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POLICY MEMORANDUM 4300

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REVIEWED/APPROVED BY:

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SUBJECT: PUBLIC SAFETY FIRST AID TRAINING PROGRAM APPROVAL

AUTHORITY:

California Health and Safety Code Sections 1797.220 and 1797.221
California Code of Regulations Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 1.5

PURPOSE/POLICY:

To establish a process to approve Public Safety First Aid (PSFA) Training Programs and outline the content of the course.

I. DEFINITIONS

- A. Automated External Defibrillator (AED) – An external defibrillator capable of cardiac rhythm analysis which will charge and deliver a shock either automatically or by user interaction after electronically detecting and assessing ventricular fibrillation or rapid ventricular tachycardia.
- B. Public Safety AED Service Provider – An agency or organization which is responsible for, and is approved to operate, an AED.
- C. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) – The practice of establishing and maintain an open airway, ensuring adequate respiration, and ensuring adequate circulation either spontaneously or by means of closed chest cardiac compression, according to standards promulgated by the current American Heart Association (AHA) Guidelines for CPR and Emergency Cardiovascular Care (ECC).

- D. Firefighter – Any regularly employed and paid officer, employee, or member of a fire department or fire protection or firefighting agency of the State of California, or any city, county, city and county, district, or other public or municipal corporation or political subdivision of California or any member of an emergency reserve unit of a volunteer fire department or fire protection district.
- E. Public Safety First Aid (PSFA) – Recognition and provision of immediate care for injury or sudden illness, including medical emergencies, by public safety personnel prior to the availability of medical care by licensed or certified health care professionals.
- F. Lifeguard – Any regularly employed and paid officer, employee, or member of a public aquatic safety department or marine safety agency of the State of California, or any city, county, city and county, district or other public or municipal corporation or political subdivision of California.
- G. Peace Officer – Any city police officer, sheriff, deputy sheriff, peace officer member of the California Highway Patrol, marshal or deputy marshal or police officer of a district authorized by statute to maintain a police department or other peace officer required by law to complete the training specified in this policy.

II. PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL REQUIRING PSFA TRAINING

- A. The following Public Safety personnel shall receive PSFA training within the first year of employment and prior to the start of regular duty:
 - 1. Lifeguard;
 - 2. Firefighter;
 - 3. Peace Officer.
 - a. PSFA training received through Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) will fulfill this requirement.

III. PSFA COURSE CONTENT

- A. The initial PSFA Course shall be at least 21 hours in length and consist of the following topics:
 - 1. Role of the PSFA provider
 - a. Personal safety and scene size-up;
 - b. Body substance isolation, including removing contaminated gloves;
 - c. Legal considerations;
 - d. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) access;
 - e. Integration with EMS personnel to include active shooter incidents;

- f. Minimum equipment and first aid kits.
2. Heart attack and sudden cardiac arrest
 - a. Respiratory and circulatory systems;
 - b. Heart attack;
 - c. Sudden cardiac arrest and early defibrillation;
 - d. Chain of survival.
3. CPR and AED for adults, children, and infants, following current AHA Guidelines for CPR and ECC at the Healthcare provider level
 - a. Basic airway management;
 - b. Rescue breathing including mouth-to-mouth, mouth-to-mask, and bag-valve-mask (BVM);
 - c. Chest compressions, CPR, and AED operations/troubleshooting;
 - d. Single rescuer CPR/AED on adults, children, and infants;
 - e. Two rescuer CPR/AED on adults, children, and infants;
 - f. Recovery position.
4. Management of foreign body airway obstruction on conscious and unconscious adults, children, and infants.
5. Recognition and identification of adult and pediatric patients for both medical and traumatic emergencies
 - a. Performing a primary and secondary assessment and obtaining medical history.
6. Medical emergencies
 - a. Pain, pressure, or discomfort in the chest;
 - b. Shortness of breath including asthma and COPD;
 - c. Allergic reactions and anaphylaxis;
 - d. Altered mental status;
 - e. Stroke;
 - f. Diabetic emergencies including oral glucose administration;
 - g. Seizures;
 - h. Alcohol and drug emergencies;
 - i. Assisting with administration of naloxone and accessing EMS.
 - i. Abdominal pain;
 - j. Obstetrical emergencies.
7. Thermal, chemical, and electrical burns.

