



PARAMEDIC ACCREDITATION
EMSAC FEBRUARY 2026

EFFECTIVE DATE: xx/xx/xx

POLICY REFERENCE NO: 2050

SUPERSEDES: 10/1/2025

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1.** To establish procedures for a California licensed Paramedic to become accredited in the City and County of San Francisco under the following Accreditation sub-types:
- 1.1.1.** Advanced Life Support (ALS) Local Accreditation
 - 1.1.2.** Community Paramedicine (CP)
 - 1.1.3.** Triage to Alternate Destination (TAD)

2. POLICY

- 2.1.** Paramedic Accreditation is valid when a Paramedic is employed by and on-duty with a permitted San Francisco ALS Provider.
- 2.2.** Paramedic applicants must answer all background disclosure questions accurately on all application forms. Individuals with a background as listed under Health and Safety Code § 1798.200 may be precluded from obtaining Accreditation. Paramedic Accreditation applicants may be required to submit additional information or participate in an in-person interview. Denial, Suspension, or Revocation of Accreditation shall be subject to provisions of this policy and Policy 2070 (Certificate / License Discipline Process for Prehospital Personnel). The EMS Agency Medical Director retains final decision-making authority pertaining to Paramedic Accreditation.
- 2.3.** For TAD and CP Accreditation, Paramedics must maintain an active, unrestricted Paramedic license issued by the EMS Authority. A restricted Paramedic license includes sanctions such as, but not limited to, probation. Failure to maintain an active, unrestricted Paramedic license may lead to revocation and/or denial of a TAD and/or CP Accreditation.

3. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL ALS LOCAL ACCREDITATION PARAMEDICS

- 3.1.** No person shall use the paramedic scope of practice in San Francisco unless they are currently an Accredited Paramedic or have completed the requirements to be an ALS Local Accreditation Candidate.
- 3.2.** Submit a completed San Francisco EMS Agency Paramedic Accreditation application. This includes:
- 3.2.1.** Copy of current picture identification (State driver's license or ID card, valid Passport, valid US military ID card or other government-issued ID)
 - 3.2.2.** Copy of current California Paramedic license

- 3.2.3. Proof or application for TAD Accreditation if working on an ambulance or transporting patients to TAD Facilities
- 3.2.4. Payment of fees

4. INITIAL ACCREDITATION - ALS LOCAL ACCREDITATION

- 4.1. Submission of all general requirements listed in Section 3.
- 4.2. Submit copies of current certification cards or proof of course completion for the following:
 - 4.2.1. Current Basic Life Support (Healthcare Provider Level) CPR Card from the American Heart Association, American Red Cross or American Safety & Health Institute
 - 4.2.2. Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) or Advanced Life Support (ALS) from the American Heart Association, American Red Cross
 - 4.2.3. Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) or Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals (PEPP)
 - 4.2.4. Prehospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) or Basic Trauma Life Support (BTLS)
- 4.3. Provide verification of successful completion of a San Francisco EMS system orientation given by the employer. Required components of initial training include local San Francisco:
 - 4.3.1. EMS System organization and geography
 - 4.3.2. EMS policies and patient treatment protocols
 - 4.3.3. Local Optional Scope of Practice (LOSOP) Protocols
 - 4.3.4. Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) Plan
 - 4.3.5. ICS-100 and ICS-200 (Basic ICS)
 - 4.3.6. FEMA IS-700a (Introduction to National Incident Management System)
 - 4.3.7. ICS-300 (Paramedic Supervisors-only)
 - 4.3.8. Hazmat first responder awareness course (FRA) per 29 CFR 1910-120
 - 4.3.9. Ten (10) ALS patient contacts with a Field Training Officer (FTO) as a third person and successfully pass FTO evaluation in the following areas, appropriate knowledge expected of the level of San Francisco geography and EMS policies and protocols
 - 4.3.10. The ten (10) ALS patient contact requirement is waived for any ALS Local Paramedic Accreditation applicant who completed the majority of internship hours within San Francisco under the following conditions:
 - 4.3.10.1. The internship hours were 9-1-1 responses
 - 4.3.10.2. The internship was completed with a permitted San Francisco ALS Provider Agency
 - 4.3.10.3. The internship was successfully completed within past year
- 4.4. The EMS Agency shall process the accreditation application within fourteen (14) business days of receiving it. Fourteen (14) business day timeline starts upon receipt of a fully complete application that meets all requirements. The accreditation applicant may perform the basic Paramedic scope of practice with a second accredited Paramedic until receipt of local accreditation.
- 4.5. The initial accreditation term shall be from the date issued until the applicant's license expires. Upon renewal, accreditation will be concurrent with California Paramedic License.

