Lay Person Defibrillation

Where do I get more information regarding layperson defibrillation?

The Local EMS Agency does not have jurisdiction over the layperson defibrillation programs. Persons interested in layperson defibrillation should refer to the California Code of Regulations or contact the California EMS Authority at (916) 322-4336.

Public Safety

How does a public safety agency become an approved Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Provider?

Any public safety agency that responds to prehospital medical emergencies may apply for approval as an AED Service Provider. Agencies interested in becoming AED service providers should refer to EMS Policy # 211.1. For additional information, the agency can review the California Code of Regulations.

Is there a difference between EMT-I personnel approved to use AED and certified first responder (non-EMT-I) personnel approved to use AED?

Recently, the State of California modified the California Code of Regulations to include AED in the EMT-I basic scope of practice but maintained specific requirements for first responder (non-EMT-I) personnel. Several first responder agencies employ both EMT-I and first responder trained personnel. Frequently, EMT's and first responders are scheduled on the same shift. The EMS Agency recognized the issues involved and modified EMS Policy # 211.1. In addition,
EMS Policy #712 - Continuous Quality Improvement was implemented and includes additional requirements for all AED trained personnel.

- Does the EMS Agency have an outline or suggested curriculum that can be used to teach an AED course?

  Yes. Contact Debbie Becker, EMS Coordinator, at the (559) 445-3387 or e-mail

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN (EMT-I)

- How do I Get Certified as and EMT-I in Fresno, Kings, or Madera County?

  Applicants may apply for an EMT-I certification card at the EMS Division office located at 1221 Fulton Mall on the Mezzanine Floor. (MAP)

  Applicants are required to complete an application and provide copies of valid course completion and CPR Card. Applicants that are recertifying are required to complete the application and provide copies of 24 hours of CE and valid CPR Card. Certification card are not made at the time the application is completed. It is recommended that applicants apply 30 days prior to the expiration of current certification.

  The application requires the applicant to disclose whether they have ever been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony crime. The EMS Agency may deny an applicants request for certification if the applicant has committed crimes that are substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of prehospital personnel. For further information contact Tim Williams, EMS Coordinator, or review the California EMS Authority WebSite.

- Where can I find an approved EMT-I course to attend?

  Interested persons can find a listing of approved EMT-I training courses at the California EMS Authority website.

- I am interested in teaching an EMT-I course. What is the process to be approved to teach an EMT-I course?

  EMS Policy #111 outlines the process and requirements for an approved EMT-I course.

- Is the EMT-I certification for 2 years or for 4 years? How come my EMT-I certification card is only good for 2 years if I am certified for 4 years?

  EMT-I certification is for only two years. However, a currently certified EMT-I can take the written test every 4 years as long as 24 hours of approved continuing education is completed every two years. Important: If an EMT-I certification has expired, even by one day, the EMT-I must take the written and skills exam and attend 24 hours of approved continuing education before being eligible for re-certification. For more information, please refer to the California Code of Regulations or contact the EMS Agency.
• **Where can I obtain the 24 hours of continuing education?**

You may complete your required 24 hours of continuing education by taking an EMT-I refresher course or through individual continuing education courses. An EMT-I refresher course can be attended at any approved EMT-I course. If you are required to complete a written exam and skills test, you will need to schedule the test with one of the approved EMT-I training courses. Continuing education classes can be taken from any approved EMS continuing education provider. The class must be approved for EMT-I continuing education credit and have an EMS CE Provider number.

**EMS Dispatcher**

• **Does the Fresno/Kings/Madera EMS Agency Certify EMS Dispatchers?**

Yes. The Fresno/Kings/Madera EMS Agency certifies EMS Dispatchers who meet the requirements of [EMS Policy #162](#). As of February 1, 2001, The EMS Agency is moving towards the requiring EMS Dispatchers to be certified in Priority Medical Dispatch (PMD).

• **Where are the Dispatch Centers in the Fresno/Kings/Madera EMS Region?**

There are two dispatch centers that provide ambulance dispatch for Fresno, Kings, and Madera Counties. Please refer to [EMS Policy #400](#) for more information on the ambulance dispatch centers.

• **Are the Dispatchers at the Fresno County EMS Communications Center employed by Fresno County?**

No. The EMS Dispatchers at the Fresno County EMS Communications Center are employed by American Ambulance. As a requirement of the exclusive operating agreement between Fresno County and American Ambulance, it is required to staff and operate the EMS communications center for the entire County of Fresno.

• **How do I get certified as an EMS Dispatcher?**

The EMS Agency requires the dispatcher to prove employment with an approved ambulance dispatch center before issuing an EMS Dispatcher certification. Those people interested in becoming an EMS Dispatcher in Fresno can contact [American Ambulance](#) at (559) 443-5900 or for Madera County, CDF - Mariposa at (209) 966-3803.