



CoAEMSP
ANNUAL
REPORT

FISCAL YEAR
2014-2015

Accreditation is **credible** education

Committee on Accreditation
of Educational Programs for the
Emergency Medical Services Professions





“
ACCREDITATION
IS DESIGNED TO EVALUATE
PROGRAM QUALITY AGAINST
ESTABLISHED STANDARDS, A TOOL
THAT ALLOWS PROGRAM
ADMINISTRATORS NOT ONLY TO
DETERMINE STRENGTHS AND
WEAKNESSES AND TO CORRECT
DEFICIENCIES BUT ALSO TO SET A
BASELINE AGAINST WHICH
PROGRAMS MAY PLAN FOR
QUALITY ENHANCEMENTS.*

“
[ACCREDITATION]
GIVES OUR
STUDENTS GREATER
EMPLOYMENT
OPPORTUNITIES.*



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Accreditation is **credible** education

CORE VALUES | CLARITY

COMMITMENT

Dedication of time, talent and resources toward the achievement of CoAEMSP's mission.

LEADERSHIP

Inspiring others to advance the vision and goals of the CoAEMSP.

ACTION-ORIENTED

Advancing the goals and projects of the CoAEMSP through timely, deliberate and thoughtful decision-making and effective implementation.

RESPECT

Honoring the perspective of any individual or organization.

INTEGRITY

Carrying out the work of the CoAEMSP with honesty, professionalism and high ethical standards.

QUALITY

Consistently meeting or exceeding established standards and expectations in all CoAEMSP activities.



STRATEGIC GOALS

GOAL #1

Develop a high level process for the collection and analysis of data for the purpose of improving EMS education.

GOAL #2

Restructure Board/Staff to meet the needs of the growing organization and EMS profession. Improve Board engagement and effectiveness.

GOAL #3

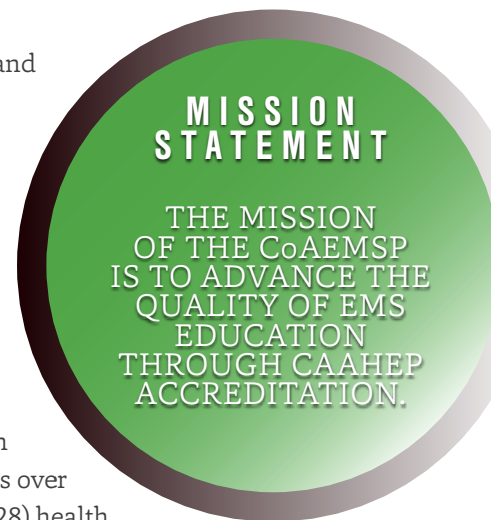
Position CoAEMSP to effectively respond to and manage trends in EMS education including developing competent evaluative processes especially for distance education.

THE CRITICAL CONNECTION BETWEEN THE CoAEMSP & CAAHEP

The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) is the largest programmatic accreditor in the health sciences field. CAAHEP reviews and accredits over 2000 educational programs in twenty-eight (28) health science occupations.

CAAHEP is comprised of the Commission and its Board of Directors. The Commission is representatives of CAAHEP's community of interest member organizations, including 21 Committees on Accreditation (CoA), of which CoAEMSP is one. The CAAHEP Board of Directors takes action on Paramedic programs upon the recommendation of CoAEMSP.

As of June 30, 2015, there were 477 CAAHEP accredited Paramedic programs. In addition, there were 208 programs holding a CoAEMSP Letter of Review (LoR), which is the official CoAEMSP designation that a Paramedic program is in the "Becoming Accredited" process.



2014 CHAIR'S REPORT

Working with a talented group of Board Members and Staff has been my pleasure.

There are several projects that are in continued development or that have been completed of which I am very proud. These include: the process to get the CoAEMSP incorporated into the State of Texas; continued work on the "Strategic Plan;" and being a part of the process that led to the addition of Gordy Kokx as the Assistant Director of Accreditation Services. I am very excited that the Letter of Review process and the National Registry decision of allowing only graduates of accredited Paramedic Programs to sit for the Registry Exams have assisted in the growth of programs that have become CAAHEP accredited. I am also very honored to be elected to the CAAHEP Board of Directors. I truly believe that the experience I have gained from being a CoAEMSP Board member, site visitor, and past Chair of the Board will not only assist the CAAHEP mission but help the CoAEMSP grow.

