

MICN AUTHORIZATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mobile Intensive Care Nurses (MICNs) are those RNs working in the EDs of designated Base Hospitals (BHs) who have received advanced training to learn paramedic protocols and operate the base radio. A nurse (RN) must be employed in the ED of a BH in order to become authorized as an MICN. Each BH may have its own additional requirements (ex. – length of employment in the hospital and/or ED, successful performance evaluations, etc.) prior to recommending a nurse to take MICN training and receive authorization.

Training is obtained through an approved program at one of the local community colleges. Those RNs who received MICN authorization in another county may obtain authorization in Riverside County through the challenge process. Consult your PLN (paramedic liaison nurse) for additional information on this matter.

Only those RNs with a current and valid MICN authorization are legally allowed to take radio and telephone calls from field paramedics and issue orders to them.

INITIAL AUTHORIZATION

The procedure for initial authorization is outlined in our policy [#1209](#) – MICN Authorization.

An individual applying for authorization as an MICN in Riverside County will do so using the on-line credentialing system. The following documents will be asked for and should be collected prior to starting the application:

- o A current and valid State of California Registered Nurse license
- o A copy of a current legal photo I.D. (i.e., state driver license, state I.D. card, military I.D. or Passport).

Once on the website, instructions will guide the applicant through each step. There is also a brief tutorial available. At a specific point in the application process the applicant will be instructed to upload/attach the above documents.

Another step requires information on any criminal convictions and any actions taken against a health care provider license. For disciplinary actions taken against a license, a copy of the formal Accusation and the Settlement Agreement must be uploaded. Criminal convictions may require a copy of the court record (called a “case print”). Criminal records and past disciplinary actions can lengthen the authorization process, so it is important to have as many of the correct documents as possible when applying.

The final step in the application process is an electronic signature which attests that under penalty of perjury all the information provided is true and correct. After signing, the application system sends the applicant to the payment system. A major credit card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover) is required for payment. Current initial accreditation fee is \$75.

At the conclusion of the application process, it will be possible to print a summary copy of the submitted application. Once all information is reviewed and validated by REMSA staff, an electronic notice will be sent to the applicant’s PLN for validation by the employing base hospital.

Authorization is granted for up to two years, but no longer than the expiration of the applicant’s current RN state license.* (see below)

REAUTHORIZATION

Once authorized, an MICN must meet certain requirements to maintain his/her MICN into the next state licensure period. These requirements include EMS-based continuing education (CE) credits received from an approved EMS CE provider (not BRN), skills competency review, and possibly ALS ride-out time. The amount required increases if the MICN's authorization has lapsed. Refer to policy [#1210](#) – MICN Reauthorization.

The on-line process for reauthorization is similar to that of initial authorization (see above) – the renewing MICN completes the electronic application, uploads certain documents, electronically signs that all information is true and correct, then pays the renewal fees (currently \$50) on-line via credit card. His/her PLN will then electronically verify that all renewal requirements have been met.

At that point, the MICN's credential can be renewed.

A reauthorization application must be completed prior to the expiration of the current authorization (expiration of the state RN license). If not, the MICN credential will lapse, and the MICN CANNOT practice within our county. Reinstatement will require an additional fee (\$25), and there may be additional CEs needed. Reinstatement to practice will only occur once all materials are received and verified.*

It is not the responsibility of the MICN's employer or PLN to maintain CE records or complete the renewal application on-time. This is the responsibility of the individual renewing. The prudent MICN will submit reauthorization materials 1 - 2 months prior to the expiration of his/her current state RN license. This is especially important if there are any newly declared and/or recent criminal convictions.

Former Riverside County MICNs expired more than one year and MICNs with current or past authorizations from other EMS jurisdictions cannot reauthorize in Riverside County but may challenge the initial accreditation process (see below).

*because MICN authorizations are valid only until the expiration of the State RN license, it is possible that the initial authorization or a reinstatement will be valid for a period of less than one year. In the case of initial authorizations ONLY, fees and CEs will be pro-rated upon renewal/reauthorization. Pro-rating does NOT apply to those MICNs who let their authorizations lapse and are expired; it is only for those who *initially* authorized for a minimal time period.

MICN AUTHORIZATION by CHALLENGE

Former Riverside County MICNs expired more than one year and MICNs with current or past authorizations from other EMS jurisdictions cannot reauthorize in Riverside County, but may challenge the initial accreditation process. Candidates should discuss this matter with their PLNs to assure they qualify to use the challenge process. Refer to policy [#1211](#) – MICN Challenge. Items required for application submission are the same as those noted in Initial Accreditation.