

MICN AUTHORIZATION AND REAUTHORIZATION

I. PURPOSE

To identify the process for Mobile Intensive Care Nurse (MICN) authorization in Contra Costa County.

II. AUTHORIZATION

All candidates shall meet the following authorization requirements:

- A. Prerequisite Criteria (Documentation that these criteria have been met must be submitted with the candidate's application for authorization.)
 1. Provide documentation of valid and current licensure as a Registered Nurse in the State of California.
 2. Provide documentation of a valid, current ACLS card according to the standards of the American Heart Association. (ACLS certification must be renewed at least every two (2) years.)
 3. Provide documentation of a minimum of twelve (12) months critical care experience as a Registered Nurse in an acute care hospital acquired within the past three (3) years, including six (6) months of emergency department experience acquired within the past one (1) year.
 4. Provide evidence of successful completion of a Contra Costa EMS approved Mobile Intensive Care Nurse (MICN) course within the previous twelve (12) months.

A waiver of course completion may be obtained if the applicant provides documentation of current or previous (within one year) authorization (or certification) as a Mobile Intensive Care Nurse (or "Authorized Registered Nurse") in another California EMS system. Upon submission of application to EMS, the applicant's duration of prior experience and nature of base station function will be assessed to determine whether waiver of an approved EMS course is appropriate.
 5. The candidate will complete and provide documentation of a ground-based paramedic staffed emergency response vehicle observation experience in Contra Costa County, consisting of eight (8) hours of observation or direct observation of at least 4 (four) patient contacts in which the patient is assessed.
- B. Complete the County MICN application form and submit it to the County EMS Agency.
- C. Provide proof of current employment:
 1. within the emergency department of a Contra Costa County designated base hospital;
 2. as an instructor in an ALS training program approved by the Contra Costa County EMS Medical Director, or;
 3. by the Contra Costa County EMS Agency.
- D. Satisfactorily complete at least ten (10) proctored ALS radio calls.
- E. Attend an orientation session held by the Contra Costa County EMS Agency.
- F. Upon successful completion of (A) through (E) above, the County EMS Agency shall authorize the candidate as a base hospital MICN for a period of two (2) years from the last day of the month in which the candidate successfully completed the authorization requirements. Such authorization shall be contingent upon the candidate's continued employment as described in section I D. of this policy.

Candidates failing to successfully complete the authorization process within twelve (12) months from their initial application submission date must repeat the entire authorization process.

Any of the above requirements for authorization may be modified or waived by the Contra Costa EMS Medical Director upon his/her discretion.

III. REAUTHORIZATION

All reauthorization candidates shall meet the following requirements and provide documentation to the County EMS Agency:

- A. Complete the County MICN application form.
- B. Provide documentation of valid and current licensure as a Registered Nurse in the State of California.
- C. Provide documentation of a valid and current ACLS card according to the standards of the American Heart Association (ACLS certification must be renewed at least every two (2) years).
- D. Provide documentation of current employment as outlined in section II D.
- E. Provide documentation of required continuing education within the current two (2) year authorization period as follows:
 1. Obtain a minimum of twelve (12) hours of continuing education as defined below.
 - a. Didactic: Formal education relating specifically to prehospital care. This may be utilized for up to six (6) hours of the minimum 12-hour continuing education requirement.
 - b. Chart review: Participate in formal review of patient care records as part of an approved quality improvement program. One (1) hour of credit will be provided for review of 12 patient care records (PCRs), as arranged for and verified by the base coordinator.
 - c. Tape review: Review of eight (8) audio tape contacts that meet "ALS Patient Contact" criteria, as defined in Section 100159(b) of the EMT-P Regulations. One (1) hour care of credit will be given for this activity, and may be utilized for up to two (2) hours of the 12 hour continuing education requirement. This shall be prearranged and verified with the MICN's base hospital coordinator.
 - d. Self-learning modules: Completion of self-learning modules, as approved by and verified by the base coordinator. This may be utilized for up to four (4) hours of the 12-hour continuing education requirement.
 - e. Base hospital coordinators are exempt from the requirements found in section III.F.1 of this policy.
- F. Upon fulfillment of (A) through (E) above, the County EMS Agency shall reauthorize the candidate as an MICN for a period of two (2) years from the expiration date on the candidate's current authorization card.

Any of the above requirements for reauthorization may be modified or waived by the EMS Medical Director upon his/her discretion.