I would like to thank the National Association of EMTs (NAEMT) for sponsoring me to be a Board member, and the CoAEMSP Staff for all of their assistance to me during my four-year term as Chair. When I look around the Board meeting table, I think about the high level of expertise and the dedication that each member brings to the accreditation process. I am truly grateful that I have been able to interact and learn from each and every Board member.

I am confident that the current projects as well as new endeavors such as research philosophies and Board member training and accountabilities will grow under the leadership of our new Chair, Dr. Tom Brazelton. He has the background, knowledge, and dedication to lead the CoAEMSP into the next phase of growth. I look forward to working with him.

Douglas K. York, NREMT-P, PS (NAEMT)



Douglas K. York

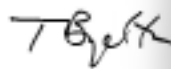
2015 CHAIR'S REPORT

I am honored to be elected as chair of the CoAEMSP, proud to fill the shoes of my esteemed colleague and great friend Doug York, and grateful to the American Academy of Pediatrics and the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine & Public Health for giving me the opportunity to serve.

Under Doug's leadership and the mentoring of many, many others, I have enjoyed twelve years on the CoAEMSP Board of Directors. During that time I have witnessed great changes in the quality of EMS education and in the national commitment to moving paramedicine from a trade to a true profession—backed by educational and post-graduate professional standards that will help insure a strong future in the changing healthcare landscape. In order to meet the demands of the dramatic increase in the number of programs in the accreditation cycle and to insure they receive the best evaluations, we need to consistently apply evidence-based *Standards*, continually adapt our data acquisition and analytic processes, implement inter-rater reliability checks, add additional members to the Board of Directors, elevate our research mission, and develop a high-level data integration system that can truly capture the essence of what it takes for any program—rural or urban, big or small—to produce the best entry-level Paramedic.

Our job is to serve the public, the students, the programs, and the schools—in that order—and, as a Board of stakeholders representing the field of EMS, we take that mission very seriously. Our work in the coming years will be directed at accomplishing our three goals set forth. Through strong alliances with the National Registry of EMTs, our EMS State Officials, Paramedic educational programs, and employers, we will develop a refined data system that allows dedicated researchers to develop effective educational models and tools to optimize the training process. To do that, we need your commitment to help by sharing not just best practices but the data that proves what it takes to produce the highest quality entry-level Paramedic. We can no longer set educational standards on historic trends, good ideas, and tradition—it's time to apply science to move from trade to profession.

Thomas B. Brazelton III, MD, MPH, FAAP (AAP)



Thomas B. Brazelton III

“ WE CAN NO LONGER SET EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS ON HISTORIC TRENDS, GOOD IDEAS, AND TRADITIONS – IT'S TIME TO APPLY SCIENCE TO MOVE FROM TRADE TO PROFESSION. ”

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

As I look at the calendar and think about all that has been accomplished in the past year, I wanted to take a moment to share with you a few of the most important accomplishments we have made. It seems like almost yesterday that I began my work here as Executive Director, but it's actually been nine years. So many miles traveled, so many states visited, and so many Program Directors spoken to over that time. 2014-2015 was a VERY busy year.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

We have remained busy and efficient with our dedicated staff. Assistant Director Gordy Kokx has visited ten programs as a site visitor. He is quite active evaluating programs as well as site visitors as part of the quality improvement process. Additionally, our Board of Directors continues to work on approximately eighty programs at each quarterly meeting, and they are actively involved in inter-rater reliability checks where at least one program that is unknown to them, is evaluated by each team at every meeting. The quality improvement / quality assurance subcommittee reviewed over 430 Annual Reports last year and remains vigilant on outcomes reporting of NREMT/State results, job placement rates, as well as attrition and retention of students.

SITE VISITORS/SITE VISITS

We remain active and extremely busy with the number of site visits, which included 112 visits over 37 states and represented the work of over 82 site visit team members. In case you didn't know, each one of these site visitors is a volunteer and unpaid for his/her work while acting as a site visit member for the CoAEMSP. They receive a small per diem that covers their expenses, however, each one must take time away from their jobs and family in order to provide expert, peer review evaluation to a program. Having such dedicated individuals who know what it takes to run a Paramedic educational program is a valuable resource to the accreditation process. We truly appreciate all they do to improve our evaluation process nationally; therefore we encourage programs to evaluate them and share their experiences with us about the process.

