

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

DEBRA BAETZ, MBA INTERIM AGENCY DIRECTOR

MINDY WINTERSWYK, PT. DPT. PCS ASSISTANT AGENCY DIRECTOR

TAMMI McCONNELL, MSN, RN, MICN, PHN **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES** DIRECTOR

> 405 W. 5th STREET, SUITE 301-A SANTA ANA, CA 92701 PHONE: 714-834-2791 FAX: 714-834-3125 Email: TMcConnell@ochca.com

DATE:

August 31, 2023

TO:

EMS Distribution

FROM:

Carl H. Schultz, MD; EMS Medical Director Tammi McConnell, MSN, RN; EMS Director

SUBJECT:

ORANGE COUNTY EMS DRAFT POLICY POSTED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Orange County Emergency Medical Services has released the following draft policy which is posted for a 50-day public comment review period (9/1/2023 to 10/20/2023 at 3:00 PM):

#510.00

Emergency Medical Technician Training Program Criteria

#510.00

Emergency Medical Technician Training Program Application,

Attachment 1

Attachment 1

Besides the general EMS community, schools that offer EMT training are highly encouraged to review the draft document and attachment, and provide feedback to Orange County EMS during the comment period. Once the comment period closes, no further input will be possible unless the policy is further refined and then another public comment period is announced.

Please review the policy and submit comments using our online form. The form can be accessed by using the link or by scanning the QR code below.

https://ochca.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV 1zcUoiFq7hmY6kS





EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN TRAINING PROGRAM CRITERIA

I. AUTHORITY:

Sections 1797.107; 1797.109, 1797.170, 1797.173 Health and Safety Code. Title 22 Sections 100060, 100065 - 100078, EMSA letter 8/13/2009 subj. Eligibility Criteria for EMT.

II. APPLICATION:

This policy describes the application process and curriculum requirements for approving an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training program.

III. POLICY:

- A. OCEMS will follow regulations outlined in Title 22, Health & Safety Code and EMSA publications.
- B. Eligibility for EMT training programs shall be limited to:
 - Accredited universities and colleges, including junior and community colleges, school districts and private post-secondary schools as approved by the State of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, Bureau of Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education.
 - 2. Medical training units of a branch of the Armed Forces including the Coast Guard of the United States.
 - 3. Licensed general acute care hospitals which meet criteria outlined in Title 22, Chapter 2, Section 100065.
 - 4. Agencies of government including public safety agencies.
- C. Institutions interested in applying to become an approved EMT training program should contact the EMS Licensing Desk at Orange County EMS (EMSLicensing@OCHCA.com) for an application packet (#510.00 Attachment 1). This packet can be found on the EMS website under EMS Policies.

IV. EMT PROGRAM REVIEW AND REPORTING:

- A. All program materials shall be subject to periodic review by OCEMS.
- B. All programs shall be subject to periodic on-site evaluation by OCEMS.
- C. All approved EMT training programs shall notify OCEMS in writing, in advance when possible and in all cases within thirty (30) calendar days, of any change in program director, program clinical coordinator, principal instructor, assistant instructors, address, phone number, contact person and EMT skills competency verifiers.
- D. If an EMT Training Program applicant cannot correct items of non-compliance within 30 days of a notice of deficiencies in the application process, their application will be ineligible for reconsideration for 180 days.
- E. If there is evidence of intent to mislead the agency in the initial application, the application will be denied and ineligible for reconsideration for 730
- F. Programs with multiple sites must complete an "EMT Training Program" application for each site, indicating the site address, principal instructor and teaching assistants.

OCEMS Policy #510.00 Effective Date: October 1, 2023





EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN TRAINING PROGRAM CRITERIA

V. FEES

A. Please refer to OCEMS policy #470.00 for all applicable fees applied to an initial or renewal EMT program application.

Approved:	
Carl H. Schultz, MD OCEMS Medical Director	Tammi McConnell, MSN, RN OCEMS Administrator

Original Date: 01/1984

Original Date:
Reviewed Date(s):
Revised Dates(s):
Effective Date: 09/02/2014; 4/1/2015; 7/25/2023 09/02/2014; 4/1/2015; 8/9/2023

4/1/2015; 10/1/2023

OCEMS Policy #510.00

Effective Date: October 1, 2023



APPROVAL PACKET

for

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Training Program



Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Training Program

Approval Packet

California regulations require OCEMS to review prospective training programs to assure compliance with State regulations prior to approving the eligible institution's training program. Only approved training programs may offer the training listed below. The purpose of this document is to define the application requirements for Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Training Program.

REQUIREMENTS FOR EMT TRAINING PROGRAM APPROVAL:

The eligibility and program requirements for Emergency Medical Training Programs are listed in California Code of Regulations (COR), Title 22. Social Security, Division 9. Prehospital Emergency Medical Services, Chapter 2. Emergency Medical Technician, Article 3. Sections 100065 - 100078 and referenced in the attached application and checklist.

Complete and submit OCEMS EMT Training Program approval forms and checklist for EMT Training Program Approval.

