



CREENTIALING - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

*Please **do not** call the credentialing line to inquire on the status of your application. Typical processing of applications may take 7-10 days, and can take longer if a legal background review is required, or if there are delays receiving DOJ information.*

I passed my NREMT, how do I apply for my California EMT certification? (First time applicants only)

See the state eligibility requirements [here](#), and REMSA's local certification policy [here](#). [Create a user account](#) and complete the application for "Initial EMT Certification". You will need to upload the following documents to complete your initial application:

- Current, valid legal photo ID (driver's license, state ID, military ID, passport)
- Current CPR card ('professional' or 'healthcare provider' level)
- NREMT Certificate (Completion must be within two (2) years of the submission of a completed application packet)
- Current, valid NREMT Card
- Certificate of completion from an approved EMT training program (Completion must be within two (2) years of the submission of a completed application packet)
- Completed Livescan using our agency's [form](#)

Pay the non-refundable fees (REMSA: \$25, State: \$75). After 30 days, incomplete applications will be considered abandoned and your will need to start the process over again.

Do I need to apply for my EMT certification in the county that live in or plan to work in?

No. You can apply for your state EMT certification through any [local EMS agency](#). You are only state-certified through a single entity at a time, though you may work in another county by meeting local out-of-county requirements. If you wish to change certifying entities at the time of recertification, you will need to follow the certification policy set forth by the LEMSA, which will include completing a new Livescan for their agency and paying associated local and state fees.

What if I want to change certifying entities mid cycle – what is required?

Should you wish to change certifying entities due to employment requirement (though the state EMT card is valid throughout CA), you may do so. You will need to meet the renewal requirements of 24 CE's, skills verification, and [a background check is always required when changing certifying entities](#). You will maintain the same E# and your 2 year cycle will depend on whether you are within 6 months of your current expiration or re-certifying greater than 6 months in advance. The certifying entity will verify your requirements, and issue a new EMT card.

Can I use my Heartsaver First Aid CPR card to meet the CPR requirement?

No. Applicants must possess a current and valid CPR card at the 'professional' or 'healthcare provider' level. REMSA will only accept American Heart Association, American Red Cross, and American Safety & Health Institute (ASHI) CPR cards. REMSA-approved equivalents may be honored, please check with certification staff. All cards must have the information on them typed. Handwritten cards are not accepted.

I received a request for “additional information” for my application, what does this mean?

Please log in to the [application portal](#) and select “Continue” on the “additional information” form to view information on which required document(s) you are missing.

I am a licensed Paramedic in another state, how do I transfer my credentials to California?

State paramedic licensure is granted by the state authority. Inquiries for paramedic licensure should be directed to [EMSA's paramedic unit](#).

I am licensed as a paramedic in California, do I need to apply for local accreditation?

A paramedic must receive local accreditation in order to practice. A person cannot obtain local accreditation in Riverside County without first being employed as a paramedic by one of our approved ALS providers. Local accreditation is needed because each EMS Agency has a somewhat different scope of practice (SOP) that they permit the paramedics within their jurisdiction to work under. Part of the accreditation process is learning the local policies and procedures that a person would be practicing under in that specific jurisdiction, i.e. Riverside County. Local accreditation cannot be obtained without first receiving a State Paramedic license. The corresponding state regulation may be found [here](#), and local policy may be found [here](#). Apply for paramedic accreditation in Riverside County on our [application portal](#).

I am currently or previously certified as an EMT or Paramedic in California, how do obtain reciprocity in another state?

EMTs should send their agency-specific reciprocity form to emd-discipline@rivco.org. REMSA will complete the form and send it back to the requesting agency both by fax and USPS. Paramedics should send requests for paramedic reciprocity to paramedic@emsa.gov.

I am a certified EMT in another state, how do I transfer my credentials to California?

See our Initial EMT Certification policy [here](#). In order to obtain EMT certification in California, the applicant possessing a current, valid out-of-state EMT certification must, in addition to other requirements outlined in the policy, show:

- Proof of current and valid out-of-state (OOS) certification.
- Proof from their OOS certifying agency that their certification is in good standing.
- Proof of having passed the NREMT written and skills examinations within two (2) years of the submission of a completed application packet.

Applicants new to California possessing a current, valid National Registry (NR) EMT, Advanced EMT, or paramedic certificate must show:

- Proof of above certification
- Proof from the NR that their certification is in good standing

Complete the application for “Initial EMT Certification” on our [application portal](#).

