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## EMS SYSTEM ADVISORY #2020-03/31

**TO:** Riverside County EMS System

**FROM:** Reza Vaezazizi MD, Medical Director   
Dan Bates, Deputy EMS Administrator 

**SUBJECT:** EMS Credentialing and Training Requirements

**DATE:** March 31, 2020

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In response to Governor Newsom's March 30, 2020 Executive Order, the California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) has directed Riverside County Emergency Medical Services Agency (REMSA), to implement the following actions in order to ensure continued operation of Emergency Medical Services during the COVID-19 outbreak:

1. All EMTs and paramedics with certifications/accreditations expiring in March, April, May, or June of 2020 shall have their license or certification expiration dates extended until July 31, 2020.
2. EMTs and paramedics shall be allowed to perform their current scope of practice in hospitals, medical facilities, alternate care sites, shelter care sites, in-home settings, or any additional setting approved by the director of the Authority for purposes of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. EMTs and paramedics whose license or certification has expired between September 30, 2019 and March 30, 2020, will be allowed to function under their previous scope of practice for the duration of the COVID-19 declared State of Emergency, *provided that they do not have a history of license or certification discipline.*
4. The requirement for a completed skills competency verification by EMTs for renewal or reinstatement is waived for the duration of the COVID-19 declared State of Emergency.
5. During the COVID-19 declared State of Emergency, training programs shall:
  - a. Allow for the use of high-fidelity simulation in place of the 10 clinical contacts for the purposes of training and graduating EMT students.
  - b. Allow for the use of high-fidelity simulation in place of 20 of a paramedic's required 40 ALS contacts during the field internship phase of training.
  - c. Suspend EMT skills exams for certification.
  - d. Inform paramedic students in writing of the need to extend clinical and/or field internship placement timelines with an estimated time of doing so.
6. The National Registry of EMTs (NREMT) provisional registrations or a successful completion of the NREMT written (knowledge) Assessment exam shall be accepted for purposes of certification,



licensure or reinstatement. EMS personnel with a provisional NREMT registration shall be required to receive a full NREMT registration within 6 months of the NREMT allowing testing. EMS personnel who have successfully completed the NREMT written Assessment exam shall be required to complete the NREMT psychomotor exam within 6 months of the NREMT allowing testing.

For further details, see <https://emsa.ca.gov/covid19/>.

If you have any questions, please contact our office.