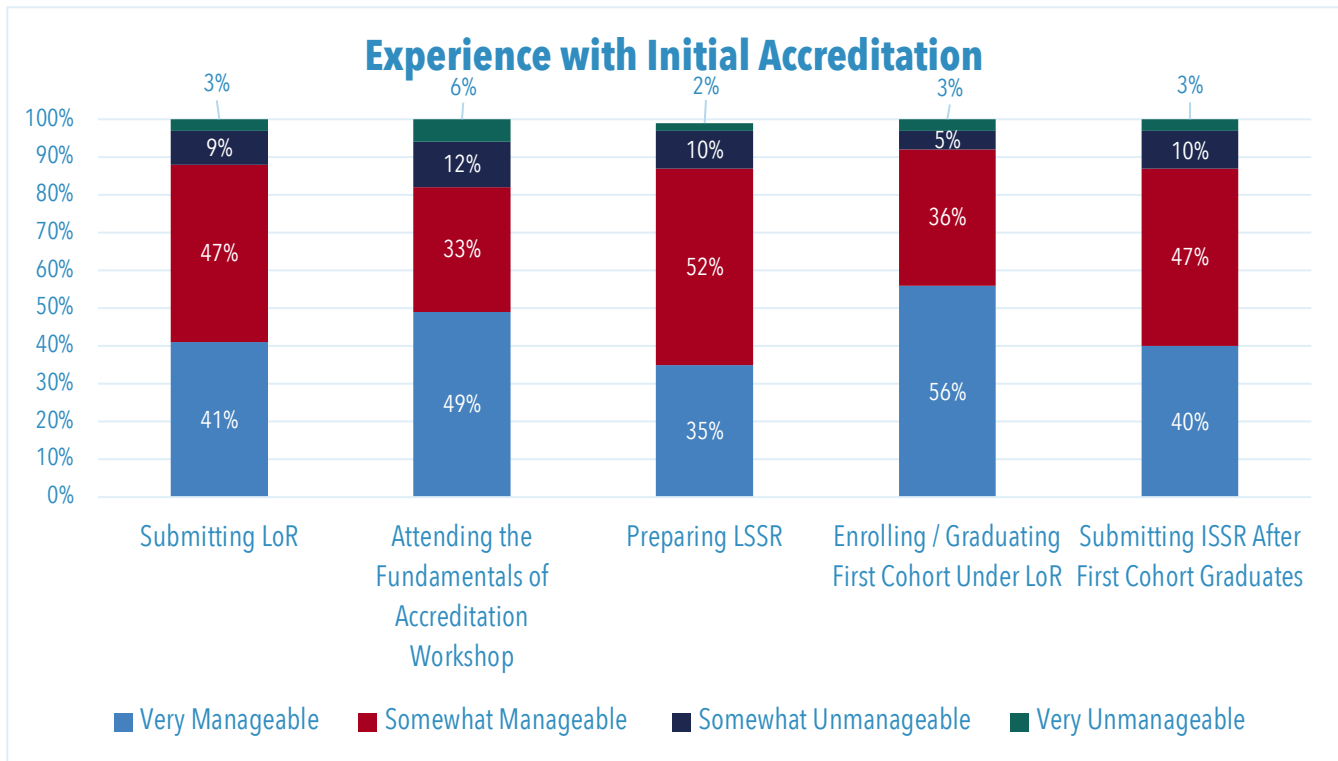




Survey of PDs Shows Most Have Positive Experience with Accreditation

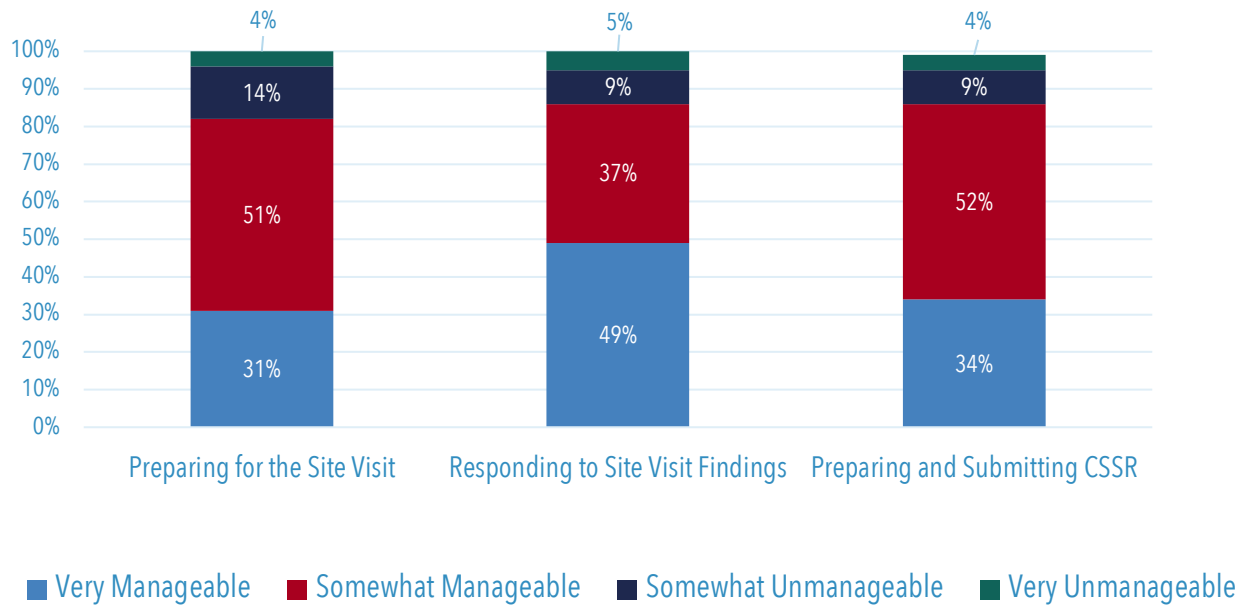
Paramedic Education Program Directors (PDs) report very positive experiences with accreditation, according to a survey conducted by CoAEMSP in January 2024 with over 400 respondents.

Experience with Accreditation - Between 82% and 92% of PDs report the steps of the initial accreditation experience was “very” or “somewhat manageable.”



Similarly, PDs reported favorable numbers regarding their experience with components of ongoing accreditation: between 82% and 86% report the process was “very” or “somewhat manageable.”

