

POLICY #340: PARAMEDIC STUDENT INTERNSHIPS

I. PURPOSE

- A. To establish criteria as defined by Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), for paramedic student internships in the County of San Luis Obispo (SLO).

II. SCOPE

- A. This policy applies to all paramedic programs, their paramedic students requesting an internship in the County of SLO, and County of SLO Advanced Life Support (ALS) providers wishing to provide internships.

III. DEFINITIONS

- Paramedic Student Intern (Intern): An individual who is enrolled in an approved California paramedic training program and is required to complete a field internship in order to become eligible for a California paramedic license.

IV. POLICY

- A. Changes in state regulations will supersede information in this policy upon codification.
- B. A completed and signed contract between the paramedic training program and the ALS provider interning the student must be on file with the County of SLO Emergency Medical Services Agency (EMS Agency) prior to beginning internship. This contract must include language that indemnifies, defends and holds harmless the following organizations:
 1. The EMS Agency, its officers, employees and medical director.
 2. County of SLO, its officers, and employees.
 3. ALS provider that is interning the student including its officers, and employees.
 4. All County of SLO hospitals functioning as base hospitals, including its officers, and employees.
- C. If a County of SLO EMS provider does not employ the intern, or the paramedic program does not have a contract with the local ALS provider interning the student, the student must provide proof of general liability insurance of at least \$1 million per occurrence and \$1 million aggregate and proof of worker's compensation insurance or other similar insurance.
- D. Interns must demonstrate eligibility and must apply to the EMS Agency prior to the start of internship.
- E. An intern that does not meet the eligibility requirements will not enter into an internship within the County of SLO.

- F. All information on the EMS Agency internship application is subject to verification.
- G. Interns who supply information found to be fraudulent will be subject to internship suspension.
- H. Interns must successfully pass a County of SLO preceptor supervised internship as specified in the CCR and local policy.
- I. The EMS Agency Medical Director may evaluate any intern who fails to complete the field internship. The medical director may recommend further evaluation or training as required, or may take other license review action deemed necessary in accordance with the CCR.
- J. The EMS Agency Medical Director must approve exceptions to any internship requirements.

V. PROCEDURE

- A. Candidates for internship in the County of SLO must demonstrate eligibility and must apply in person to the EMS Agency. Candidates must complete the EMS Agency application (Attachment A) accompanied by the following items:
 - 1. Proof of eligibility for internship signed by the paramedic program director.
 - 2. A letter from the County of SLO ALS provider accepting intern.
 - 3. Possess valid government issued photo identification.
 - 4. Current CPR certification.
 - 5. Current ACLS certification or other course approved by the EMS Agency Medical Director.
 - 6. Current EMT certification issued within the State of California.
- B. All interns are required to successfully pass a supervised internship as specified in the CCR and complete local policy requirements. Interns are required to have the following items documented and reported to the EMS Agency upon completion of internship:
 - 1. A preceptor conducted orientation to the County of SLO EMS system policies and protocols and demonstration to the preceptor of all County of SLO expanded scope of practice skills and procedures.
 - 2. Interns must pass a preceptor administered EMS Agency competency-based written examination of local paramedic optional scope of practice and protocols with a score of 80% or better by the completion of the internship. Preceptor will fax test results to the EMS Agency upon completion.
- C. Upon completion of internship, the intern must submit the Field Internship Completion Record form to the EMS Agency, Attachment B.

- D. Internship candidates should leave sufficient time for processing applications. The EMS Agency may require up to fourteen calendar days to process completed applications.

VI. AUTHORITY

- State of California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 4

VII. ATTACHMENTS

- A. Student Field Internship Application
- B. Field Internship Completion Record