8. Facial injuries including objects and chemicals in the eye, nosebleed, and dental emergencies.
9. Environmental emergencies including heat and cold emergencies and drowning
10. Bites and stings from animals, insects, and humans
 - a. Assisting with epinephrine auto-injector and accessing EMS.
11. Poisoning
 - a. Ingested poisoning;
 - b. Inhaled poisoning;
 - c. Exposure to chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear substances;
 - d. Accessing the poison control system.
12. Signs and symptoms of psychological emergencies
13. Patient movement
14. Tactical and rescue first aid principles applied to violent Circumstances
15. Orientation to the EMS system including 9-1-1 access, identification of local EMS and trauma systems, and interaction with EMS personnel
16. Trauma emergencies
 - a. Soft tissue injuries;
 - b. Amputations and impaled objects;
 - c. Chest and abdominal injuries;
 - d. Head, neck, or back injuries;
 - e. Spinal motion restriction;
 - f. Musculoskeletal trauma and splinting;
 - g. Recognition of signs and symptoms of shock;
 - h. Internal bleeding;
 - i. Bleeding control including direct pressure, tourniquet, hemostatic dressings, chest seals, and dressings

- i. Training in the use of hemostatic dressings shall result in competency in the application of hemostatic dressings. Included in the training shall be the following topics and skills:
 - Review of basic methods of bleeding control to include, but not be limited to, direct pressure, pressure bandages, tourniquets, and hemostatic dressings and wound packing.
 - Types of hemostatic dressings.

IV. PSFA COURSE APPROVAL

- A. To be approved as a Solano County authorized PSFA Training Program, the following will be submitted:
 1. Name of sponsoring institution, private entity, or EMS provider
 2. Appointment of a Program Director/Lead Instructor with supporting documentation of qualifications for instruction of PSFA
 - a. The Program Director/Lead Instructor will be a certified Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) or higher level.
 3. List of any/all Assistant Instructors with supporting documentation of qualifications for instruction of PSFA
 - a. Assistant Instructors will be a certified EMT or higher level or have significant training and experience in PSFA skills.
 4. Course outline with the topics outlined in Section III
 5. Sample of the written and skills examinations for the topics in Section III
 - a. The minimum passing score for the course will be 80%.
 6. Course outline for an eight-hour refresher course on the topics in Section III including sample written and skills exams
 7. Appropriate fee as set forth in Solano County EMS Policy 3000, EMS Fees.
 - a. This fee may be waived for government-based entities.
- B. Course approval is valid for two years from the date of approval. Course renewal will follow the same steps as initial approval in Section IV(A).
- C. Solano County EMS shall notify the training institution in writing within 21 Working days if the PSFA Program has been approved or provide a list of deficiencies to be addressed in order to complete the approval process.
 1. Solano County EMS can revoke a PSFA Program's authorization if the program is found to be in violation of any provisions of this policy.

V. PSFA COURSE COMPLETION

- A. Each trainee who successfully completes an approved PSFA course and successfully passes the written and skills exams shall be given a certificate or written verification by the institution, organization, or agency which provided the instruction.
- B. Each certificate or written verification of course completion shall include the following information:
 - 1. Indicate initial or refresher training and number of training hours completed;
 - 2. Date of issue;
 - 3. Date of expiration;
 - a. Date of expiration will be two years from course completion.
- C. Each PSFA program provider shall maintain for at least four years a record of the names of trainees and the date(s) on which training courses have been completed.
 - 1. Training records shall be made available for inspection by Solano County EMS upon request.