EMT TRAINING PROGRAM

I. PROCEDURES

- A. Complete and submit the following to OCEMS:
 - Application for EMT Training Program Approval
 - Applicable Fees
 - Checklist for EMT Training Program Approval
 - Hospital/Ambulance Affiliation Information Form
- B. The following should be retained by the Training Institution:
 - Certification Exam, i.e., passing grade
 - Attendance Requirements, etc.
 - Certification Exam Eligibility, Clinical Time Verification Form



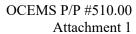
Application for EMT Training Program Approval

☐ Renewal

□ New

□ Update

Program Name		
Mailing Address	City	STZIP
Training Site(s) Address	City	STZIP
Phone	FAX	
Website	E-mail	
Program Director	Titl	e
E-mail		
License Number		
Include evidence of 40 hours in teaching methodole	ogy instruction in areas related to method	ls, materials, and evaluation of instruction
Clinical Coordinator	Titl	e
E-mail		
License Number		
Principal Instructor	Titl	e
E-mail		
License Number	Type	
Attach required documents for all principal instructo	rs as indicated in COR, Title 22, Division	n 9, Chapter 2, Section 100070.
Teaching Assistant	Titl	e
E-mail		
License Number	Type	
Attach qualifications for teaching assistants.		
Use separate page for additional principal instructor(s) and teaching assistant(s).	
Attach Hospital and EMS Service Provider Contracts	s for clinical and field training.	
Provider type (check one):		
☐ Branch of the Armed Forces		
□ College or University□ Licensed acute care hospital		
☐ Public safety agency		
☐ Private post-secondary school		
☐ School district/ROP		
☐ Other: Specify		





I certify that all information is accurate and expectations as outlined in COR,			nderstand the program responsibilities nician).
Signed,	Program Director		Date
OCEMS Use Only) Date Application Received	Approval Date	Expiration Date	Receipt # / Date Paid
Date Application Received	Approvar Date	Expiration Date	Receipt # / Date 1 aid



CHECKLIST FOR EMT TRAINING PROGRAM APPROVAL

	Materials to Submit for Program Approval	Page No.	Check Completed
1.	Table of Contents and checklist listing required information with corresponding page numbers (this form)		
2.	Application form for EMT training program approval		
3.	Statement of eligibility for training program approval		
4.	Written request to OCEMS for EMT training program approval		
5.	Statement verifying course content is equivalent to the US DOT National Emergency Medical Services Education Standards Emergency Medical Technician Instructional Guidelines (DOT HS 811 077A, January 2009)		
6.	Statement verifying CPR training equivalent to the current American Heart Association Guidelines at the Healthcare Provider level		
7.	Samples of written and skills examinations used for periodic testing		
8.	Final skills competency examination		
9.	Final written examination		
10.	Name and qualifications of the program director, program clinical coordinator, and principal instructor(s)		
11.	Evidence the course/program director has completed 40 hours in teaching methodology or equivalent per COR, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 2, §100070		
12.	Provisions for course completion by challenge, including a challenge examination (if different from final examination)		
13.	Provisions for a 24 hour refresher required for renewal or reinstatement		
14.	Statement verifying usage of the US DOT EMT - Basic Refresher National Standard Curriculum (DOT HS 808 624, September 1996)		
15.	Location where courses are to be offered and the proposed dates		
16.	Copy of written agreement with 1 or more acute care hospital(s) to provide clinical experience, or		
17.	Copy of written agreement with 1 or more operational ambulance provider(s) to provide field experience		
18.	Application fees		



REQUIRED SUPPLIES FOR EMT TRAINING PROGRAM

REQUIRED SUPPLIES FORM TO BE COMPLTED BY OCEMS PERSONNEL

	Required Supplies with Quantities	Check Completed
BSI Materials	☐ Gloves (1 Pair)	
	□ Surgical Masks (1)	
	□ N95s (1)	
	□ Disposable Gowns (1)	
	☐ Goggles/Glasses (1)	
Spinal	☐ Adult C-Collar (Either Adjustable or 1 of Each Size)	
Immobilization	☐ Pediatric C-Collar (1)	
Devices	☐ Head Immobilizer (1)	
	☐ KED Device (1)	
	☐ Backboard with Straps (1)	
Trauma	☐ Trauma Tag (1)	
Airway Adjuncts	☐ Nasopharyngeal Airway Adjuncts (No Less the 4 Standard Sizes)	
	☐ Oropharyngeal Airway Adjuncts (1 of Each Size, Sizes 0-5)	
	□ Water-Soluble Lubricant (1)	
Oxygen	□ Adult BVM (1)	
	☐ Pediatric BVM (1)	
	☐ Infant BVM (1)	
	☐ Adult, Pediatric, & Infant Oxygen Non-Rebreather Masks (1 of	
	Each)	
	☐ Adult & Pediatric Nasal Cannulas (1 of Each)	
	☐ Oxygen Cylinder & Regulator (1 of Each)	
Vital Signs	☐ Adult, Pediatric, and Infant Blood Pressure Cuff (1 of Each)	
_	☐ Stethoscope (1)	
	☐ Training Glucometer (1)	
	□ Pulse Oximeter (1)	
	□ Pen Light (1)	
	☐ Thigh Blood Pressure Cuff (1) *OPTIONAL*	
Suction Equipment	☐ Mechanical Portable Suction Device (1)	
	\Box Tubing (1)	
	☐ Yankauer (1)	
	☐ Suction Catheter (1)	
	OR	
	☐ Manual Portable Suction Device (1)	
	☐ Suction Catheter Attachment (1)	
CPR & AED	☐ Adult & Infant CPR Manikin (1 of Each, Either Mechanical or	
	Manual)]
	☐ AED Trainer with Adult & Pediatric AED Pads (1)	
	□ Towel (1)	
	☐ Training Razor (1)	



REQUIRED SUPPLIES FOR EMT TRAINING PROGRAM

REQUIRED SUPPLIES FORM TO BE COMPLTED BY OCEMS PERSONNEL

Required Supplies		Check	
			Completed
Hemorrhage Control		4" x 4" Dressings (1)	
		Roller Gauze or Kerlix (1)	_
		Petroleum Gauze (1)	
		Arterial Tourniquet (1)	
		Triangular Bandage (1)	
		1", 2", 3" Tape (1 of Each)	
		Trauma Sheers (1)	
		Arm, Leg, and Wrist Cardboard Splint (1 of Each)	
		Cold Pack, or Simulated Equivalent (1)	
		Burn Blanket (1)	
		Standard Blanket (1)	
		Biohazard Bag (1)	
Epinephrine &		Epinephrine Auto-Injector Training Device (1)	
Naloxone		Naloxone Auto-Injector Training Device (1)	
		Sharps Container (1)	
Obstetrical		Obstetrical Kit (1)	
		□ Bulb Syringe (1)	
		□ Baby Blanket (1)	
		\square Towel (1)	
		☐ Umbilical Cord Clamps (1)	
		☐ Umbilical Cord Scissor (1)	
		☐ Breslow Tape (1)	
		Childbirth Manikin *OPTIONAL*	
Traction Splint		Adult Traction Splint (1)	
		Pediatric Traction Splint (1)	
Ambulance Cot		Mechanical Ambulance Cot *OPTIONAL*	
OPTIONAL		Manual Ambulance Cot *OPTIONAL*	
Manikin		Full Size Manikin *OPTIONAL*	
OPTIONAL			



