



FAQs Regarding CoAEMSP Fee Increase

Why did CoAEMSP put off increasing fees until now?

CoAEMSP has not increased site visit fees since 2012 and annual fees since 2017, thus forgoing significant funding from fees over a decade. While this policy was intended to benefit Paramedic education programs, over time, it has undermined CoAEMSP's ability to operate and innovate. Currently, fees do not cover the organization's actual costs, forcing CoAEMSP to rely on reserve funding. This is not a sustainable financial model. To change this dynamic and ensure sufficient resources exist to effectively serve Paramedic education programs, CoAEMSP will increase fees.

It's worth noting that most organizations, including most academic institutions and accreditors, increase fees by an average of 3% annually.

Will fees increase annually moving forward?

Yes, the fee structure anticipates a 3% increase annually through 2029 for Paramedic education programs. Over the next five years, CoAEMSP will evaluate whether the new model is working effectively, both for programs and for the delivery of accreditation services.

How do CoAEMSP fees compare to their counterparts?

CoAEMSP fees are comparable to other accrediting organizations serving health professions.

| Organization | Annual fee | Site visit fee |
|---|------------|----------------|
| Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing | \$2,975 | \$9,125 |
| Accreditation Review Council on Education – Surgical Technology & Surgical Assisting Programs | \$2,750 | \$3,500 |
| Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care | \$2,800 | \$3,250 |
| CoAEMSP | \$2,200 | \$3,250 |

Why did the Board make the decision to increase fees?

In 2018, the CoAEMSP Board of Directors began reviewing the fee structure in the context of a larger, strategic planning effort. After years of holding fees stable despite increasing costs, the Board recognized that increased investment would be necessary to maintain current operations and build and innovate accreditation services for the future. The Board paused these discussions when the COVID-19 pandemic hit. A new strategic plan was approved in 2023, setting the organization on a path of enhancement and innovation. Recognizing that achieving this vision requires increased investment, the CoAEMSP Board of Directors approved increases to the fee structure beginning in 2025.

How did the Board make the decision to increase fees?

The CoAEMSP Board launched a rigorous process to study the organization's fee model and expenses, including significant increases in site visit travel costs. A subcommittee of the Board, with representatives from diverse elements of the EMS profession, met for two days to develop a consensus vision for the future and a fee structure to support it. Their recommendation was approved by the Board on February 5, 2023.

What will Paramedic education programs and students receive in exchange for increased fees?

The CoAEMSP Board and Staff recognize that changes to the fee structure impact our programs, many of which operate on tight budgets. We are confident that the innovations made possible by the increased fees will yield significant results for our programs, including:

- implementation of **technology solutions** to streamline the accreditation process, including an **accreditation management data platform**;
- redesigned **website** to make information more accessible;
- access to additional **research and analysis** conducted by CoAEMSP and its partners and designed to drive best practices for the profession; and
- increased **capacity of staff and volunteers** to fully engage with programs throughout the accreditation process.

For more information on CoAEMSP fees, visit <https://coaemsp.org/program-fees>