



County of Santa Clara Emergency Medical Services System

Policy #206: Paramedic Preceptor

PARAMEDIC PRECEPTOR

Effective: September 12, 2014
Replaces: January 22, 2007
Review: November 12, 2017

Resources:
EMS Personnel Application

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish criteria for approval of qualified paramedic preceptors.

II. Eligibility

A. Applicants must meet the following requirements:

1. Current licensure in California as a physician, registered nurse, physician assistant, or currently accredited Santa Clara County Paramedic and provide a photocopy of the license used to meet the eligibility requirement
2. Approved by an approved paramedic training program
3. Hold affiliation with an approved Santa Clara County Advanced Life Support (ALS) Provider
4. Two (2) years field experience as a paramedic in prehospital care within the last five years
5. No substantiated negative clinical or field related incidents within the last two (2) years
6. Successfully complete a paramedic preceptor training course approved by the Agency and provide a photocopy of the course completion certificate used to meet eligibility requirements

III. Approval Process

- A. Upon receipt of a written application, the Agency will review all documents to determine the applicant's eligibility.

- B. The Agency will notify the individual and employer of the approval or denial within fourteen (14) business days.
- C. Currently approved Preceptors are not required to reapply.

IV. Responsibility

- A. The Paramedic Preceptor is responsible:
 - 1. For direct supervision, instruction and evaluation of the intern at all times
 - 2. To intercede whenever, in the opinion of the Preceptor, an intern's performance may be detrimental or substandard
 - 3. For completing and maintaining written documentation in accordance with the training program's established policies and for ensuring that the intern's paramedic training program is informed and aware of the intern's progress
- B. The Paramedic Preceptor shall notify the intern's training program, the Preceptor's paramedic service provider, and the EMS Agency of any clinical or field related incident(s) directly involving the intern that result in patient harm or threaten patient safety.
- C. As a point of clarification, a Paramedic Intern practices under the County Medical Director and Paramedic Training Program Medical Director, not licensed paramedics, including the Preceptor.
- D. The presence of paramedic interns on the scene of a call must not change the care provided to the patient.
- E. If an Accredited Paramedic disagrees with a treatment plan or intervention of a paramedic intern, the Preceptor and any other Accredited Paramedic shall determine appropriate care for the patient absent the intern.