EMT TRAINING PROGRAM HOSPITAL/AMBULANCE AFFILIATION INFORMATION

(ATTACH SIGNED AGREEMENT)

Name(s) of general acute care hos	spital(s) providing supervised in-hospital cl	inical experience	for the EMT studen
Name:			
Address:			
County:			
Liaison:			
Title:	Phone:		
	E-mail:		
Name:			
Address:			
County:			
Liaison:			
Title:	Phone:		
	E-mail:		
Name:		Level ALS	of Service ☐ BLS
Address:			
County:			
Liaison:			
Title:	Phone:		
	E-mail:		
Name:		ALS	\square BLS
Address:			
County:			
Liaison:			
Title:	Phone:		
	E mail.		



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Email: TMcConnell@ochca.com

DATE:

August 31, 2023

TO:

EMS Distribution

FROM:

Carl H. Schultz, MD; EMS Medical Director

Tammi McConnell, MSN, RN; EMS Director

SUBJECT:

ORANGE COUNTY EMS DRAFT POLICY POSTED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Orange County Emergency Medical Services has released the following draft policy which is posted for a 50-day public comment review period (9/1/2023 to 10/20/2023 at 3:00 PM):

#645.00

Suspension or Revocation of Specialty Center, ERC, Training Program, Base Hospital, or 911/IFT ALS Provider Designation

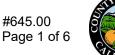
Specialty centers, ERCs, training programs, base hospitals, and 911/IFT ALS providers are highly encouraged to review the draft document and provide feedback to Orange County EMS during the comment period. Once the comment period closes, no further input will be possible unless the policy is further refined and then another public comment period is announced.

Please review the policy and submit comments using our online form. The form can be accessed by using the link or by scanning the QR code below.

https://ochca.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_badakES1wfTz09w









I. AUTHORITY:

Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section 1797.67, 1797.173, 1797.220, 1797.272, 1798, 1798.100, 1798.209; CCR, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 7.0, 7.1, and 7.2.

II. APPLICATION:

This policy sets forth the process for the suspension or revocation by Orange County Emergency Medical Services (OCEMS) of a facility's designation as a base hospital, emergency receiving center, specialty center, training program, or 911/IFT ALS service provider.

III. DEFINITIONS:

"Base Hospital" means an OCEMS-designated hospital which, by contractual agreement with OCEMS, provides medical direction to advanced life support (ALS) personnel in the field and to the prehospital care system in a region specified by OCEMS.

"911/IFT ALS Service Provider" means:

- a city or regional service approved by OCEMS to provide prehospital ALS services to a city or regional district utilizing private or fire department assets; or
- a private ambulance company contracting with and approved by OCEMS to provide interfacility ALS transfers between hospitals

"Cardiovascular Receiving Center" means a hospital designated as part of the ST-elevation myocardial infarction critical care system by OCEMS linking prehospital and hospital care to deliver comprehensive treatment to patients experiencing a STEMI, cardiac arrest with Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC), or complications from a Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD).

"Comprehensive Childrens Emergency Receiving Center" means a hospital which is designated by OCEMS as capable of providing comprehensive specialized pediatric medical and surgical care to any acutely ill or injured child and meets California Children's Services (CCS) criteria as a tertiary pediatric hospital.

"Emergency Receiving Center Hospital" means a hospital designated by OCEMS to perform specified emergency medical services system functions and to receive 911 BLS and ALS transported patients.

"Facility" means an acute care hospital licensed under California State Law with a permit to provide basic or comprehensive emergency services designated by OCEMS to offer specified services.

"Facility Application" means a proposal submitted by the facility's administrator to OCEMS Agency in response to an OCEMS Request For Proposal for specified services.

"Investigative Review Panel" or "IRP" means an impartial body, the members of which are knowledgeable in the provision of prehospital emergency medical care and OCEMS policies, standing orders, and procedures. The IRP is convened to review allegations against an OCEMS approved/designated **Program**, to establish the facts of the matter, and to recommend appropriate action to the OCEMS Medical Director.



#645.00 Page 2 of 6



"**Medical Director**" means the Medical Director of OCEMS, who is responsible for the medical control and direction of the EMS system in Orange County.

"Program" means an OCEMS approved/designated emergency receiving center, base hospital, training program, EMT-P service provider, or specialty center (TC, SNRC, CVRC, and CCERC).

"Stroke-Neurology Receiving Center" means a hospital designated as part of the stroke critical care system by OCEMS to deliver optimal subspecialty neuromedical and neurosurgical treatment to the population of stroke patients.

"Survey" means an OCEMS survey of a facility's application and/or services to assess the extent of a hospital's compliance with applicable OCEMS policies and procedures.

"Training Program" means a training program approved by OCEMS to provide training to prehospital personnel.

"Trauma Center" means a hospital which is designated as part of the trauma care system by OCEMS as a Level I, II, III, or IV trauma center and/or a Level I or II pediatric trauma center to meet the needs of all injured patients.

