

SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT
GENERAL ORDER

File Code 26 A-060
July 21, 2026

From: Chief of Department
To: Distribution List "A"
Subject: Company Based Modular Training Module 13 - ALS EMS In-Service Training Fall 2026
Reference: Rules & Regulations, Section 403
Enclosure: None

Officer Endorsement:
Section 1022 – R & R _____

1. The San Francisco Emergency Medical Services Agency (SF EMSA) has recently approved revisions for several policies and protocols that will update the standard of pre-hospital medical care in San Francisco. The changes are effective October 1, 2026.
2. EMS In-Service Training for ALS members will be held August 17 through September 30, 2026. Courses will be held Monday through Thursday at Station 49 in the 4th floor classroom. Two sessions per day will be offered: 09:00-13:00 hours and 13:00-17:00 hours.
3. The training will include Policy and Protocol updates, clinical presentations, and manipulative skills review.
4. All members working under a Paramedic License/SF Accreditation, regardless of rank and assignment, are required to attend to maintain local accreditation per EMSA Policy 2050. Required members assigned to an administrative position will be detailed on-duty as permitted.
5. ALS members assigned to the Airport will be scheduled with the Airport Rescue Captain to complete the training.
6. Members in the rank of H3L3 and H33 field assignments (including CP H33s) will be detailed on-duty. If the member misses their detailed training session for any reason (e.g., SP, TRO, etc) it is the responsibility of the member to contact EMS In-Service Training to reschedule.
7. Members in the rank of H3L2, H9, and H8 may sign up through the Appointments tab in the Fire Portal of HRMS. Limited make-up sessions will be made available as needed for extenuating circumstances via General Form request submitted to "DTE".
8. Members required to attend in an off-duty status, in uniform, will be compensated in accordance with the provisions of their Memorandum of Understanding.
9. A maximum of 20 students per session will be permitted. Please contact A/EMS Captain Andrew Barnekoff at andrew.barnekoff@sfgov.org or EMS In-Service Training at (628) 271-4943 for any questions.



Patrick J. Rabbitt
Deputy Chief of Operations

SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT
GENERAL ORDER

File Code 26 A-061
July 21, 2026

From: Chief of Department
To: Distribution List "A"
Subject: EMS Advancement Academy Preparation Course
Reference: Rules & Regulations, Section 403
Enclosure: None

Officer Endorsement:
Section 1022 – R & R _____

1. Members interested in applying to an EMS Advancement Academy (EAA) are required to attend a preparation course before being considered for the Advancement Academy.
2. The EMS Advancement Academy Preparation Course is an eight-hour class designed to prepare members for the expectations and process of the Academy. In addition, the course will provide potential candidates with a review of ALS expectations per SF EMSA Policy for initial accreditation as an ALS provider in San Francisco.
3. Attending the Preparation Course is mandatory to be considered for EMS Advancement Academies.
4. Two sessions are available as listed below. Both sessions will be held from 09:00-17:00 hrs, however members are only required to attend one session:
 - Tuesday, August 4, 2026
 - Thursday, August 6, 2026
5. Courses will be held at the Training Island Training Facility (TITF).
6. Attendance must be in off-duty status. Compensation will not be provided to members attending in off-duty status.
7. All members interested in applying for the next EMS Advancement Academy are required to attend regardless of previous Preparation Course attendance.
8. Members may sign up through the Appointments tab in the Fire Portal of HRMS. A maximum of 15 students will be allowed per class. Members without a valid Paramedic license may attend in an observation capacity, however priority will be granted to members with a valid license if the course is full.
9. Questions should be directed to A/EMS Lieutenant Michael Hamilton at michael.w.hamilton@sfgov.org or 415-318-4501.



Patrick J. Rabbitt
Deputy Chief of Operations

SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT
GENERAL ORDER

File Code 26 A-062
July 21, 2026

From: Chief of Department
To: Distribution List "A"
Subject: Emergency Medical Services Advancement Academy
Reference: Rules & Regulations: Section 403, CD2 Memo 19-06, G.O. 26 A-061
Enclosure: None