PEDIATRICS

The American Academy of Pediatrics is a long-standing sponsor of the CoAEMSP. A primary focus over the last several years in all of Emergency Medicine has been on improving outcomes on pediatric care. To that end, the CoAEMSP has a newly appointed subcommittee that will continue to evaluate and refine the requirements for pediatric encounters and exposures required to determine graduation from a program as minimally competent entry-level Paramedics. Although challenging for many programs, it remains critical to ensure that students are gaining exposures to all the currently identified pediatric age subgroups. You will be updated regarding their work in the coming year.

LETTERS OF REVIEW (LoR)

LoRs continue to be issued across the nation by the CoAEMSP as a mechanism where programs that meet certain core elements through the Letter of Review Self Study Reports (LSSR) can operate provisionally while teaching a class and composing their Initial-accreditation Self Study Report (ISSR). This year, over 46 programs were issued the LoR, and this number continues to increase.

Finally, we are on the cusp of implementation of the 2015 CAAHEP *Standards* for the EMS Professions. Nearly ten years have passed since these *Standards* were revised in order to ensure that the requirement for graduation from a single, nationally accredited Paramedic program is met. The fourteen sponsoring organizations of CoAEMSP, representing all facets of emergency care, reviewed and approved these *Standards*.

Be certain that we are here to assure our communities of interest, Paramedic students, and the public, that graduates are ready to treat the American public in their most critical moments.

We appreciate everyone's special contribution and look forward to improving the education of EMS personnel nationwide.

George W. Hatch Jr., EdD, LP, EMT-P

Executive Director
CoAEMSP

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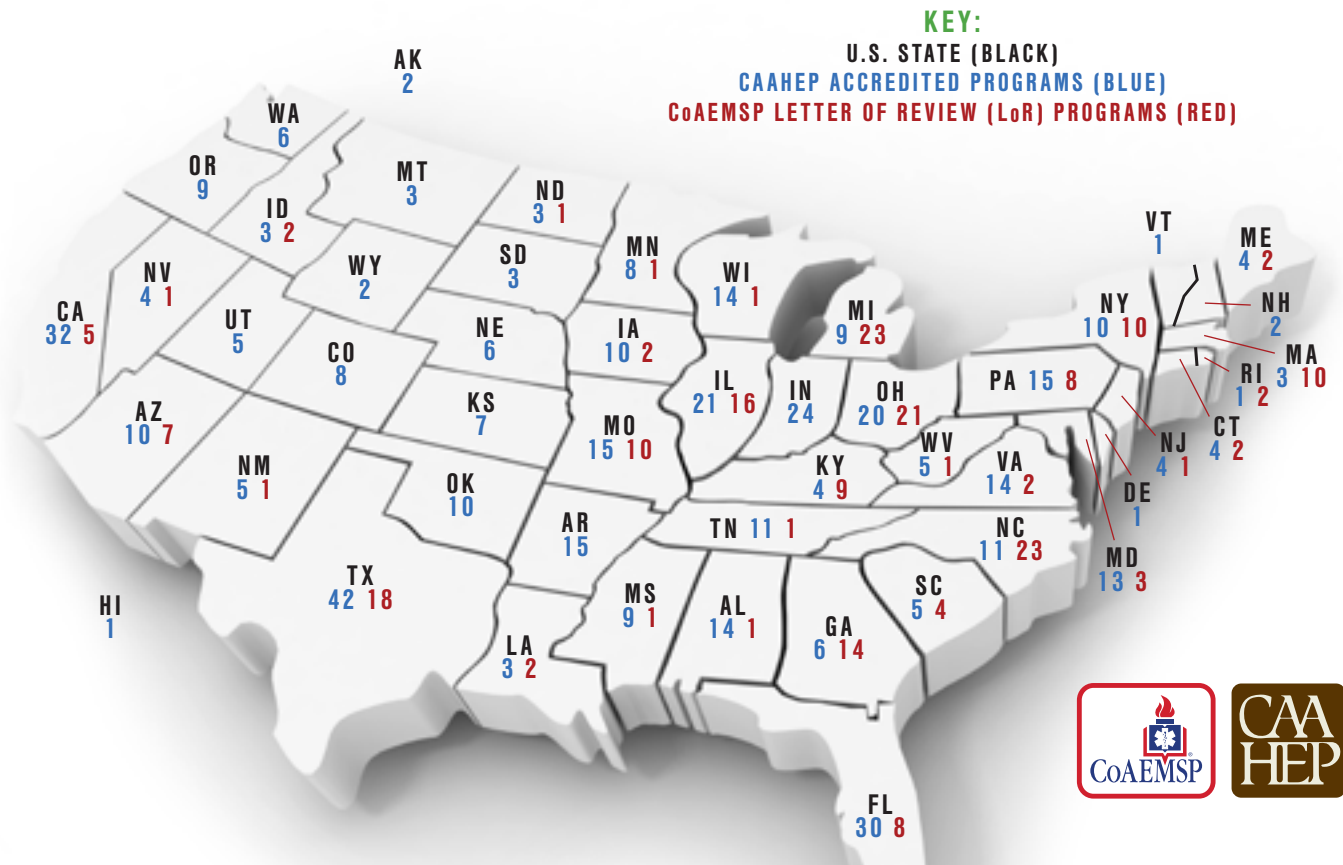
THE
PRIMARY
PURPOSE OF
PROGRAM
ACCREDITATION IS
STUDENT AND
PUBLIC
PROTECTION.