IV. INVESTIGATION:

A. Evaluation of Information

- Any information received from a credible source in support of a complaint shall be
 evaluated by the Medical Director. This includes discovery through medical audit or
 routine follow-up of complaints involving the provider of, or applicant for, a **Program**. If
 found to be true, such allegations could be evidence of an infraction and be considered
 out of compliance with applicable State and local laws, regulations, and OCEMS policies,
 procedures, and standing orders. Such violations could represent a threat to the public
 health and safety.
- 2. Before any formal review is undertaken, the Medical Director shall evaluate the information relative to the potential threat to the public health and safety and determine if immediate suspension and/or a formal investigation appears to be warranted.

B. Immediate Suspension

The Medical Director may immediately suspend an OCEMS designated/approved **Program** if, in the expert opinion of the Medical Director, immediate suspension is necessary to protect the public health and safety. The **Program** will be notified of the suspension in writing by OCEMS as set forth in Section V, below.

C. Notification of Formal Investigation

- 1. The **Program** to be formally investigated shall be notified by OCEMS, in writing, of the investigation and shall be allowed to submit pertinent information in writing to the Medical Director reviewing the allegations.
- 2. The written notice to the **Program** director shall include:







- a. A statement of the allegations against the **Program**
- b. A statement which explains that the allegations, if found to be true, are an infraction and non-compliant with applicable State and local laws, regulations, and OCEMS policy and procedure. Furthermore, if these violations constitute a threat to the public health and safety, they may be cause for the Medical Director to take action to suspend or revoke program approval/designation.
- c. An explanation of the possible actions which may be taken if the allegations are found to be true.
- d. A request for a written response to the allegations from the **Program**
- e. A statement that the **Program** may submit in writing any information that may be pertinent to the investigation, including statements from other individuals; and
- f. A statement that the **Program** shall submit the information above no later than 14 days from the date notified by the Medical Director. The Medical Director may extend the submission date in its sole discretion and as deemed reasonable under the circumstances.
- 3. The notification of the formal investigation described within this Section IV.C may be combined with the notification of action required by this Policy if the **Program's** approval/designation is being immediately suspended pursuant to Section IV.B of this Policy.
- 4. The notice of formal investigation to a **Program** shall be addressed to the **Program** at its post office address as shown in the OCEMS records and shall be sent by U.S. certified mail, return receipt requested, with postage prepaid.
- D. Use of an Investigative Review Panel (IRP)
 - If, after an initial investigation, the Medical Director determines, in his/her expert opinion, that the infraction or performance deficiency may require the suspension, revocation, denial, or denial of renewal of approval/designation, the Medical Director may convene an IRP to assist in establishing the facts of the matter and to report its findings to the Medical Director. The IRP shall consist of at least three (3) persons knowledgeable in the provision of prehospital emergency medical care and familiar with OCEMS policies and procedures. One (1) member of the IRP shall be mutually agreed upon by the **Program** and the Medical Director if the **Program** so requests. If there is no mutual agreement, the member shall be selected from the Emergency Medical Care Committee or its advisory subcommittee membership. The IRP shall not include the Medical Director, any staff of OCEMS, or anyone who submitted allegations against the **Program** or was directly involved in the investigation.
 - 2. The **Program** shall be notified in writing of the purpose of the IRP, its membership and the **Program's** right to approve one member, the date and time when it will convene, and the **Program's** right to designate another person to represent him/her before the IRP no later than 7 days after the selection of the IRP. Any subsequent change in that time or date shall be mutually agreed upon by the **Program** and the Medical Director.
- E. Determination of Appropriate Action by Medical Director





- 1. The Medical Director shall determine what action relative to the **Program** approval/designation, if any, shall be taken resulting from the findings of the investigation.
- 2. The nature of any disciplinary action taken as a result of the investigation shall be proportionate to and related to the risk to the public health and safety caused by the **Program's** action(s).

F. Notification of Action

- The Medical Director shall notify the **Program** of the prescribed action after making the determination of what that action shall be within 14 days following the formal conclusion of the investigation and the receipt of the IRP's findings, if one was convened.
- 2. The notification shall be in writing and shall include the following information:
 - a. The specific allegations which resulted in the investigation.
 - b. A summary of the findings of the investigation, including the findings and recommendations of the IRP, if one was convened.
 - c. The action(s) to be taken, if any, and the effective date(s) of the action(s), including the duration of the action(s).

V. <u>HEARING PROCESS</u>:

A. Notice of Right to a Hearing

OCEMS shall send the **Program** written notice of the **Program's** right to a hearing if approval/designation is revoked or suspended. The **Program** may request a hearing in writing within 14 days of the date of the notice sent by the Medical Director informing the **Program** of the revocation or suspension and the right to a hearing.

B. Notice of Time and Place of a Hearing

The hearing shall be held at a location determined by the Medical Director. Subject to Section V.D. below, the hearing shall be held within 45 days after receipt by OCEMS of the **Program's** written request for a hearing. At least 20 days before the date of the hearing, OCEMS shall send the **Program** written notice of the time and place of the hearing, set forth the procedure to be followed at the hearing as consistent with Section V.E., below, and the identity and professional qualifications of the hearing panel members.

C. Hearing Panel

The hearing panel shall consist of three persons selected by the Orange County Health Care Agency (OCHCA) Director from the membership of the Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC) who actively participate in the EMS system in Orange County.







D. Postponement of a Hearing

The Medical Director may postpone the hearing date upon good cause at his/her sole discretion. The **Program** may also request a postponement for good cause, but the request must be sent to the Medical Director in writing, and the Medical Director retains sole discretion over whether or not to grant the request.

E. Procedure with Respect to a Hearing

The hearing shall be informal and not subject to the formal rules of evidence. The **Program** may be represented by legal counsel, may make oral and written presentations, and may offer documentary evidence and witness testimony in support of its case. No presentations or testimony concerning actions taken by the **Program** subsequent to the decision by the Medical Director to revoke or suspend approval/designation shall be considered. Hearsay evidence shall be allowed, and the hearing panel shall not base its final decision solely on the basis of hearsay evidence. The Program shall have the burden of proof to show by a preponderance of the evidence why the decision made by the Medical Director shall not be upheld.