I hold an active or expired EMT certification in another California county, how do I transfer my credentials to Riverside County?

Apply for [recertification](#) or [reinstatement](#) by visiting our [application portal](#). Applicants who are new to Riverside County (previously certified in a different California County) must complete the “New to Riverside” application, and a Livescan background using our agency’s [form](#).

I am a Riverside County EMT or Paramedic with a routine change of employment, what do I do now?

EMTs may complete the EMT Change of Employment form in the applications section of their [online REMSA profile](#). Paramedics should call REMSA Credentialing staff at 951-358-5103 to have the Paramedic Employment Change form added to their online REMSA profile.

What should I do if my EMT certification lapsed?

You may apply for reinstatement through any LEMSA or certifying entity. State regulations regarding reinstatement (> 6 months, 6-12 months, and >12 months) can be found [here](#) and the REMSA reinstatement policy can be found [here](#). REMSA certifications lapsed 12 months or more require completion of a Livescan and are subject to the [fee schedule](#) for recertification with fingerprints required.

I already completed a Livescan for my employer, can I use the same form for my REMSA application?

No. You must use our agency’s Livescan [form](#) when required for an application for certification through REMSA. A person who gets fingerprinted without using our REMSA form with the appropriate identification code number will not have his/her fingerprint information sent to us. Consequently, the applicant will have to be fingerprinted again, requiring a repeat fee. REMSA does not provide fingerprinting. A list of agencies within Riverside and surrounding counties that provide fingerprinting services is available on the [California Attorney General’s website](#). Do not use the application form provided on this government website for purposes of applying with our agency; you MUST use the form provided on our website. If there is a question on whether you have the correct form, please contact credentialing staff at 951-358-5103.

Why do I need the epinephrine, naloxone, glucometer training?

Per [state regulation](#), beginning July 1,2019, an EMT renewing his or her certification for the first time shall submit documentation of successful completion of the following training by an approved EMT training program or approved CE provider:

- (A) The use and administration of naloxone or other opioid antagonist that meets the standards and requirements of section 100075, subsection (c).

(B) The use and administration of epinephrine by auto-injector that meets the standards and requirements of section 100075, subsection (d).

(C) The use of a glucometer that meets the standards and requirements of section 100075, subsection (e).

(D) If an individual possesses a current California-issued paramedic license or California Advanced EMT certificate, then the individual need not comply with subsections (A)-(C), above.

Where can I find approved EMS training programs or continuing education providers?

REMSA-approved EMS training programs can be found [here](#), and approved CE providers can be found [here](#).

The certificate or documentation of successful course completion must contain the name of participant, certificate or license number, class title, CE provider name and address, date of course, class, or activity and signature of program director or class instructor.

Can I use college classed toward CE hours?

Yes. Our [CE policy](#) provides information on continuing education for EMS personnel. College level courses in the biological sciences (anatomy, pathophysiology, psychology, et al) completed with a grade of "C" or better will be accepted as follows, up to the maximum levels defined in item #4 of the policy.

- One academic semester unit will be equivalent to 15 CE hours
- One academic quarter unit will be equivalent to 10 CE hours

My EMT application was approved by REMSA, how do I get my state card?

If your EMT application is approved, your wallet-sized state grey card will be issued and mailed to the mailing address provided on your application. If the mailing address has changed since the application was submitted, it is the responsibility of the applicant to update their account or contact credentialing staff at 951-358-5103 for assistance. If the EMT card was mailed to the wrong address due to incorrect information on the application, the applicant will need to request a replacement card and pay the associated fee.

My EMT card was lost or damaged, how do I get a replacement?

Request a replacement card from the LEMSA or certifying entity that issued your certification. If you are certified in Riverside County, access your [online REMSA profile](#) and complete the application for lost/replacement card. Ensure that your mailing address information is correct. The current fee for replacement cards is \$10.

I am locked out of my REMSA user account, how do I reset my login credentials?

Use the "forgot username or password" function on the online REMSA portal to retrieve your login credentials. If this does not work, call the REMSA help desk at 951-840-6075. If you have other technical issues to report (not password related), please submit a [technical support ticket](#).

My question is not listed here, how can I contact the REMSA credentialing unit?

You may contact the REMSA credentialing unit during business hours by phone at 951-358-5103 or anytime by email at emsapps@rivco.org. Questions related to disciplinary or legal issues related to licensing and credentialing should be directed to 951-358-5029 x2, or emd-discipline@rivco.org.