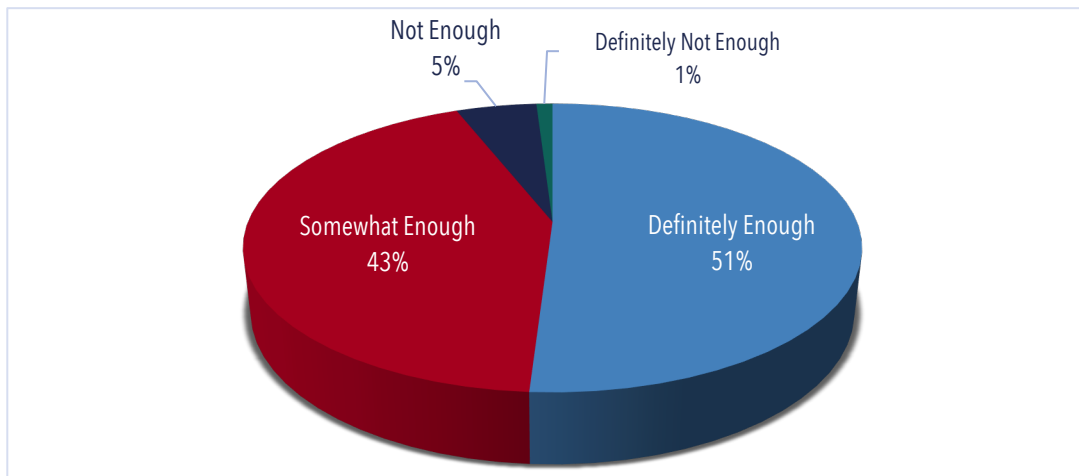
Experience with Ongoing Accreditation



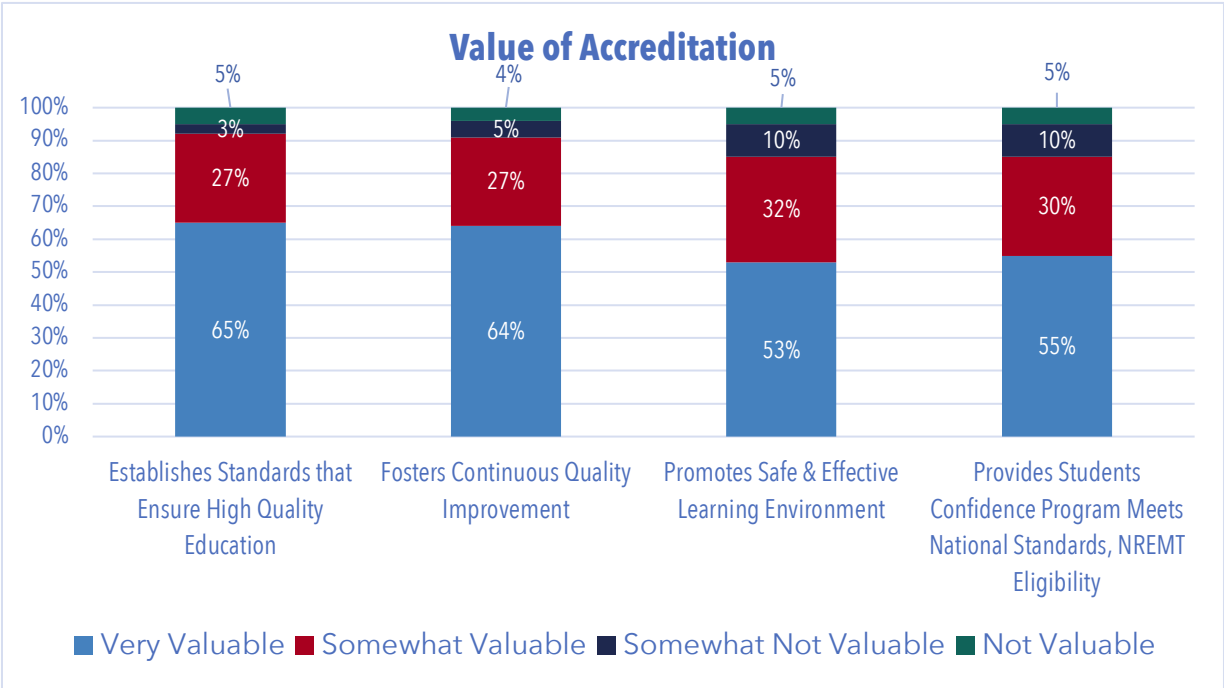
“We know from experience that initiating the accreditation process can feel overwhelming. But once Program Directors get into the process and engage with CoAEMSP staff, anxiety levels drop and people can see a manageable path forward,” said Lori Burns, MSN, RN, CoAEMSP Board Chair.

“We encourage PDs to reach out to CoAEMSP staff early in the planning process if they have concerns so that we can work together to address them in a timely way, before they become overwhelming,” said Dr. George Hatch, CoAEMSP Executive Director. “What the survey results make clear is many PDs have found a way to make accreditation manageable. Our goal is to make that possible for everyone.”

Accessibility of Information - Nearly everyone (94%) was able to access sufficient information throughout the process.



Value of Accreditation - PDs recognized the value of accreditation for their programs and their students, rating the following areas as most valuable.



“We are grateful for the strong vote of confidence expressed by more than 400 PDs,” said Dr. Hatch. “Just like our programs are always engaged in a continuous quality improvement process, so too is CoAEMSP. We will take the feedback provided by the survey and look to develop additional opportunities to improve the process so that all programs can easily access and clearly see the benefits of accreditation.”

Background of Respondents - CoAEMSP invited more than 750 PDs to respond to the survey in January 2024 and received responses from 413, representing a 54% response rate. The PDs came from a diverse range of programs:

- Majority of programs (87%) have a CAAHEP accreditation status while 13% hold the CoAEMSP LoR and 1% were in the LoR process.
- Most programs have been accredited for more than 6 years (69%), and another 10% have held accreditation for 4-6 years.
- Most PDs also have experience with the accreditation cycle: 51% more than 8 years, another 14% between 5 – 8 years.
- Several respondents were new to accreditation: 8% of programs have 2-4 years of accreditation / LoR experience, 10% have less than 2 years; 14% of PDs have 1-3 years of experience and 9% have less than 1 year.
- Nearly everyone described themselves as either very involved (88%) or somewhat involved (6%) in the accreditation process.

Visit coaemsp.org/pde to see the full survey results.