Officer Endorsement:
Section 1022 – R & R _____

1. The Department is accepting applications from members who wish to advance from H-3 Level I EMT to H-3 Level II Paramedic, and those who wish to advance from H-2 Firefighter to H-3 Level III Firefighter/Paramedic. EMS Advancement Academy #35 is scheduled to begin **Monday, August 24, 2026**.
2. The EMS Advancement Academy has been expanded to a six-week program which includes two weeks of didactic training with Division of Training (Treasure Island) and four weeks of Field Evaluations. During the Field Evaluation segment, candidates will complete two sets of Evaluation Ride-Outs (three 12-hour shifts each week). Candidates will report each week for a 4-hour day of instruction to maintain a 40-hour work week during the Field Evaluations. Candidates must complete and successfully pass all training, testing, and Field Evaluations to receive Paramedic Accreditation from the San Francisco Emergency Medical Services Agency (SFEMSA). Additionally, candidates must successfully obtain Triage to Alternate Destination (TAD) Accreditation with SFEMSA within 30 days of completing the Advancement Academy.
3. After accreditation, new H-3 Level II members will begin their new assignment in the ALS role for a minimum of 1,000 hours on a San Francisco Fire Department ambulance. Members may possibly return to their previous H-3 Level I assignment as a new dual-medical unit *as operational staffing & operational needs permit*. Performance during the 1,000 hours is subject to evaluation and/or remediation consistent with H-3 promotional probation.
4. After accreditation, new H-3 Level III members will be reassigned full-time from their suppression position to be partnered with a Paramedic for a minimum of 250-500 hours on a San Francisco Fire Department ambulance, *as operational staffing allows* (see breakdown below). Performance during the probation period is subject to evaluation and/or remediation consistent with H-3 promotional probation.
 - Candidates with a minimum of 1,000 hours verifiable work experience as a Paramedic within the last three years OR 1,500 hours verifiable work experience as a Paramedic within the last five years, will be required to complete a minimum of **250 hours** on a San Francisco Fire Department ambulance (*minimum experience requirements per the H3L2 DHR job listing*).

- Candidates that do not meet either of the above experience hours will be required to complete a minimum of **500 hours** on a San Francisco Fire Department ambulance.
 - During the required hours, H-3 Level III members may not work in suppression in any capacity. Any overtime worked must be on a Station 49 ambulance.
 - After completing the required minimum hours on a Station 49 ambulance and successful completion of competency verification during probationary testing, H-3 Level III members will be assigned to a Vacation Relief (VR) spot on an ALS engine. Failure to complete any part of the EMS Advancement Academy, including the minimum hours ambulance time, will result in member reverting to the rank of H-2 firefighter.
5. In order to be considered for the Advancement Academy, all interested members must possess the following credentials. These credentials must be current and valid ***through October 31, 2026:***
 - California State Paramedic License
 - Basic Life Support (CPR)
 - Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) or approved equivalent
 - Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) or approved equivalent
 - International Trauma Life Support (ITLS) or Prehospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS)
 6. **Requirement:** all applicants must attend a mandatory 8-hr EMS Advancement Academy Preparation course. This course will aid in preparing candidates for success within the Academy. Refer to General Order 26 A-061 for further information.
 7. Any H-3 Level I member that meets the minimum requirements and is interested in promoting is encouraged to apply, regardless of probationary status. H-2 Firefighters that meet the minimum requirements are not eligible to apply until completion of the H-2 probationary period due to the change in classification from H-2 to H-3 rank.
 8. Interested applicants shall submit an online General Form, updated Promotional Qualification Form (PQF), and clear, legible copies of all required credentials through the Chain of Command to the Section Chief of EMS Training (DTE) no later than close of business on **Monday, August 10, 2026.**
 9. Questions should be directed to A/EMS Lieutenant Michael Hamilton at michael.w.hamilton@sfgov.org.



Patrick J. Rabbitt
Deputy Chief of Operations

SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT

GENERAL ORDER

Revised

File Code 26 A-063

July 28, 2026

From: Chief of Department
To: Distribution List "A"
Subject: Acting Assignment Selection Process for H-6 Investigator
Reference: Rules & Regulations, Section 403
Enclosure: None

Officer Endorsement:

Section 1022 - R. & R. _____

1. The Department is currently seeking interested members to apply for the acting assignment selection process for the rank of H-6 Investigator in the Bureau of Fire Investigation (BFI). H-6 Investigator is a 48-hour a week position with overtime opportunities available.
2. All permanent civil service H-2 Firefighters, H-3 Firefighter Paramedics, and H-10 Incident Support Specialists who have successfully completed their probationary period are eligible to apply. Members who may be on leave for exempt, provisional, non-civil service, or limited tenure appointments to other positions are eligible.
3. Minimum qualifications:
 - A minimum of five (5) years of fire suppression experience.
 - Minimum of 100 fires worked.
 - State Fire Marshal Courses Fire Investigator 1A and 1B
 - PC-832-Search, Seizure and Arrest and Firearms Course
4. Desirable qualifications include, but are not limited to:
 - Excellent communication, organizational, and written skills.
 - Proficiency with common word-processing and database software applications.
 - Other relevant coursework, training, or ride-along participation in BFI.
5. Interested members should submit a General Form listing their qualifications, with a copy of their completed Personal Qualification Form (PQF) attached, through the Chain of Command to the Chief of Department by 1700 on Friday, August 11, 2026.
6. The H-6 Fire Investigator promotional exam is tentatively scheduled for January 2027.
7. Officers are responsible for ensuring that all eligible members under their supervision, including those who are off duty (e.g. disability, military leave, trades, vacation, etc.) are made aware of this General Order.



