsibility to submit a current copy to YEMSA.
  - 3. Paramedics are responsible for maintain confidentiality of patient medical information.
  - 4. Paramedics are responsible to know and adhere to all YEMSA Policies & Protocols.
- L. Individuals functioning as a Paramedic without current valid accreditation will be reported as functioning outside of medical control to the California EMS Authority and may be subject to criminal and civil penalties.

### APPLICATION PROCESSING

- I. Upon completion of all initial accreditation requirements, and confirmation that the applicant meets all the criteria specified in the California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 4, Article 5, an individual shall be accredited as a Paramedic in Yolo County. YEMSA shall issue a wallet-sized Paramedic Accreditation card which shall be valid throughout Yolo County, for a period consistent with and not to exceed the period for which their current State Paramedic license is valid.
  - A. Applicants must complete the accreditation application and field evaluation process outlined above within ninety (90) calendar days of the initial date of



# Yolo County Emergency Medical Services Agency

## Certification

Revised Date: August 29, 2019

---

application; any extension of this period is at the discretion of YEMSA. Applicants exceeding this requirement may be required to repeat all initial accreditation requirements.

- B. Only completed applications including signature, fees, and all required supporting documentation will be processed by YEMSA.
- C. Incomplete applications will not be processed and will held by YEMSA for sixty (60) days awaiting required supporting documentation. All applications not completed within sixty (60) days will be destroyed.
- D. YEMSA will normally process completed applications within ten (10) business days.