

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
A Division of the Fresno County Department of Public Health

Manual	Emergency Medical Services Administrative Policies and Procedures	Policy Number 245 Page 1 of 3
Subject	Paramedic Triage to Alternate Destination Program	
References	California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 5	Effective 11/1/2023

I. POLICY

This policy is written to meet the requirements of California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 5. A paramedic currently licensed in California may be accredited by the local EMS agency to practice as a Triage to Alternate Destination (TAD) Paramedic in Fresno and Madera Counties upon successfully completing the qualifications and requirements of the accreditation process. Failure of TAD or TAD facilities to comply with the H&S 1317, CCR and EMS policy may result in denial, probation, suspension, or revocation of approval. Procedure for non-compliance shall be in accordance with CCR 100184.

II. PARAMEDIC TRIAGE TO ALTERNATE DESTINATION – AUTHORIZED FACILITY

The local EMS Agency has designated the Fresno County Department of Behavioral Health’s Crisis Stabilization Center as the authorized facility to receive prehospital behavioral health patients. This facility is located at 4411 E. Kings Canyon Road, Fresno, CA 93702.

A behavioral health facility may apply to the local EMS Agency to become an authorized receiving facility for participation in the paramedic TAD program. An authorized receiving facility shall be a facility that meets the requirements of CCR 100181(b). The required documentation to be submitted to the EMS Agency includes:

- A. Application letter requesting authorization shall include identification of need and program objectives.
- B. Verification that the facility meets CCR 100181(b).
- C. Names of facility Medical Director, Administrator, and EMS Liaison.
- D. Signed Triage to Alternate Destination Authorized Facility Affirmation Form (provided by EMS Agency)

NOTE: The EMS Agency will prohibit triage and assessment protocols or a triage paramedic's decision to authorize transport to an alternate destination facility from being based on, or affected by, a patient's ethnicity, citizenship, age, preexisting medical condition, insurance status, economic status, ability to pay for medical services, or any other characteristic listed or defined in subsection (b) or (e) of Section 51 of the Civil Code, except to the extent that a circumstance such as age, sex, preexisting medical condition, or physical or mental disability is medically significant to the provision of appropriate medical care to the patient.

III. PARAMEDIC TRIAGE TO ALTERNATE DESTINATION – SERVICE PROVIDER

All ambulance providers in Fresno and Madera Counties are authorized paramedic TAD service providers. An approved advanced life support provider may apply to the local EMS agency to become an authorized provider for participation in the paramedic TAD program. The required documentation to be submitted to the EMS Agency includes:

Approved By	Daniel J. Lynch	Revision
EMS Director	(Signature on File at EMS Agency)	
	Jim Andrews, M.D.	
EMS Medical Director	(Signature on File at EMS Agency)	

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- A. Application letter requesting authorization shall include identification of need and program objectives.
- B. Signed Paramedic Triage to Alternate Destination Affirmation Form (provided by EMS Agency)

IV. PARAMEDIC TRIAGE TO ALTERNATE DESTINATION – PARAMEDIC ACCREDITATION

- A. In order to be eligible for initial TAD accreditation, a paramedic shall meet the requirements of CCR 100192(g). In addition to these requirements, the EMS Agency requires that the applicant have current paramedic accreditation from the Central California EMS Agency and successful completion of an EMS Agency approved TAD training program.
 - 1. For paramedics already authorized to perform TAD through the original 2018 Workforce Pilot Project, a letter of verification from an approved TAD provider agency that all training requirements have been met shall be provided to the EMS Agency. Otherwise, a TAD approved course completion certificate is required.
- B. The EMS Agency shall enter the TAD paramedic into the EMS Authority Central Registry within 5 days from approval, which will be TAD paramedic's effective date.
- C. Accreditation expires on the last day of the month, two (2) years from the effective date.
- D. TAD Re-Accreditation will be in accordance with CCR 100192(h), which requires four (4) hours of continued education every two years in Triage to Alternate Destination and will extend accreditation an additional two (2) years.
- E. Reinstatement for TAD accreditation is outlined in CCR 100192(i).

V. PARAMEDIC TRIAGE TO ALTERNATE DESTINATION – TRAINING PROGRAM

American Ambulance is the authorized training program for TAD paramedics in Fresno and Madera Counties. Through the original pilot project with the State EMS Authority (Community Paramedicine (CP) 022 - Healthcare Workforce Pilot (HWPP) #173), American Ambulance developed a training program that meets the requirements of CCR 100187 through 100189.

Authorized service providers or other entities may apply to the local EMS Agency to become an authorized paramedic TAD training program. The required documentation to be submitted to the EMS Agency includes:

- A. Application letter requesting authorization shall include identification of need and program objectives.
- B. The application letter will include a detailed outline of the requirements listed in CCR 100187 and 100-189, program staff. The applicant will specifically acknowledge the duties of the program medical director, which is listed in CCR 100189(a), the Program Director duties listed in CCR 100189(c), and the instructor requirements listed in CCR 100189(d)

The EMS Agency is responsible for approval of training programs within the CCEMSA region. As the approver, the EMS Agency has oversight authority to conduct onsite visits, inspect, investigate, and discipline the training program for any violations of this California Code of Regulations and EMS policy or for failure to fulfill any additional requirements established by the EMS Agency through denial, probation, suspension, or revocation of the approval.

VI. PARAMEDIC TRIAGE TO ALTERNATE DESTINATION – PROTOCOLS AND CRITERIA

The criteria for destination to the Crisis Stabilization Center is found in EMS Policy #547. The paramedic will treat the patient in accordance with the appropriate treatment protocol.

VII. DATA COLLECTION

CCR 100185 requires the local EMS Agency to submit quarterly data reports to the State EMS Authority. Data submission requirements are included in the affirmation forms signed by the authorized paramedic TAD receiving

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facility and also each of the authorized service providers. All data outlined in CCR 100185 shall be submitted to the State EMS Authority on a quarterly basis. Monthly reports will be provided to the Emergency Medical Care Committee for oversight and feedback.

VIII. QUALITY ASSURANCE / IMPROVEMENT PROCESS

The paramedic TAD program shall be monitored and evaluated by the EMS Agency's Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) program, which includes review and monitoring by the authorized service providers, Crisis Stabilization Center, local hospitals, the Regional CQI Committee and the EMS Medical Director.

The EMS Agency shall notify the State EMS Authority of any reported complaints or unusual occurrences related to the Triage to Alternate Destination program within 72 hours, which shall include any supporting or explanatory documentation.

IX. FEES

The EMS Agency has not established any fees related to the Triage of Alternate Destination Program