



Highlights from the CoAEMSP Board Meeting, November 7-8, 2024

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TO: Sponsoring Organizations for the CoAEMSP
CoAEMSP Board Members

FROM: Michael J. Souter, MB, ChB, DA, FRCA, FNCS, Chair, Board of Directors
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The Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the EMS Professions (CoAEMSP) Board of Directors met November 7-8, 2024, in Anaheim, Calif. The Board has adopted protocols that permit more predictable, consistent, and deliberate communications with sponsors about the board's work. CoAEMSP provides official updates via the Board Highlights to sponsors 30 days following each Board meeting. The highlights from the board meeting follow.

1. **Program Actions.** Reviewed 31 programs for initial accreditation, continuing accreditation, and progress reports.
2. **By the Numbers.** At the time of the meeting, 769 programs hold a status.

661 CAAHEP accredited Paramedic programs and
108 programs that hold the **CoAEMSP Letter of Review (LoR)**; the LoR is the precursor to CAAHEP accreditation.

For a current list of Paramedic programs, visit [here](#).

3. **Election of Officers.** The CoAEMSP Board of Directors voted unanimously on November 8, 2024, to elect Dr. Michael J. Souter as chair of the board and Dr. Megan Corry as vice chair. Dr. Souter replaces Lori Burns, MSN, RN, whose term as board chair expired this year; however, she will continue to serve on the Executive Committee of the Board as past chair. Dr. Corry replaces Dr. Souter in the role of vice chair. Paul A. Berlin, MS, NRP, completed his service on the executive committee as former board chair and will continue to serve his term on the CoAEMSP Board as a representative of the International Association of Fire Chiefs.
4. **Election of Board Members.** In addition to the new slate of officers, the Board voted unanimously to elect the following new members to each serve a three-year term: Julie Kulovits, JD, public member; James Li, MD, MEd, FAEMS, on behalf of the National Association of EMS Physicians; John Sinclair, on behalf of the International Association of Fire Chiefs; and Chris Stephens, MD, FAEMS, on behalf of the American Society of Anesthesiologists.

The Board also expressed its gratitude to three outgoing Board members whose terms expired this year: Hugh Bonner, PhD, FASAHP, public member; Murray Kalish, MD, FACA, MBA, on behalf of the American Society of Anesthesiologists; and Bridgette Svancarek, MD, FAEMS, on behalf of the National Association of EMS Physicians.

5. **Policy Committee.** Several policies were approved by the Board that are specific to programs, including the Letter of Review Application Process for AEMT and Paramedic programs; change of location for a program; self-study report evaluation fee; alternate location, satellite campus; personnel; and glossary terms asynchronous learning, cohort, course, and synchronous learning.

Please refer to the [CoAEMSP Policy & Procedures Manual for Programs](#) for all the policies, including a version that shows tracked changes.

Interpretations for different CAAHEP accreditation standards were approved after allowing the public to comment. The approved interpretations are associated with the program sponsor; advisory committee; clinical, field experience, and capstone field internship affiliations; program director responsibilities; curriculum; and student safeguards.

Please refer to the [CoAEMSP Interpretations of the CAAHEP Standards and Guidelines \(2023\)](#) for all the policies, including a version that shows tracked changes.

6. **Professional Development.** Each face-to-face board meeting includes a session on professional development. Dr. Ash Panchal, research director with the NREMT, presented data on the EMS workforce, incorporating substantive conversation about the role the CoAEMSP plays.
7. **Data/Research Committee.** An article was released through EMS 1, *How accreditation of paramedic education programs is helping to address the workforce crisis*. There is a manuscript – Paramedic educational programs maintain entry-level competency throughout the COVID-19 pandemic available through JACEP Open.
8. **ACCREDITCON Committee.** The 2025 event will be held in Anaheim, CA, May 28-June 1, 2025.

As a sponsoring organization of CoAEMSP, you are invited to exhibit. The booth space is complimentary. If you would like to exhibit in 2025, please email jennifer@coaemsp.org.

9. **Finance Committee.** Reviewed investment portfolio, the preliminary year-end financials for the fiscal year starting July 1, 2023, and the preliminary 1st quarter financials for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025. Earlier this year, the organization began to accept credit cards for annual fees, which had a positive impact, as demonstrated by 180 programs paying via credit card and fewer programs with past due notices.
10. **Strategic Plan.** Assessed progress toward achieving the 2022-2025 Strategic Plan:
 - Goal #1: Expand accreditation services with the implementation of voluntary AEMT accreditation
→ implementing on January 1, 2025; applications are starting to be received for voluntary AEMT accreditation
 - Goal #2: Develop an overarching data management strategy that results in efficiency and value for staff and constituents
→ securing project manager

- Goal #3: Develop resources and programs to support (new) program directors with the accreditation process
→ Program Director Development: Beyond the Fundamentals workshop will launch April 3-4, 2025, in Dallas, Tex.
- Goal #4: Launch a communications program that promotes and strengthens relationships through a variety of targeted interfaces
→ continuing with the CoAEMSP Town Hall with the EMS Education Community and the Program Director Focus Group
- Goal #5: Provide accreditation services for paramedic educational programs globally, taking deliberate action to market our services to an international audience
→ CoAEMSP policies are in alignment with CAAHEP’s policy for international programs, and open to providing accreditation services to non-U.S. based programs.

11. **CAAHEP** reported that its Commission approved a new Committee on Accreditation, the Clinical Ethics, and a new sponsor, the Association of Anesthesiologist Assistant Education Programs (AAAEP), was added as a sponsor. Two open CAAHEP Board of Directors positions for commissioners of sponsoring organizations.

12. Future Board Meetings

2025	February 6	web meeting	2026	February 5	web meeting
	April 30-May 1-2	Minneapolis		April 29-30-May 1	TBD
	August 7	web meeting		August 6	web meeting
	November 5-6-7	Ft Worth		November 4-5-6	TBD