

POLICY #351: MOBILE INTENSIVE CARE NURSE REAUTHORIZATION

I. PURPOSE

- A. To establish criteria for the reauthorization of Mobile Intensive Care Nurses (MICN) in the County of San Luis Obispo (SLO).

II. SCOPE

- A. This policy applies to all California licensed Registered Nurses, who work in the Emergency Department (ED) of a Base Hospital in the County of SLO, wishing to obtain reauthorization as an MICN.

III. POLICY

- A. A current and valid California Registered Nurse license and local authorization are required to practice as an MICN in the County of SLO.
- B. Only MICNs with a current authorization may represent themselves as an MICN. Individuals not currently authorized as an MICN who represent themselves as such may be subject to discipline as outlined in the County of San Luis Obispo Emergency Medical Services Agency (EMS Agency) Policy# 300: Investigation and Disciplinary Process.
- C. An MICN Liaison at each base station hospital will be the point person for the MICN application process. The MICN Liaison will collect all items required for MICN Reauthorization (outlined in PROCEDURE below) and submit the complete application to the EMS Agency on behalf of the MICN Applicant. Applications can be dropped off, mailed, or emailed to the EMS Agency.
- D. All information on the EMS Agency application is subject to verification. Candidates who supply information found to be fraudulent will be subject to the disciplinary process outlined in EMS Agency Policy# 300: Investigation and Disciplinary Process.
- E. Based on the continuous quality improvement process the employer or EMS Agency Medical Director may determine that a MICN needs additional training, observation, or testing. The employer, the EMS Agency Medical Director or his/her designee, may create a specific and targeted program of remediation based upon the identified need of the MICN. If there is disagreement between the MICN, the employer and/or the EMS Agency Medical Director, the decision of the EMS Agency Medical Director will prevail.
- F. If the individual fails to complete this targeted program of remediation the EMS Agency Medical Director may suspend or revoke the authorization for a minimum of one (1) year and up to two (2) years.
- G. As a condition of continued authorization, MICN must attend and pass all mandated training as may be required from time to time by the EMS Agency.

- H. It is the responsibility of the MICN to notify the EMS Agency within 7 days of any arrest or change in their eligibility status. Failure to report such actions may result in disciplinary action.
- I. It is the responsibility of the base station employer to provide employment letters for application purposes and separation of employment notifications to the EMS Agency.
- J. The EMS Agency Medical Director must approve exception to any reauthorization requirements.
- K. Reauthorization candidates must complete the following before applying for reauthorization:
 - 1. Complete the mandatory Yearly EMS Update Course for each year of authorization. The Yearly EMS Updates may be completed by attending in-person training (e.g., Base Hospital Meetings or EMS Agency sponsored classes), or by completing an on-line course developed and distributed by the EMS Agency.
 - 2. Attend a minimum of four (4) County of SLO Base Hospital meetings during the twenty-four (24) month period preceding reauthorization.
- L. Currently authorized MICNs returning to a Base Hospital ED after an absence greater than 3 months must receive an update from the MICN Liaison reviewing radio usage and any changes to EMS Agency policies, procedures, or protocols.
- M. Following a lapse in authorization, MICN's must meet the following criteria to be eligible for reauthorization.
 - 1. An individual whose authorization has a lapse of less than six (6) months must comply with the criteria in Section K and Section L of this policy.
 - 2. An individual whose authorization has a lapse of six (6) months but less than twelve (12) months: must comply with the criteria in Section K and Section L of this policy and complete the most recent Yearly EMS Update Course
 - 3. An individual whose authorization has a lapse of twelve (12) months, but less than twenty-four (24) months must comply with the criteria in Section K and Section L of this policy, complete the most recent Yearly EMS Update Course, and complete a minimum of five (5) advanced life support (ALS) paramedic radio calls proctored by an authorized MICN. Record each call, utilizing the MICN Radio Proctoring Form - Policy 350 Attachment C, indicating date, time, and nature of the case (e.g., major trauma, syncope, chest pain).
 - 4. An individual whose authorization has a lapse of greater than twenty-four (24) months must complete the initial authorization process as outlined in the EMS Agency Policy# 350: Mobile Intensive Care Nurse Initial Authorization.
- N. Candidates applying for reauthorization must pay the non-refundable reauthorization application fee.
- O. Candidates whose checks return for insufficient funds may be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in EMS Agency Policy #101: Fee Collection.

- P. Reauthorization candidates must have sufficient time to reauthorize. The EMS Agency requires up to fourteen (14) calendar days to process applications. If a request is made to expedite a completed application within 72 hours of the request, a rush fee will apply.
- Q. The effective date of authorization will be the date the candidate meets all local requirements as demonstrated to the EMS Agency.
- R. The authorization will expire no more than two years from the effective date or when the MICN no longer meets authorization requirements.
- S. If requirements are not met prior to the expiration date, MICN authorization will be suspended, and the candidate may not perform the functions of an MICN until all requirements are met.

IV. PROCEDURE

- A. A candidate for MICN reauthorization in the County of SLO must complete the EMS Agency application – Attachment A and supply documentation establishing eligibility for reauthorization as follows:
 - 1. Current and valid California Registered Nurse license
 - 2. Proof of current certification as a Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Provider according to the American Heart Association guidelines for BLS Healthcare Providers or other course provider approved by the EMS Agency Medical Director.
 - 3. Proof of current Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) provider certification issued by the American Heart Association or other course approved by the EMS Agency Medical Director.
 - 4. Letter of employment from a County of SLO Base Hospital confirming current employment in their ED.
 - 5. Proof of completion of a Yearly EMS Update Course for each of the previous two (2) years' authorization period.
 - 6. Copy of CE certs for proof of attendance to four (4) County of SLO Base Hospital meetings in the preceding twenty-four (24) month authorization period.
- B. Reauthorization candidate must pay the non-refundable reauthorization application fee.

V. AUTHORITY

- Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Chapter 2, Section 1797.56; Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 1797.175; Chapter 4, Article 1, Section 1797.210; and Chapter 4, Article 1, Section 1797.213(a)

VI. ATTACHMENTS

- A. MICN Authorization Application

Approvals:

EMS Agency, Administrator	
EMS Agency, Medical Director	