



ACCREDITATION TO PRACTICE- ALS PERSONNEL CRITERIA

I. AUTHORITY:

Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1798 and 1797.185; California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 4.

II. APPLICATION:

This policy describes the process by which the EMS agency accredits a licensed California paramedic to practice in Orange County.

III. DEFINITIONS:

"Local Accreditation" or **"accreditation"** or **"accreditation to practice"** means authorization by OCEMS to practice as a paramedic within Orange County. Such authorization indicates that the paramedic has completed the requirements of California Code of Regulations Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 4.

IV. ACCREDITATION CRITERIA:

In order to be eligible for accreditation to practice in Orange County, the paramedic must meet all of the following:

- A. Possess a valid, current State of California paramedic license.
- B. Not be precluded from accreditation to practice as a paramedic for reasons defined in Section 1798.200 of the Health and Safety Code.
- C. Be affiliated with an OCEMS approved advanced life support (ALS) service provider.
- D. Successfully complete the accreditation process (See Section V) within a 30-day period.

V. ACCREDITATION PROCESS:

1. Paramedics applying for local accreditation as a **9-1-1 ALS paramedic** must complete and submit the following to OCEMS:
 - A. Copy of State of California paramedic license.
 - B. Evidence of successful completion of a maximum 8-hour orientation program of the Orange County EMS system as prescribed by OCEMS.
 1. Orientation program to include:
 - a. OCEMS Treatment Guidelines
 - b. OCEMS Policies and Procedures
 - c. OCEMS paramedic Scope of Practice
 - d. Orientation to the OCEMS communication system
 2. Only OCEMS, an OC base hospital coordinator, an OC ALS service provider's EMS coordinator, or a California paramedic training program whose orientation curriculum is approved by OCEMS may provide items a, b and c above.
 - a. Paramedic training programs must apply to OCEMS for approval of their orientation program curriculum. Contact the OCEMS ALS Coordinator to begin the approval process.



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3. The Orange County Sheriff/Communications division must provide Item V.1.B.1.d. above. This item is not required for IFT-ALS paramedic accreditation.
- C. Evidence of completion of training in any local optional scope of practice for which the individual has not been trained and tested:
 1. Attend an advanced airway skills review class.
 2. This training and testing is additional to the maximum 8-hour orientation program.
- D. Evidence of successful completion of field evaluations of no more than 10 ALS responses supervised by an approved field preceptor and/or an Orange County base hospital coordinator.
- E. Complete the appropriate OCEMS paramedic accreditation application online through OC-MEDS.
- F. Pay the established fee. (Reference OCEMS Policy #470.00)
2. Paramedics applying for local accreditation as a **IFT-ALS paramedic** must complete and submit the following to OCEMS:
 - A. Copy of State of California paramedic license.
 - B. Evidence of completion of an OCEMS approved IFT-ALS Training Course, which includes at a minimum, the understanding of OCEMS policies and procedures, including IFT-ALS Standing Orders and Procedures, and immediate ePCR posting using the OC-MEDS system.
 - C. Evidence of completion of an OCEMS approved advanced airway training program.
 - D. Copy of current CPR certification (Healthcare provider or professional rescuer course as approved by the OCEMS Medical Director), ACLS certification and PALS or PEPP certification.
 - E. Evidence of completion of ten (10) proctored IFT-ALS level transports.
 - F. Complete the appropriate OCEMS paramedic accreditation application online through OC-MEDS.
 - G. Pay the established fee (Reference OCEMS Policy #470.00)
3. Paramedics applying for local accreditation as **Air Medical paramedic** must complete and submit the following to OCEMS:
 - A. Copy of State of California paramedic license.
 - B. Evidence of completion of an OCEMS approved Medical Flight Crew Training Program.
 - C. Completion of an OCEMS approved OCEMS system orientation, which includes at a minimum, the understanding of OCEMS policies and procedures.
 - D. Copy of current CPR certification (Healthcare provider or professional rescuer course as approved by the OCEMS Medical Director), ACLS certification and PALS or PEPP certification.
 - E. Evidence of completion of ten (10) proctored Air Ambulance level transports.
 - F. Complete the appropriate OCEMS paramedic accreditation application online through OC-MEDS.