F. Decision of the Hearing Panel

After the hearing has been completed, the hearing panel, within 30 days, shall submit its decision to the Medical Director in writing for his/her consideration. The written decision shall include the hearing panel's findings and any documentation, material, or information considered and relied upon by the hearing panel. Its recommendation shall be one of the following:

- Continue the **Program's** suspension for a period of time determined by the Medical Director, not to exceed six months.
 - Describe what conditions the Program must meet, if any, during its suspension to permit lifting of the suspension by the end of the time period
- 2. Continue the **Program's** suspension for a period of time longer or shorter than determined by the Medical Director, not to exceed six months.
 - Describe what conditions the Program must meet, if any, during its suspension to permit lifting of the suspension by the end of the time period
- 3. Reverse the Medical Director's decision and lift the suspension.
- 4. Change the Medical Director's decision from a suspension to revocation.
- 5. Sustain the Medical Director's decision to revoke the approval/designation of the **Program.**
- 6. Change the Medical Director's decision from a revocation to a suspension.
- 7. Reverse the Medical Director's decision and lift the revocation.
- G. Final Decision by the Medical Director



#645.00 Page 6 of 6



The Medical Director shall forward to the **Program** the hearing panel's written decision within 30 days of its issuance, and shall inform the **Program** in writing whether he/she concurs or disagrees with the hearing panel's decision at the same time. In the event the Medical Director disagrees with the hearing panel's decision, the Medical Director shall set forth in writing the basis for his or her disagreement with the hearing panel's proposed decision. The decision by the Medical Director is final and he/she is not bound by the hearing panel's findings or recommendations. The Medical Director may accept or reject recommendations made by the panel.

Н. Re-application for Approval/Designation after Revocation

A **Program** that has its approval/designation revoked may re-apply for approval/designation six months after the revocation is complete.

VI. CONFIDENTIALITY:

Except as required by law, all information obtained by OCEMS as part of any investigation conducted pursuant to Section IV, above, shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed to any person or entity.

Except as required by law, a hearing held pursuant to Section V, above, shall not be open to the public and all records and witness testimony received as part thereof shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed to any person or entity.

This restriction does not prevent OCEMS from publishing aggregate statistical data obtained from designation surveys, nonspecific to a program and/or patient.

Approved:	
Carl H. Schultz, MD OCEMS Medical Director	Tammi McConnell, MSN, RN OCEMS Administrator

Original Date: 11/14/2008

Reviewed Date(s): 4/1/2013; 4/1/2015; 9/7/2018; 08/15/2019; 5/1/2021; 12/1/2022

Revised Date(s): 4/1/2013; 4/1/2015; 11/1/2016; 08/2019; 11/1/2019; 6/3/2021; 04/11/2023

Effective Date: 11/5/2019; 7/1/2021; 10/1/2023



#645.00

SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF SPECIALTY CENTER, ERC, TRAINING Page 1 of 6 PROGRAM, BASE HOSPITAL, OR 911/IFTPROVIDERS: REVIEW PRODES SEE

FOR ALS PROVIDER DESIGNATION SUSPENSION/ REVOCATION OF evised: 08/19/91

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AUTHORITY;

4. Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Section 1797.67, 1797.173, 1797.220, 1797.272, 1798, 1798.100, 1798.209; CCR, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 7.0, 7.1, and 7.2.

Health and Safety Code (HS) 1797.220. The local EMS Agency, using state minimum standards, shall establish policies and procedures approved by the medical director of the local EMS agency to assure medical control of the EMS system.

Title 22 (T-22), Section 100161. "In administering advanced life support, a local EMS Agency may designate or contract with hospitals within its area of jurisdiction to be base hospitals."

HS 1797.173. "The authority shall assure that all training programs for EMT-I, EMT-II, and EMT-P are located in an approved licensed hospital or an educational institution operated with written agreements with an acute care hospital, including a public safety agency that has been approved by the local emergency medical services agency to provide training.'

T-22: Section 100245... "Receiving Hospital" means a licensed general acute care hospital with a special permit for basic or comprehensive emergency service, which has not been designated as a trauma center but which has been formally assigned a role in the trauma care system by the local EMS agency.

II. APPLICATION:

This policy defines the review process for the revocation or suspension of an Orange County Emergency Medical Services (OCEMS) approved/designated base hospital, facility, training program and EMT-P service provider.

This policy sets forth the process for the suspension or revocation by Orange County Emergency Medical Services (OCEMS) of a facility's designation as a base hospital, emergency receiving center, specialty center, training program, or 911/IFT ALS service provider,

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DEFINITIONS:

"Base Hospital" means an OCEMS designated hospital which, by contractual agreement with the OCEMS, provides the medical direction to advanced life support (ALS) personnel in the field and to the prehospital care system in a region specified by the OCEMS.

"911/IFT ALS Service Provider" means:

a city or regional service approved by OCEMS to provide prehospital ALS services to a city or regional district utilizing private or fire department assets; or

a private ambulance company contracting with and approved by OCEMS to provide interfacility ALS transfers between hospitals

"Cardiovascular Receiving Center" means a hospital designated as part of the ST-elevation myocardial infarction critical care system by OCEMS linking prehospital and hospital care to deliver comprehensive treatment to patients experiencing a STEMI, cardiac arrest with Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC), or complications from a Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD).

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SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF SPECIALTY CENTER, ERC, TRAINING Page 2 of 6 PROGRAM, BASE HOSPITAL, OR 911/IFTPROVIDERS: REVIEW PRODES SEE FOR ALS PROVIDER DESIGNATION SUSPENSION/ REVOCATION OF vised: 08/19/91

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"Comprehensive Childrens Emergency Receiving Center" means a hospital which is designated by OCEMS as capable of providing comprehensive specialized pediatric medical and surgical care to any acutely ill or injured child and meets California Children's Services (CCS) criteria as a tertiary pediatric hospital.