5. RENEWAL - ALS LOCAL ACCREDITATION

- 5.1. Accreditation for practice shall be continuous as long as licensure is maintained, and the following requirements are met:
 - 5.1.1. Submission of all general requirements listed in Section 3
 - 5.1.2. Verification of employment as a Paramedic from a permitted San Francisco ambulance provider
 - 5.1.3. Verification from the employer of completion of training on EMS Agency policy and protocols and updates or any other trainings required by the EMS Agency Medical Director that have been issued in the previous 24 months
 - 5.1.4. Submit copies of current certification cards for the following:
 - 5.1.4.1. Current Basic Life Support (Healthcare Provider Level) CPR Card from the American Heart Association, American Red Cross or American Safety & Health Institute
 - 5.1.5. Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) or Advanced Life Support (ALS) from the American Heart Association, American Red Cross
 - 5.1.5.1. Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) or Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals (PEPP)

6. LICENSE OR ACCREDITATION REINSTATEMENT - ALS LOCAL ACCREDITATION

- 6.1. An accreditation reinstatement occurs when an ALS Local Accreditation or Paramedic License is expired/lapsed.
- 6.2. If reinstatement is twelve (12) months or less:
 - 6.2.1. Meet requirements for Renewal in Section 5
 - 6.2.2. Submit written request from San Francisco ALS Provider for reinstatement
- 6.3. If reinstatement is twelve (12) months or more:
 - 6.3.1. Meet requirements for Initial in Section 4

7. ALS PROVIDER REQUIREMENTS - ALS LOCAL ACCREDITATION

- 7.1. ALS Providers shall:
 - 7.1.1. Notify the EMS Agency within ten (10) business days of a Paramedic leaving employment
 - 7.1.2. Notify the EMS Agency within ten (10) business days of a Paramedic starting employment
 - 7.1.3. Notify the EMS Agency when orientation with the new employer has been completed. This includes all EMS Agency policy and protocols updates based on last shift in the field with previous employer. Notification shall be made at least two (2) business days in advance of first shift in the field
 - 7.1.4. The Accreditation must remain current or renewed under Section 5
 - 7.1.5. No notification is required for TAD or CP Accreditation

8. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR TAD ACCREDITATION APPLICANTS

- 8.1. A TAD Paramedic shall only utilize TAD skills when accredited by the San Francisco EMS Agency as a TAD Paramedic and employed by an approved San Francisco TAD Service Provider.
- 8.2. An initial TAD Paramedic accreditation shall expire on the last day of the month, two (2) years from the effective date of the initial accreditation or consistent with the expiration date of already existing ALS Local Accreditation.
- 8.3. TAD accreditation requires renewal every two (2) years or by date as listed on accreditation card.
- 8.4. California Paramedic License must be active and unrestricted.
- 8.5. Payment of any associated fees.
- 8.6. TAD Accreditation is required for any Paramedic working on an ambulance or transporting patients to TAD Facilities with an approved TAD Provider. TAD Accreditation is optional for any Paramedic not assigned to or working on an ambulance.
- 8.7. Paramedics who have an active, restricted Paramedic license, which includes probation, may request a waiver of Section 8.6 by submitting a written request to the San Francisco EMS Agency Medical Director. Any Paramedic with a waiver of Section 8.6 cannot transport to TAD Facility until obtaining a TAD Accreditation upon receiving an active, unrestricted license from the state.

9. INITIAL ACCREDITATION – TAD

- 9.1. Submission of all general requirements listed in Section 3
- 9.2. Completed TAD application
- 9.3. TAD course completion certificate from a San Francisco EMS Agency-approved course

10. RENEWAL ACCREDITATION – TAD

- 10.1. Submission of all general requirements listed in Section 3
- 10.2. Completed TAD application
- 10.3. Completion of four (4) hours TAD-related Continuing Education (CEs) approved by the San Francisco EMS Agency

