

Paramedic Accreditation

EFFECTIVE August 25, 2014

An EMT-Paramedic currently licensed in California may be accredited to practice in Kern County upon successful completion of the accreditation procedure.

Procedure:

1. In order to be eligible for accreditation, an paramedic candidate shall:
 - a. Present a valid paramedic license issued by the State of California to the Kern County EMS Division.
 - b. Complete a Kern County Certification Application form <http://www.co.kern.ca.us/ems/application.pdf>.
 - c. Provide proof of employment by a designated Kern County ALS provider agency.
 - d. Pay the established fee of \$64.00.
 - e. Once the above steps have been completed, the candidate will be issued a sixty-day provisional paramedic card that allows the paramedic to function as a paramedic within the Kern County scope of practice while working with a recognized paramedic preceptor.
 - f. Successfully complete a supervised pre-accreditation field evaluation by a recognized Kern County Field Preceptor consisting of at least ten ALS contacts.
 - g. Successfully pass the Kern County paramedic accreditation test with a score of 80% or greater. If a candidate fails to pass the accreditation test he/she will be allowed to retake the exam no sooner than one week from the initial exam date. Failure to successfully pass the second (retake) exam will result in a required repeat of the accreditation process as outlined above.
2. Upon completion of all the above requirements, the candidate shall be issued a Kern County paramedic card, which shall be continuous, provided that all requirements for local accreditation are maintained. The Kern County paramedic card shall allow the paramedic to work independently within the Kern County scope of practice without a paramedic partner.
3. If the candidate fails to complete all requirements for accreditation outlined in this policy within sixty days of application, the Kern County EMS Division will notify the candidate and the provider agency of denial of accreditation. The Kern County EMS Division may grant the candidate an additional thirty days to complete the accreditation process, for a total of ninety days.
4. If the candidate fails to complete all requirements for accreditation outlined in this policy within ninety days of application (sixty days, plus a thirty-day extension) the Kern County EMS Division will notify the candidate, the provider agency, and the State EMS Authority of the denial of accreditation and the accreditation process will be terminate.

5. Paramedics who have been previously accredited in Kern County may have portions of the accreditation process waived upon review of the candidate's application. Factors considered for waiver under this section will include, but are not limited to: length of previous accreditation; time elapsed since previous accreditation; certification investigation outcomes and/or open investigation cases; and system changes since previous accreditation.

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