"Emergency Receiving Center Hospital" means a hospital designated by OCEMS to perform specified emergency medical services system functions and to receive 911 BLS and ALS transported patients.

"EMT-P Service Provider" means a city or county service approved by the OCEMS to provide prehospital ALS for that city or county fire district.

"Facility" means an acute care hospital licensed under Californiathe State Law with a permit to provide for basic or comprehensive emergency services designated by the OCEMS to offerperform specified services.

"Facility Application" means a proposal submitted by the facility's administrator to the OCEMS Agency in response to an OCEMS Request For Proposal for specified services.

"Investigative Review Panel" or "IRP" means an impartial body, the members of which are knowledgeable in the provision of prehospital emergency medical care and the OCEMS-System policies, and standing orders, and procedures. The IRP which is convened to review allegations against an OCEMS approved/designated **Program**, to establish the facts of the matter, and to recommend appropriate action to the OCEMS Medical Director.

"Medical Director" means the Board of Supervisors appointed Medical Director of OCEMS, who is responsible for the medical control and direction of the OCEMS system in Orange County.

"Program" means an OCEMS approved/designated emergency receiving center, base hospital, training program, EMT-P service provider, or specialty center (TC, SNRC, CVRC, and CCERC).

"Stroke-Neurology Receiving Center" means a hospital designated as part of the stroke critical care system by OCEMS to deliver optimal subspecialty neuromedical and neurosurgical treatment to the population of stroke patients.

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SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF SPECIALTY CENTER, ERC, TRAINING Page 3 of 6
PROGRAM, BASE HOSPITAL, OR 911/IFTPROVIDERS: REVIEW PROCESS to: 10/28/86FOR-ALS PROVIDER DESIGNATION SUSPENSION/ REVOCATION OF PROVIDER DESIGNATION OF PR

"Neurosurgical Receiving Center" means a hospital which is designated as part of the trauma cares system by the OCEMS to perform specified neurosurgical care system functions.

"Paramedic Receiving Center Hospital" means a hospital which is designated by the OCEMS to perform specified emergency medical services system functions and to receive paramedic transported patients.

"Survey" means an OCEMS survey of a facility's application and/or services to assess the extent of a hospital's compliance with applicable OCEMS policies and procedures.

"Training Program" means a training program approved by the OCEMS to provide training to prehospital personnel.

"Trauma Center" means a hospital which is designated as part of the trauma care system by the OCEMS as a Level I, II, III, or IV trauma center and/or a Level I or II pediatric trauma center to meet the needs of all injured patientsperform specified trauma care functions.

IV. INVESTIGATIONGENERAL:

A.—A. Evaluation of InformationNotice

- 1. Any notice required by these suspension/revocation procedures to be given to a facility/base hospital/training program/EMT-P service provider (henceforth referred to as **Program**) shall be addressed to the **Program** at its post office address as shown in the OCEMS records and shall be sent by U.S. certified mail, return receipt requested, with postage prepaid. Any notice required to be given to the OCEMS shall be sent by the Program in the same manner and shall be addressed to OCEMS, 405 W. Fifth, Suite 301A, Santa Ana, CA 92701. information received from a credible source in support of a complaint shall be evaluated by the Medical Director. This includes discovery through medical audit or routine follow-up of complaints involving the provider of, or applicant for, a **Program**. If found to be true, such allegations could be evidence of an infraction and be considered out of compliance with applicable State and local laws, regulations, and OCEMS policies, procedures, and standing orders. Such violations could represent a threat to the public health and safety.
- Before any formal review is undertaken, the Medical Director shall evaluate the information relative to the potential threat to the public health and safety and determine if immediate suspension and/or a formal investigation appears to be warranted.

B Immediate Suspension

The Medical Director may immediately suspend an OCEMS designated/approved **Program** if, in the expert opinion of the Medical Director, immediate suspension is necessary to protect the public health and safety. The **Program** will be notified of the suspension in writing by OCEMS as set forth in Section V, below.

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SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF SPECIALTY CENTER, ERC, TRAINING Page
PROGRAM, BASE HOSPITAL, OR 911/IFTPROVIDERS: REVIEW PROCESS to: 10/28/6
FOR ALS PROVIDER DESIGNATION SUSPENSION/ REVOCATION Offerised: 08/14/91

Application for Approval/Designation

A **Program** that has its approval/designation revoked may apply for approval/designation aftersix months following OCEMS notification of the revocation.

IV. INVESTIGATION:

A. Evaluation of Information

- 4. Any information received from a credible source including discovery throughs medical audit or routine follow-up of complaints of an action by the holder of, or applicant for an OCEMS approved/designated Program which, if found to be true, would be evidence of an infraction and not in adherence to applicable State and local laws and regulations and OCEMS policies and procedures and/or a threat to the public health and safety, shall be evaluated by the OCEMS Medical Director.
- 2. Before any formal investigation is undertaken, the Medical Director shall evaluate the information relative to the potential threat to the public health and safety and determine if immediate suspension and/or formal investigation appears to be warranted.

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SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF SPECIALTY CENTER, ERC, TRAINING Page 5 of 6 PROGRAM, BASE HOSPITAL, OR 911/IFTPROVIDERS: REVIEW PRODES SEE FOR ALS PROVIDER DESIGNATION SUSPENSION/ REVOCATION OF vised: 08/19/91

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B. Immediate Suspension

The Medical Director may immediately suspend an OCEMS designated/approved Program if, in the expert opinion of the Medical Director, immediate suspension is necessary to ensure the public health and safety.