Dean M. Crispen
Chief of Department

SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT
GENERAL ORDER

File Code 26 A-064
August 5, 2026

From: Chief of Department
To: Distribution List "A"
Subject: Quick Response Vehicle Temporary Operations Change
Reference: Rules & Regulations: Section 403, General Order 18 A-53
Enclosure: None

Officer Endorsement:
Section 1022 – R & R _____

1. As of August 15, 2026, the following changes to the operations of the Quick Response Vehicle (QRV) will be in effect:
 - The unit will be staffed with one Community Paramedic with current 5150 certification and one EMT or Paramedic
 - The unit will respond to special calls to support mental health evaluations when Street Crisis Teams, Community Paramedicine Captains and EMS6 units are not available.
2. QRV duties are otherwise unchanged, the unit is dispatched, assigned or added to calls that require or may require any or all of the following:
 - Advanced Life Support First Response
 - Against Medical Advice
 - Patient Declines Transport
 - Field Pronouncements (applicable paperwork and any required Stand-By)
 - ALS Assessment in the presence of a Basic Life Support (BLS) ambulance
 - ALS Transport in the presence of a Basic Life Support (BLS) ambulance
 - Mass Casualty Incidents (Yellow or Red Alerts). The QRV crew will assume two of the ICS positions as directed by the MGS or Incident Commander
 - Stand-by & assessment requests from San Francisco Police or Sherriff's Departments (in situations where immediate transport is not necessary)
 - Identification of High-Use patients, and communication of same, to EMS-6 officers


Dean M. Crispen
Chief of Department

SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT
GENERAL ORDER

File Code 26 A-065
August 5, 2026

From: Chief of Department
To: Distribution List "A"
Subject: Community Paramedicine Operations Changes
Reference: Rules & Regulations: Section 403
Enclosure: Attachment "A" - Resources for When Community Paramedicine is Unavailable

Officer Endorsement:
Section 1022 – R & R _____

1. The Department's Community Paramedicine (CP) Division is the largest alternative 911 response program in the nation. Community Paramedics connect individuals to definitive care for their acute medical, behavioral health, and social needs.
2. The CP Division handled over 18,000 calls for service in 2025, representing 10% of the total Fire Department call volume. Community Paramedicine responses divert appropriate individuals away from emergency departments and allow medic units to remain available for emergent medical responses.
3. As of August 15, 2026, the following changes to the operations of the CP Division will be in effect:
 - CP units will be in operation 0500-0000 hours with the following call signs and deployment times:
0500: CP5, SCRT1, SCRT2, SCRT3, SCRT4 and EMS6A
0730: CP7, SCRT5, SCRT6, SCRT7 and EMS6B
1200: CP12, SCRT8, SCRT9, SCRT10 and EMS6C
 - The personnel assigned to CP Captain and EMS6 Captain positions will exchange roles at a regular interval
 - Non-department personnel will no longer be assigned to Street Crisis Response Teams
 - All CP Units are 5150 capable
4. Below is a brief description of the CP Division units:

Street Crisis Response Team (SCRT)

SCRT units respond to 911 calls for individuals experiencing behavioral crisis or who require medical, social, or housing resources. SCRT units are available for special calls and can transport to non-hospital destinations. Special call if you are unsure if patients meet 5150 criteria or the primary complaint is related to substance use or mental illness.

Community Paramedicine Captain

Community Paramedicine Captains are field supervisors for the Street Crisis Teams.

They are available for special calls and can transport to non-hospital destinations.

Special call CP captains in the following circumstances: hoarding, intentional actions that endanger others, individuals that clearly meet 5150 criteria.

EMS-6

EMS-6 officers engage high frequency 911 users and overdose survivors with the goal of connecting them to care and stabilizing their utilization of emergency services.

EMS6 captains are available to special call.

5. This General Order replaces General Orders 25 A-069, 23 A-024, and 22 A-082.



Dean M. Crisp
Chief of Department

Resources for When Community Paramedicine is Unavailable

- 5150 Assessment: 5150 Qualified SFFD Resource
- Safety BOLO's and premise hazards for individuals who present a threat to first responders.
 - Notify EMS Operations Chief, if available, through the chain of command. Complete Violence in the Workplace (VIW) documentation as appropriate.
 - Notify Community Paramedicine of the incident via email of the following: Name, DOB, address, incident number and observations. Remember to use "Secure:" in the subject line when sending PHI. Send to firecpofficer@sfgov.org Do not text PHI. Text messages are not HIPAA compliant.
- High Utilizer: EMS6 reviews 911 contacts at start of shift and will follow up as needed.
- **Transport to Alternate Destination (TAD) Sites**
 - Geary Stabilization Unit for psychiatric complaints that do not meet 5150 criteria.
 - SF Sobering Center for individuals that are acutely intoxicated from alcohol.
 - Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES)
- If no medical need and not appropriate for GSU or Sobering AND they are declining transport and/or not a patient (EMSA Policy 4040 and 6050) individuals can be directed to the following drop-in sites:

Drop-In Shelter	Psychiatric	Drug Sobering
A Woman's Place 211 13 th St	DUCC 52 Dore	Soma Rise 1076 Howard
Mother Browns 2111 Jennings		

- If a person is interested in returning home, utilize Journey Home. They are available 24/7 and can pick the person up. Journey Home: 669-265-9373