

TITLE: FIRST RESPONDER INITIAL CERTIFICATION

APPROVED: _____
Executive Director

Medical Director

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FIRST RESPONDER INITIAL CERTIFICATION

I. AUTHORITY

Section 2.03 of the EMS System Guidelines; California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.94, 1797.182 and 1797.210; California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 1.5.

II. DEFINITION

- A. "Certification" means the issuance of a card or certificate which verifies that an individual has successfully met the requirements contained in this policy.
- B. "Agency" means the Mountain-Valley EMS Agency.
- C. "First Responder" means an individual who has successfully completed a 40 Hour First Responder course which meets or exceeds the requirements of Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 1.5 of the California Code of Regulations and has met all certification requirements.
- D. "Candidate" means an individual who is applying for certification as a First Responder.

III. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide a mechanism whereby individuals may acquire initial certification as a First Responder.

IV. POLICY

The Agency shall issue First Responder certification to those candidates that meet the requirements of this policy.

V. PROCEDURE

- A. A candidate will be issued certification upon successful completion of the following:
 - 1. Receive course completion from an Agency approved First Responder Training Program which is taught to the standards of the U.S. Department of Transportation=s First Responder curriculum which includes first aid practices and CPR.
 - 2. Submit an application to the Agency within six (6) months of the date of course completion which includes:

- a. a copy of a current CPR certification which is taught to the curriculum standards of the American Heart Association, American Red Cross or the National Safety Council at the Health Care Provider or equivalent level.
 - b. a copy of a current driver's license or picture identification.
 - c. a signed affidavit that the candidate is at least 18 years of age.
 - d. a signed affidavit that the candidate is not precluded from certification for reasons defined in Health and Safety Code, Section 1798.200.
3. Successfully complete an Agency approved First Responder Certification Examination as follows:
- a. Written Testing Requirements
 1. Candidates must successfully pass an Agency approved certification exam prior to being issued a First Responder certification card.
 2. The minimum passing score is 75%.
 3. Candidates who do not receive a passing score are eligible to retest two (2) times. If after the third attempt, the candidate does not receive a passing score, they must successfully complete a First Responder initial course in order to reapply for certification.
 - b. Practical Testing Requirements
 1. Practical skills standards and evaluation criteria are listed in the latest edition of the Practical Examination Workbook, published by the Mountain-Valley EMS Agency.
 2. Candidates must successfully complete the following practical skills:
 - a. Patient Assessment/Management - Trauma
 - b. Patient Assessment/Management - Medical
 - c. Cardiac Arrest Management/AED
 - d. Bag-Valve-Mask Apneic Patient
 - e. Spinal Immobilization - Seated or Supine
 - f. One of the following randomly chosen skills:
 1. Long Bone Injury
 2. Joint Injury
 3. Traction Splint
 4. Bleeding Control/Shock Management
 5. Upper Airway Adjuncts and Suction
 6. Mouth-to-Mask with Supplemental Oxygen
 7. Supplemental Oxygen Administration

3. A candidate that fails a practical skill, must retest on that practical skill.
4. Retesting of a practical skill may take place at the same test session if the candidate fails three (3) or fewer practical skill(s).
5. Candidates failing four (4) or more practical skills must retest all skills at another test session.
6. Candidates retesting a practical skill(s) at another test session must pass all previously failed practical skill(s) in compliance with items 4 and 5 above.
7. Candidates retesting a practical skill may re-test on a failed skill a total of two (2) times.
8. Candidates retesting at other than their original test session must pay an additional certification testing fee, if applicable.
9. Candidates who do not pass the practical skill(s) upon retesting, must successfully complete an First Responder initial course in order to reapply for certification.

B. Test Session

Candidates for certification shall:

1. Complete the certification exam at an Agency approved test session.
2. Candidates must pay all appropriate examination and certification fees.

C. First Responder certification may be denied, or a First Responders certification may be suspended or revoked if they meet any of the following:

1. has committed any sexually related offense specified under Section 290 of the Penal Code
2. been convicted of murder, attempted murder, or murder for hire
3. been convicted of two or more felonies
4. is on parole or probation for any felony
5. been convicted and released from incarceration during the preceding fifteen years of the crime of manslaughter or involuntary manslaughter
6. been convicted and released from incarceration during the preceding ten years for any offense punishable as a felony
7. been convicted of two misdemeanors within the preceding five years for any offense relating to the use, sale, possession, or transportation of narcotics or addictive or dangerous drugs
8. been convicted of two misdemeanors within the preceding five years for any offense relating to force, violence, threat, or intimidation
9. been convicted within the preceding five years of any theft related misdemeanor
10. has committed any act within the preceding seven years involving fraud or intentional dishonesty for personal gain

- D. Upon successful completion of all items listed in V.A. the candidate will be issued certification for a maximum period of two (2) years. The effective date of certification shall be the date the candidate satisfies all certification requirements. The certification expiration date will be the final day of the final month of the two (2) year period.