



# Yolo County Health & Human Services Agency



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**Date:** April 7, 2023

**To:** ALS Providers

**From:** Yolo County EMS Agency

**Subject:** Mandatory ALS Update Classes

## MEMORANDUM

In 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic shutdowns, the state EMS Authority (EMSA) and Yolo County EMS Agency (YEMSA) waived or modified in-person training requirements. These precautions were necessary to protect public health and our EMS workforce but came at the cost of consistent standards in hands-on skills training. These pandemic precautions were never intended to become permanent. As Yolo County and California have ended their COVID-19 pandemic declarations and EMSA has reinvoked traditional training requirements, it is time for YEMSA to reinstitute and reevaluate local paramedic reaccreditation requirements.

Starting this year, YEMSA is requiring a mandatory once-a-year ALS Update class for all paramedics to maintain their Yolo County accreditation. ALS Updates will be in person to ensure the highest quality of training and consistency amongst ALS providers. Classes will be held in May, directly preceding YEMSA policy updates scheduled for June 1, 2023.

ALS Update classes will include both lectures and hands-on skills stations. This year's class will cover protocol updates, new formulary additions to the paramedic scope of practice, and hands-on practice in several high-risk, low-frequency skills.

YEMSA recognizes the challenges posed by a transition back to in-person classes. However, the benefit of interaction between providers, instructors, and physicians, along with hands-on skills, makes this move important for ALS Updates. YEMSA is committed to continuing virtual class options when they can be done without impacting the delivery of course materials, as in New Paramedic Orientation and CQI.

Please see the attached training flyer for the May 2023 mandatory ALS Updates class schedule and registration information. Class size is limited, so please register early for a class that fits your schedule. Failing to attend one of these mandatory trainings will result in the temporary suspension of your Yolo County accreditation.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Megan Rizzo at (530) 490-3962 or [megan.rizzo@yolocounty.org](mailto:megan.rizzo@yolocounty.org).