11. REINSTATEMENT OF ACCREDITATION - TAD

- 11.1. Submission of all general requirements listed in Section 3
- 11.2. Completed TAD application
- 11.3. If expired twelve (12) months or less, completion of four (4) hours of TAD-related CEs approved by the San Francisco EMS Agency
- 11.4. If expired twelve (12) months or more, San Francisco EMS Agency-approved TAD course completion certificate within one (1) year of reinstatement application submission date

12. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR CP ACCREDITATION APPLICANTS

- 12.1. A CP shall only utilize CP skills when accredited by the San Francisco EMS Agency as a CP and employed by an approved San Francisco CP service provider

- 12.2.** An Initial CP Accreditation shall expire on the last day of the month, two (2) years from the effective date of the initial accreditation or consistent with the expiration date of the already existing ALS Local Accreditation
- 12.3.** CP Accreditation requires renewal every two (2) years or by date as listed on accreditation card
- 12.4.** California Paramedic license must be active and unrestricted
- 12.5.** Payment of any associated fees

13. INITIAL ACCREDITATION – CP

- 13.1.** Submission of all general requirements listed in Section 3
- 13.2.** Completed CP application
- 13.3.** CP course completion certificate from a San Francisco EMS Agency-approved course
International Board of Specialty (IBSC) Community Paramedic certificate within the last two (2) years of the date of application submission

14. RENEWAL ACCREDITATION – CP

- 14.1.** Submission of all general requirements listed in Section 3
- 14.2.** Completed CP application
- 14.3.** Completion of one of the following:
 - 14.3.1.** Eight (8) hours CP-related CEs approved by the San Francisco EMS Agency
 - 14.3.2.** Proof of continued active, unrestricted IBSC CP certificate

15. REINSTATEMENT OF ACCREDITATION – CP

- 15.1.** Submission of all general requirements as listed in Section 3
- 15.2.** Completed CP application
- 15.3.** If expired twelve (12) months or less, completion of one of the following:
 - 15.3.1.** Eight (8) hours CP-related CEs approved by the San Francisco EMS Agency
 - 15.3.2.** Proof of active, unrestricted IBSC CP certificate
- 15.4.** If expired twelve (12) months or more, San Francisco EMS Agency-approved CP course completion certificate and proof of passing IBSC CP examination within the last two (2) years from the submission date of the reinstatement application

16. AUTHORITY

- 16.1.** California Health and Safety Code §§ 1797.52, 1797.172, 1797.174-1797.178, 1797.180, 1797.185, 1797.194, 1797.212, 1797.214, 1797.218, 1797.220, 1798.200-1798.205, and 1801-1857.
- 16.2.** California Code of Regulations, Title 22 §§ 100090.01-100097.02, 100111.01-100112.01, and 100115.01-100115.12.

Accreditation Type	Cert Cycle	Required?	State license may be restricted (e.g. probation)?	Initial	Renewal	Reinstatement < 1 Year	Reinstatement > 1 Year	ALS Provider required notifications to LEMSA
ALS Local	Every 2 years, expiration matches EMT-P License	All EMT-Ps	Yes – Disclosure Required	ID State EMT-P CPR ACLS/ ALS PALS/PEPP PHTLS/BTLS ICS FRA Orientation 10 ALS	ID State EMT-P CPR ACLS/ ALS PALS/PEPP	ID State EMT-P CPR ACLS/ ALS PALS/PEPP	ID State EMT-P CPR ACLS/ ALS PALS/PEPP PHTLS/BTLS ICS FRA Orientation 10 ALS	EMT-P leaves employment (within 10 days) EMT-P starts employment (within 10 days) Prior to first shift (within 2 days)
TAD	Every 2 years, expiration different from EMT-P License	All EMT-Ps who work for a TAD Provider and work on a transport ambulance ALS Providers may require TAD for non-transport Paramedics (e.g. CP, first response)	No – Submit waiver request to LEMSA for EMT-P who has State License on Probation	ID State EMT-P ALS Local TAD Course	ID State EMT-P ALS Local 4 hrs TAD CE or TAD Course	ID State EMT-P ALS Local 4 hrs TAD CE or TAD Course	ID State EMT-P ALS Local TAD Course	No notification required
CP	Every 2 years, expiration different from EMT-P License	All Paramedics who work in the capacity of a CP	No	ID State EMT-P ALS Local CP Course IBSC	ID State EMT-P ALS Local 8 hrs CP CE or IBSC	ID State EMT-P ALS Local 8 hrs CP CE or IBSC	ID State EMT-P ALS Local CP course IBSC	No notification required