



Highlights from the CoAEMSP Board Meeting, July 31, 2025

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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 on July 31, 2025, via web meeting. 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 19 programs for initial accreditation, continuing accreditation, and progress reports.
2. **By the Numbers.** At the time of the meeting, 785 programs held a status.

Paramedic

- **665 CAAHEP-accredited** programs and
- **114 programs** that hold the **CoAEMSP Letter of Review (LoR)**; the LoR is the precursor to CAAHEP accreditation.

AEMT

- **6 programs** that hold the **CoAEMSP Letter of Review (LoR)**; the LoR is the precursor to CAAHEP accreditation.

For a current list of AEMT and paramedic programs, visit [here](#).

3. **Quality Improvement & Site Visits Committee** is developing a process and plan for the review and recommendations for action for programs not meeting a single threshold for 3 consecutive years on the Annual Report.
4. **ACCREDITCON Committee** is planning the annual conference, which is focused on the accreditation standards for AEMT and paramedic education programs. The 2026 event is in New Orleans, May 27-31, 2026. Registration opens this fall.

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

5. **Governance Committee.** The Board approved a new policy, Director Emeritus. CoAEMSP recognizes select individuals who have contributed in multiple ways over a number of years to the growth and development of CoAEMSP and its commitment to quality EMS education through programmatic accreditation by granting Director Emeritus status.

Director Emeritus

The Board of Directors of the CoAEMSP may confer Emeritus status on a former director who has demonstrated exceptional professional qualifications and contributions to EMS education and accreditation.

Eligibility Emeritus status is recognition for long term leadership of at least ten (10) years in service to the CoAEMSP. Service includes service and leadership on the Board of Directors and its committees, task forces and as a site visitor.

Nomination for Emeritus status is initiated with presentation of the name and qualifications of an eligible nominee to the CoAEMSP Board of Directors at any regular or special meeting of the Board. A majority vote of the Board, with quorum present, is required for election.

Responsibilities, Privileges and Limitations of Emeritus Status:

- A Director Emeritus may be called upon to serve as a mentor and resource to the Board of Directors, its committees and task forces and to participate in any Board, committee, or task force meeting at the invitation of the Board.
 - A Director Emeritus does not have voting privileges.
 - A Director Emeritus is subject to confidentiality and conflict of interest policies and will be required to sign a non-disclosure agreement (NDA).
 - A Director Emeritus shall not receive compensation unless contracted services are approved for compensation by the Board in advance.
 - A Director Emeritus will receive travel and accommodations or reimbursement for costs associated with attendance at Board, committee or task force meetings consistent with CoAEMSP policy and procedure.
 - A Director Emeritus may, upon invitation of CoAEMSP attend any CoAEMSP education events without payment of any required registration fees. Travel and accommodations may be provided for attendance at such meetings at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
 - Emeritus status may be awarded posthumously.
 - Emeritus status may be removed upon a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
6. **Data Committee** presented the outcome data collected from the 2023 Program Annual Reports. Outcomes, with a 70% threshold for each, are the program's retention rate, the certification exam pass rate (state or National Registry), and placement.
- 602 programs met all outcomes (70% or above)
 - 120 programs reported 1 outcome below threshold
 - 21 programs fell below threshold on 2 outcomes
 - 2 programs below on all 3 outcomes.
 - retention is the most reported outcome falling below threshold with 83 programs not attaining retention of at least 70 of the enrolled students
 - certification exam, 60 programs are below threshold
 - positive placement, 25 programs fall short

7. **Policy & Interpretations Committee.** To assist programs with interpreting and applying the accreditation standards, a companion document has been created, the [CoAEMSP Interpretations of the CAAHEP Standards and Guidelines \(2023\)](#). When an interpretation is created, the committee will seek comment from its stakeholders, including the programs. There is one interpretation that will be open for comment, specific to Standard IVA1 – Student Evaluation – Frequency & Purpose.

Standard IVA1 – Student Evaluation – Frequency & Purpose

~~Achievement of the competencies required for graduation must be assessed by program criterion-referenced, summative, comprehensive final evaluations. Summative program evaluation is a capstone event that occurs when the capstone field internship is at or near completion.~~

~~Summative comprehensive evaluation must include the cognitive, psychomotor, and affective domains. This includes written (cognitive) and scenario (psychomotor) and affective evaluations necessary to perform a summative assessment.~~

Achievement of the competencies required for graduation must be assessed through criterion-referenced, summative, comprehensive evaluations encompassing the three learning domains -- cognitive, psychomotor, and affective – and occurring at or near the completion of the capstone field internship.

A cognitive evaluation is commonly performed through a written exam. Psychomotor evaluation is commonly performed by verifying the student's completion of the program's Student Minimum Competency (SMC) requirements.

8. **Strategic Plan.** Assessed progress toward achieving the 2022-2025 Strategic Plan. The organization will embark on its next strategic plan later this year. The current progress toward achieving the strategic plan.
- Goal #1: Expand accreditation services with the implementation of voluntary AEMT accreditation → operational
 - Goal #2: Develop an overarching data management strategy that results in efficiency and value for staff and constituents → in progress, reviewing RFPs
 - Goal #3: Develop resources and programs to support (new) program directors with the accreditation process → operational
 - Goal #4: Launch a communications program that promotes and strengthens relationships through a variety of targeted interfaces → operational
 - Goal #5: Provide accreditation services for paramedic educational programs globally, taking deliberate action to market our services to an international audience → operational

9. Future Board Meetings

November 4-5	Strategic Plan Workshop	Ft. Worth, TX
November 6-7	Board of Directors Meeting	Ft. Worth, TX
2026		
February 5	Board of Directors Meeting	web meeting @ 11-3p Central Time
April 29-30-May 1	Board of Directors Meeting	Savannah, GA
May 27-31	ACCREDITCON	New Orleans, LA
August 6	Board of Directors Meeting	web meeting @ 11-3p Central Time
November 4-5-6	Board of Directors Meeting	Denver, CO
2027		
February 4	Board of Directors Meeting	web meeting @ 11-3p Central Time
May 5-6-7	Board of Directors Meeting	TBD
June 2-6	ACCREDITCON	New Orleans, LA
August 5	Board of Directors Meeting	web meeting @ 11-3p Central Time
November 3-4-5	Board of Directors Meeting	TBD