- C Notification of Formal Investigation
 - The Program to be formally investigated shall be notified by the OCEMS, in writing, of the investigation and shall be allowed to submit pertinent information in writing to the Medical Director reviewing the allegations.
 - The written notice to the Program director shall include:
 - a. a.Aa statement of the allegations against the Program;
 - A statement which explains that the allegations, if found to be true, are an infraction and non-compliant with applicable State and local laws, and regulations, and OCEMS policy and procedure, Furthermore, if these violations constitute and/ constitute a threat to the public health and safety, they may be and are cause for the Medical Director to take action to suspend or revoke program approval/designation;
 - c.aAn explanation of the possible actions which may be taken if the allegations are found to be true;
 - d. Aa request for a written response to the allegations from the **Program**;
 - e.aA statement that the Program may submit in writing any information that may bewhich is felt to be pertinent to the investigation, including statements from other individuals; and

f. A statement that the **Program** shall submit the information above no later than 14 days from the date notified by the Medical Director. The Medical Director may extend the submission date in its sole discretion and as deemed reasonable under the circumstances.

- the date by which the information must be submitted.
- The notification of the formal investigation described withiner this section IV.C. may be combined with the notification of action required by this Policy if the Program's approval/designation is being immediately suspended pursuant to Section IV_-B of this Policy.
- The notice of formal investigation to a **Program** shall be addressed to the Program at its post office address as shown in the OCEMS records and shall be sent by U.S. certified mail, return receipt requested, with postage prepaid.
- D. Use of an Investigative Review Panel (IRP)
 - If, after an initial investigation, the Medical Director determines, in his/her expert opinion, that the infraction or performance deficiency may require the suspension, revocation

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> denial, or denial of renewal of approval/designation, the Medical Director may convene an IRP to assist in establishing the facts of the matter and to report its findings to the Medical Director. The IRP shall consist of at least three (3) persons knowledgeable in the provision of prehospital emergency medical care and familiar with OCEMS Syste policies and procedures. One (1) member of the IRP shall be mutually agreed upon by the Program and the Medical Director if the Program so requests. If there is no mutual agreement, the member shall be selected from the Emergency Medical Care Committee or its advisory subcommittee membership. The IRP shall not include the Medical Director, any staff of the OCEMS, or anyone who submitted allegations against the Program or was directly involved in the investigation.

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SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF SPECIALTY CENTER, ERC, TRAINING Page 7 of 6 PROGRAM, BASE HOSPITAL, OR 911/IFTPROVIDERS: REVIEW PRODESSE: FOR ALS PROVIDER DESIGNATION SUSPENSION/ REVOCATION OF vised: 08/19/91

After selection of the IRP, tThe Program shall be notified in writing of the purpose of the IRP, its membership and the **Program's** right to approve one member, the date and time when it will convene, and the **Program's** right to designate another person to represent him/her before the IRP no later than 7 days after the selection of the IRP. Any subsequent change in that time or date shall be mutually agreed upon by the Program and the Medical Director.

	Determination of Appropriate Action by Medical Director

- The --Medical Director_ —shall_—determine_—what_—action_ Program relative_to_ the_ approval/designation, if any, shall be taken as a result of the findings of the investigation.
- The nature of any disciplinarynegative action taken as a result of the investigation shall be proportionate to and related to the risk to the public health and safety caused by the Program's action(s) of the holder of OCEMS approval/designation
- F. Notification of Action
 - 1. The Medical Director shall notify the **Program** of the prescribed action after making the determination of what that action shall be within 14 days following the formal conclusion of the investigation and receipt of the IRP's findings, if one was convened
 - The notification shall be in writing and shall include the following information:
 - tThe specific allegations which resulted in the investigation;
 - aA summary of the findings of the investigation, including the findings and b. recommendations of the IRP, if one was convened;
 - tThe action(s) to be taken, if any, and the effective date(s) of the action(s), including ← the duration of the action(s).

APPEAL AND HEARING PROCESS:

Notice of Right to a Hearing

The OCEMS shall send the Program written notice of the Program's right to a hearing if approval/designation is revoked or suspended. The Program may request a hearing in writing within 14 days of the date of notice sent by the Medical Director informing, and the time within which the Program of the revocation or suspension and the right to a hearingmust request a hearing in writing.

В Notice of Time and Place of a Hearing

> AThe ny hearing to which the Program is entitled shall be held at a location determined by the OCEMS Medical Director. Subject to Section V.D. below, Tthe hearing, unless postponed, shall be held within 45 days after receipt by the OCEMS of the Program's written request for a hearing. At least 20 days before the date of the a-hearing, OCEMS shall send the Program written notice of the time and place of the hearing, set forth the

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procedure to be followed at the hearing as consistent with Section V.E., below, and the identity and professional qualifications of the hearing panel members.

C. ___and copies of any supplemental materials or information received that the Program does not already have and which may affect any approval/designation decision. The notice of the hearing shall advise the Program of the procedure to be followed at the hearing and the identity and professional qualifications of the Appeals Hearing Panel members appointed by the Orange County Board of Supervisors. The hAppeals Hearing Ppanel shall consist ofinclude three persons selected by the Orange County Health Care Agency (OCHCA) Director from the membership of the Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC) or more members who actively participate in the OCEMS Ssystem in Orange County.

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SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF SPECIALTY CENTER, ERC, TRAINING Page 9 of 6 PROGRAM, BASE HOSPITAL, OR 911/IFTPROVIDERS: REVIEW PRODES SEE FOR ALS PROVIDER DESIGNATION SUSPENSION/ REVOCATION OF vised: 08/19/91

C. Postponement of a Hearing

> The Medical Director may postpone the hearing date upon good cause at his/her sole discretion. AThe Program's may also request afor postponement for good cause, but the request must be sent toreceived by the OCEMSMedical Director in writing, and the Medical <u>Director retains sole discretion over whether or not to grand the request no later than 20 days </u> after OCEMS receives a request for a hearing from the Program.