SUMMARY OF ACCREDITATION REVIEW

112	Site Visits
37	States Visited
337	Total Programs Reviewed
94	Volunteers (Site Visitors & Board Members)
27,260	Volunteer Hours
3	Workshops (148 attendees)
9	External Organization Meetings / Conferences Attended
	NAEMSE Annual Educators Symposium
	NAEMSE Board Of Directors Meeting
	NAEMSO Annual Meeting
	CAAHEP Leadership Meeting
	CAAHEP Annual Meeting
	NAEMSP Annual Meeting
	Eagles Conference
	EMS Today
	Texas Educators Summit



PROGRAM ACTIVITY MAP



SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
 141 Northwest Point Boulevard
 Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

American Ambulance Association (AAA)
 8400 Westpark Drive · Second Floor
 McLean, VA 22102

American College of Cardiology (ACC)
 Heart House
 2400 N. Street NW
 Washington, DC 20037

American College of
 Emergency Physicians (ACEP)
 1125 Executive Circle
 Irving, TX 75038-2522

American College of Osteopathic
 Emergency Physicians (ACOEP)
 142 East Ontario, Suite 1500
 Chicago, Illinois 60611

American College of Surgeons (ACS)
 633 North Saint Clair Street
 Chicago, IL 60611-3211

American Society of
 Anesthesiologists (ASA)
 1061 American Lane
 Schaumburg, IL 60173

International Association of
 Fire Chiefs (IAFC)
 4025 Fair Ridge Drive
 Fairfax, VA 22033

International Association of
 Fire Fighters (IAFF)
 1750 New York Avenue, NW Suite 300
 Washington, DC 20006-5395

National Association of EMS Physicians
 (NAEMSP)
 P.O. Box 19570
 Lenexa, KS 66285

National Association of Emergency
 Medical Technicians (NAEMT)
 132-A East Northside Dr.
 Clinton, MS 39056

National Association of
 EMS Educators (NAEMSE)
 250 Mt. Lebanon Blvd., Suite 209
 Pittsburgh, PA 15234

National Association of State EMS Officials
 (NASEMSO)
 201 Park Washington Court
 Falls Church, VA 22046-4527

National Registry of Emergency
 Medical Technicians (NREMT)
 Rocco V. Morando Building
 6610 Busch Boulevard, PO Box 29233
 Columbus, OH 43229-0233

