

POLICY # 214: PUBLIC SAFETY FIRST AID OPTIONAL SKILLS AUTHORIZATION

I. PURPOSE

- A. To establish criteria as defined by Title 22, Division 9, of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), for authorization of Public Safety First Aid (PSFA) optional skills in the County of San Luis Obispo (SLO).

II. SCOPE

- A. In addition to the skills authorized by an approved PSFA and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training program, public safety personnel may perform optional skills specified in this policy, when authorized by the Medical Director of SLO Emergency Medical Services Agency (SLOEMSA).

III. DEFINITIONS

- Primarily Clerical or Administrative: the performance of clerical or administrative duties accounts for 90% or more of the time worked each pay period.
- Public Safety First Aid: Immediate care for injury or serious illness, including medical emergencies, by public safety personnel prior to the availability of medical care by licensed or certified health care professionals.
- Public Safety Personnel:
 - Firefighters: Any officer, employee or member of a fire department or fire protection or firefighting agency of the State of California, or any city, county, city and county, district or other public or municipal corporation or political subdivision of California or any member of an emergency reserve unit of a volunteer fire department or fire protection district.
 - Lifeguards: Any officer, employee, or member of a public aquatic safety department or marine safety agency of the State of California, or any city, county, city and county, district or other public or municipal corporation or political subdivision of California.
 - Peace Officers: Any city police officer, sheriff, deputy sheriff, peace officer member of the California Highway Patrol, marshal or deputy marshal or police officer of a district authorized by statute to maintain a police department or other police officer required by law to complete PSFA training.
- Regularly employed: Being given wages, salary, or other remuneration for the performance of those duties normally carried out by lifeguards, firefighters, or peace officers.

IV. POLICY

- A. The following optional skills are available for public safety personnel authorization:
 - 1. Administration of naloxone for suspected narcotic overdose.

2. Administration of epinephrine by auto-injector for suspected anaphylaxis.
 3. Supplemental oxygen therapy using a non-rebreather face mask or nasal cannula, and bag-valve-mask ventilation.
 4. Administration of auto-injectors containing atropine and pralidoxime chloride for nerve agent exposure for self or peer care, while working for a public safety provider.
 5. Use of oropharyngeal airways (OPAs) and nasopharyngeal airways (NPAs).
- B. Interested public safety providers shall apply for their personnel to be authorized to use the optional skills listed in section (A) of this policy.
1. Approved PSFA optional skills that providers have in operation prior to this policy are authorized and do not need an application.
- C. Personnel shall be trained and tested to demonstrate competence in the optional skills applied for, prior to personnel utilizing optional skills.
- D. Training shall include content on bloodborne pathogens and SLOEMSA Policy #123, Contagious Disease Exposure.
- E. A PSFA Optional Skills applicant must have and submit a procedure for an EMS quality improvement program (EMSQIP).
- F. Personnel shall demonstrate trained optional skills competency every two years or more frequently as determined by the provider's EMSQIP.
- G. Patient care provided by public safety personnel will be reported and immediately handed off to any arriving EMS personnel who are authorized at a higher medical level.
- H. PSFA optional skills training shall be overseen by a Program Liaison, to ensure that the program is compliant with this policy and CCR.
- I. All current CCR will be followed if different than the requirements outlined in this policy.

V. PROCEDURE

- A. Submit a complete application, Attachment A – Public Safety First Aid Optional Skills Application, to SLOEMSA and provide the required item below:
1. A copy of the EMSQIP.
- B. A written response will be sent to confirm that the application has been received.
- C. Allow up to twenty-one (21) days for a written response, which will be sent to confirm that personnel are authorized to utilize optional skills.

VI. AUTHORITY

- Title 22, Division 9

VII. ATTACHMENTS

- A. Public Safety First Aid Optional Skills Application

Approvals:

EMS Agency, Administrator	
EMS Agency, Medical Director	

County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Department
Division: Emergency Medical Services Agency

Policy 214 Attachment A
Effective Date: 01/17/2025

PUBLIC SAFETY FIRST AID OPTIONAL SKILLS APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Public Safety Provider Name:

Public Safety Provider Address:

Program Liaison Name:

Program Liaison Phone Number:

Program Liaison Email:

OPTIONAL SKILLS APPLYING FOR:

- ☐ Administration of naloxone for suspected narcotic overdose.
- ☐ Administration of epinephrine by auto-injector for suspected anaphylaxis.
- ☐ Supplemental oxygen therapy using a non-rebreather face mask or nasal cannula, and bag-valve-mask ventilation.
- ☐ Administration of auto-injectors containing atropine and pralidoxime chloride for nerve agent exposure for self or peer care, while working for a public safety provider.
- ☐ Use of oropharyngeal airways (OPAs) and nasopharyngeal airways (NPAs).

SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING WITH THIS APPLICATION:

- ☐ Copy of the EMS Quality Improvement Program.

ATTESTATION OF PSFA OPTIONAL SKILLS APPLICANT

I hereby certify that I have reviewed and understand the County of San Luis Obispo EMS Policy #214, Public Safety First Aid Optional Skills Authorization and Title 22, Div. 9 requirements.

Signature of PSFA Optional Skills Applicant:

Date:

*****EMS AGENCY USE ONLY BELOW THIS LINE*****

Received Date:

☐ Email confirmation of application received.

Authorization Date (w/in 21 work days):

☐ Letter on file.