Procedure with Respect to a Hearing

The hearing shall be informal and not subject to the formal rules of evidence. The Program may be represented by legal counsel, may make oral and written presentations, and may offer documentary evidence and witness testimony in support of its case. No presentations or testimony concerning actions taken by the Program subsequent to the decision by the Medical Director to revoke or suspend approval/designation shall be considered. Hearsay evidence shall be allowed, and the hearing panel shall not base its final decision solely on the basis of hearsay evidence. The Program shall have the burden of proof to show by a preponderance of the evidence why the decision made by the Medical Director shall not be upheld.

Decision of the Hearing Panel

After the hearing has been completed, the hearing panel, within 30 days, shall submit its decision to the Medical Director in writing for his/her consideration. The written decision shall include the hearing panel's findings and any documentation, material, or information considered and relied upon by the hearing panel. Its recommendation shall be one of the following:

- Continue the **Program's** suspension for a period of time determined by the Medical Director, not to exceed six months
 - Describe what conditions the Program must meet, if any, during its suspension to permit lifting of the suspension by the end of the time period
- Continue the **Program's** suspension for a period of time longer or shorter than determined by the Medical Director, not to exceed six months
 - Describe what conditions the Program must meet, if any, during its suspension to permit lifting of the suspension by the end of the time period
- Reverse the Medical Director's decision and lift the suspension
- Change the Medical Director's decision from a suspension to revocation
- Sustain the Medical Director's decision to revoke the approval/designation of the Program
- Change the Medical Director's decision from a revocation to a suspension
- Reverse the Medical Director's decision and lift the revocation

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G. Final Decision by the Medical Director

The Medical Director shall forward to the **Program** the hearing panel's written decision within 30 days of its issuance, and shall inform the **Program** in writing whether he/she concurs or disagrees with the hearing panel's decision at the same time. In the event the Medical Director disagrees with the hearing panel's decision, the Medical Director shall set forth in writing the basis for his or her disagreement with the hearing panel's proposed decision. The decision by the Medical Director is final and he/she is not bound by the hearing panel's findings or recommendations. The Medical Director may accept or reject recommendations made by the panel.

FOR ALS PROVIDER DESIGNATION SUSPENSION/ REVOCATION OF vised: 08/19/91

H. Re-application for Approval/Designation after Revocation

A **Program** that has its approval/designation revoked may re-apply for approval/designation six months after the revocation is complete.

VI. CONFIDENTIALITY:

Except as required by law, all information obtained by OCEMS as part of any investigation conducted pursuant to Section IV, above, shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed to any person or entity.

Except as required by law, a hearing held pursuant to Section V, above, shall not be open to the public and all records and witness testimony received as part thereof shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed to any person or entity.

This restriction does not prevent OCEMS from publishing aggregate statistical data obtained from designation surveys, nonspecific to a program and/or patient.

Approved:

Carl H. Schultz, MD	Tammi McConnell, MSN, RN
OCEMS Medical Director	OCEMS Administrator

Original Date: 11/14/2008

Reviewed Date(s): 4/1/2013; 4/1/2015; 9/7/2018; 08/15/2019; 5/1/2021; 12/1/2022
Revised Date(s): 4/1/2013; 4/1/2015; 11/1/2016; 08/2019; 11/1/2019; 6/3/2021; 04/11/203

Effective Date: 11/5/2019; 7/1/2021; 10/1/2023

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Panel. No presentations or testimony concerning actions taken by the Program subsequent to the decision of the Medical Director to revoke or suspend approval/designation shall be considered.

E. Adjournment of a Hearing

After a hearing has commenced, an Appeals Hearing Panel may suspend consideration for the purpose of receiving additional information relating to actions taken by the Program prior to the decision of the Medical Director and may adjourn the hearing to another time or place.

The Program may be represented by legal counsel, may make oral and written-

presentations, and may offer testimony at any hearing before an Appeals Hearing

F. Report of Appeals Hearing Panel

After a hearing has been completed, the Appeals Hearing Panel, within 15 working days, shall submit a written report to the Medical Director. The report shall include: The Panel's findings and any documentation, material, or information considered by the Appeals Hearing Panel.

The report shall include a decision to recommend:

Suspending approval/designation of the Program for a period of time not to exceed. six months or

Revoking approval/designation of the Programor

3. Taking nodisciplinary action.

Notice of Decision

The OCEMS Medical Director within 30 days of receipt of the report shall send the

written notice of the decision of the Appeals Hearing Panel and a copy of the panel's report.

Appeal to the Medical Director

a. Within twenty (20) days after a subject receives notice of the decision of the Appeals Hearing Panel it may request, in writing, the Medical Director to review the decision.

Upon receipt of a request for review of the decision of an Appeals Hearing Panel, the Medical Director shall review all the evidence submitted at the hearing on the appeal. No new evidence may be considered by the Medical Director in this review. The

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BASE HOSPITALS/FACILITIES/TRAINING PROGRAMS/EMT-P SERVICE PROVIDERS: REVIEW PROCESS FOR SUSPENSION/ Orig. Date: 10/28/86 **REVOCATION OF APPROVAL/DESIGNATION** Revised: 08/19/91

Suspend the Program's approval/designation for a period of time not to exceed-Revoke the Program's approval/designation, or Take no action. On appeal to the Medical Director, the Medical Director need not be bound by any decision of the Appeals Hearing Panel and may, therefore, impose new actions, irrespective of a determination by the Appeals Hearing Panel, more favorable to the Program. VI. CONFIDENTIALITY: Except as required by law, all information obtained by the OCEMS in the investigation process are treated as confidential matters between OCEMS and the Program. This restriction does not prevent the OCEMS from publishing aggregatestatistical data obtained from designation surveys, non specific to a programand/or patient.

Evidence Code 1157.7 may apply to the approval/designation

revocation/suspension and appeals process.

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