



## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

### Emergency Medical Services Agency

POLICY #201.00

TITLE: **EMERGENCY MEDICAL DISPATCHER AUTHORIZATION**

APPROVED: ON-FILE

EMS Administration: James Clark, EMS Administrator

ON-FILE

EMS Medical Director: Ajinder Singh, MD CPE

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Authority: California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, Sections 1797.210, 1797.220.

Purpose: To establish the qualifying standards for authorization as an Emergency Medical Dispatcher within the Merced County EMS System.

Definitions: **Agency** - means the Merced County Health Department, as the designated Emergency Medical Services Agency for Merced County.

**Emergency Medical Dispatcher (EMD)** - is defined as an Emergency Medical Dispatcher, who is specially trained in interrogation techniques, Pre-Arrival Instructions, and call prioritization using the MPDS Protocols and certified by the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch.

**Priority Dispatch** – is defined as an Ambulance response determined by the Medical Priority Dispatch System (MPDS) Protocols, which is done, by completion of Case Entry and Key Questions. Callers will receive Pre-Arrival Instruction via the EMD until the emergency medical response team, arrives on-scene.

Policy: Individuals who possess a current EMD Member Certification issued by the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch (IAED) and successfully fulfill EMD requirements as established herein are eligible for authorization.

Procedure: **Authorization**

A. The candidate shall be issued an authorization card upon payment of the established fee and completion of an application to include:

1. Copy of current IAED EMD Member Certification.
2. Copy of current CPR/AED certification, utilizing the standards as established by the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross at the Health Provider or equivalent.

3. Copy of current Driver's License or official photo identification.
4. Signed affidavit denying preclusion from certification for reasons as defined in the Health and Safety Code, Section 1798.200 of the Health & Safety Code.
5. Proof of employment by an agency, public or private, which provides emergency medical dispatch service.
6. Complete the criminal background check (Live Scan). This one-time criminal record clearance shall be completed prior to issuing authorization.

Live Scan forms must be obtained from the Merced County EMS Agency website. Applicants shall be responsible for any costs associated with completing the criminal record clearance.

### **Reauthorization**

- B. Merced County authorized EMD in good standing shall be eligible for reauthorization upon payment of the established authorization fee and completion of an application to include:
  1. Provided items described in authorization section (A) (1), (2), (4), (5).
  2. If the criminal background check (Live Scan) (6) is no longer valid, the applicant will be required to obtain before a reauthorization card is issued.
  3. Individuals shall not function as an EMD without current authorization issued by the Agency.