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DIRECTORS

Kathleen Adelgais, MD (AAP)
 David S. Becker, MA, EMT-P (IAFC)
 Jeff Beeson, DO, LP (ACEP)
 David Eric Bentley, MD, FACS (ACS)
 Lori Burns, RN, MSN (AAA)
 Deb Cason, MS, RN, EMT-P (NREMT)
 Richard Ellis, BSOE, NRP (NAEMT)
 Gregory Frailey, DO (ACOEP)
 Drew Harrell, MD (ACEP)
 Seth Izenberg, MD, FACS (ACS)
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 Michael A. Solomon, MD, FACC (ACC)
 Michael J. Souter, MB, ChB, FRCA (ASA)
 Bridgette Svancarek, MD, FACEP (NAEMSP)
 Donna G. Tidwell, BS, RN, EMT-P (NASEMSO)
 Patricia Tritt, RN, MA (NAEMSE)
 Vacant (NASEMSO)

CoAEMSP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



2015 CHAIR
 Thomas B. Brazelton III
 MD, MPH, FAAP (AAP)

2014 AT-LARGE MEMBER



VICE-CHAIR
 Paul A. Berlin
 MS, NREMT-P (IAFC)



SECRETARY/TREASURER
 James M. Atkins
 MD, FACC (ACC)



2015 AT-LARGE MEMBER
 Joseph Mistovich
 Med, NREMT-P (NREMT)



2014 CHAIR
 Douglas K. York
 NREMT-P, PS (NAEMT)
2015 IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR

SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

EXECUTIVE

JULY 1 - DEC 31, 2014

Doug York, **CHAIR**
 Paul Berlin, **VICE CHAIR**
 James Atkins, **TREASURER-SECRETARY**
 Tom Brazelton, **AT-LARGE MEMBER**

JAN 1 - JUNE 30, 2015

Tom Brazelton, **CHAIR**
 Paul Berlin, **VICE CHAIR**
 James Atkins, **TREASURER-SECRETARY**
 Joe Mistovich, **AT-LARGE MEMBER**
 Doug York, **IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR**

AUDIT + FINANCE

James Atkins, **CHAIR**
 David Becker
 Murray Kalish
 Paul Berlin
 Jeff Sadtler
 Jeff Beeson
 Michael Solomon

DISTANCE EDUCATION

Donna Tidwell
 & Bill Mergendahl, **CHAIRS**
 Paul Berlin
 Rick Ellis
 Murray Kalish
 Sarah Nafziger
 Lori Burns
 Drew Harrell
 Michael Miller

GOVERNANCE

Doug York & Donna Tidwell, **CHAIRS**
 James Atkins
 Deb Cason
 Jeff Beeson
 Dave Becker
 Barbara Sellers
 Patricia Tritt
 Paul Berlin
 Jeff Sadtler
 Michael Solomon

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SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS CONTINUED

PEDIATRICS

Tom Brazelton & Kathleen Adelgais, **CHAIRS**
 Lori Burns
 Paul Berlin
 Greg Frailey
 Bridgette Svancarek
 Barbara Sellers

QUALITY ASSURANCE + ANNUAL REPORTS

Patricia Tritt, **CHAIR**
 Tom Brazelton
 Joe Mistovich
 Bill Mergendahl
 Rick Ellis
 Drew Harrell
 Doug York
 Eric Bentley
 Lori Burns
 Michael Miller
 Sarah Nafziger

SITE VISITS + VISITORS

Deb Cason, **CHAIR**
 Paul Berlin
 Sarah Nafziger
 Joe Nelson
 Seth Izenberg
 Bridgette Svancarek
 Donna Tidwell
 Kathleen Adelgais
 Drew Harrell
 Doug York

STANDARDS INTERPRETATIONS

Joe Mistovich, **CHAIR**
 James Atkins
 Jeff Beeson
 Seth Izenberg
 Patricia Tritt
 Eric Bentley
 Deb Cason
 Donna Tidwell
 Lori Burns
 Rick Ellis
 Michael Miller
 Bridgette Svancarek
 Bill Mergendahl
 Joe Nelson

STANDARDS REVISION

James Atkins, **CHAIR**
 David Becker
 Seth Izenberg
 Joe Mistovich
 Deb Cason
 Bill Mergendahl
 Patricia Tritt

“
 [ACCREDITATION]
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 QUALITY OF
 STUDENTS THAT
 ARE PRODUCED.*
 ”

*Comments taken from accreditation workshop surveys



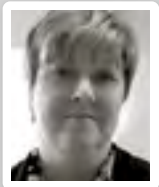
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