



August 19, 2016

TO: Sponsoring Organizations for the CoAEMSP
CoAEMSP Board Members

FROM: Tom Brazelton, MD, MPH, FAAP, Chair, CoAEMSP Board of Directors
George W Hatch, EdD, EMT-P, LP, Executive Director, CoAEMSP

RE: Highlights from the CoAEMSP Quarterly Board Meeting – July 29-30, 2016

The Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the EMS Professions (CoAEMSP) Board of Directors met in San Diego on February 5 and 6, 2016. The highlights from the meeting:

1. **Program Actions.** Reviewed 75 programs for initial accreditation, continuing accreditation and progress reports.
2. **By the Numbers.** At the time of the board meeting there were **514 CAAHEPⁱ accredited** Paramedic programs and **191 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 <http://www.caahep.org/Find-An-Accredited-Program/>.
3. **Workshops & Webinars.** In 2016, the CoAEMSP is hosting four Accreditation Workshops, which will focus on the 2015 CAAHEP *Standards* and the new self study report templates. Due to demand, a fourth workshop was added since the last Highlights were disseminated. The workshop is geared toward program directors of all levels of experience.
4. **Professional Development** focused on two distinctly different topics. One discussion focused on ways to increase board member engagement, including identifying the occasional challenges board members have with time and responsibilities. The CoAEMSP Board of Directors is a working board, which every board member feels needs to be strongly impressed upon the sponsor organizations when nominating individuals to this Board.

The other topic was how the commercial tracking vendors are designing reports that are compatible with the reports the CoAEMSP requires of its programs.

5. **Finance & Audit Committee** reviewed the fees programs are assessed to determine if the established amounts are sufficient to cover operational expenses. Several fees were discussed, and the Board approved establishing or increasing the following fees to accommodate the increase in workload due to the increase in programs and ensuring the CoAEMSP is responsive to all of its constituents: Transfer of Sponsorship was set at \$950 (new); increase Read Fee from \$500 to \$750; and assess a penalty of \$100 to programs when they fail to notify CoAEMSP of a personnel change (new).
6. **Governance Committee** reviewed applications for public member, for which the CoAEMSP has two open seats. No one was selected because each applicant had a connection to EMS or Paramedic programs. The committee has embarked on a review of the Bylaws, which were approved in February 2015. The committee is seeking input on developing an advisory group of program directors that could provide input on the effects of implementing potential decisions made by the Board.
7. **Site Visit & Visitor Committee** will conduct a site visitor training workshop in Denver on October 24 and 25, 2016. There were 53 applicants, of which 23 were invited to participate. For calendar year 2016, estimating 170 site visits will be conducted. A series of webinars are planned for site visitors this fall.
8. **Distance Education Committee** is reviewing the definitions of distance education method of instruction and satellites.

CoAEMSP Board Meeting Highlights

July 29-30, 2016

9. **Elections.** Officer elections were held; each elected candidate will assume the position January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2018. The officers are:

Chair:	Tom Brazelton, MD, MPH, FAAP (American Academy of Pediatrics)
Vice Chair:	Paul Berlin, MS, NRP (International Association of Fire Chiefs)
Secretary-Treasurer:	Murray Kalish, MD, (American Society of Anesthesiologists)
Member-At-Large:	Joe Mistovich, MEd, NRP (National Registry of EMTs)

10. **Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement Committee** reviewed the currently established thresholds for the four outcomes programs are held accountable for. The outcomes and the thresholds (appearing in parenthesis) that programs are held accountable for include successful passing of the National Registry for the EMT-Paramedic written exam or the State written exam (70%), National Registry for the EMT-Paramedic practical exam or the State practical exam (70%), student retention (70%), and positive placement (70%).
11. **Interpretations Committee** further defined terms used commonly when reviewing programs and comparing them against the agreed upon standards of Paramedic programs. The CoAEMSP Interpretations of the 2015 CAAHEP Standards will be released in mid-September.
12. **Psychomotor Competencies.** The CoAEMSP is working with the National Registry for EMTs (NREMT) to analyze data that has been collected from commercial tracking vendors, the NREMT, and the CoAEMSP to determine recommended minimum patient encounters by

13. **Next Meetings:**

2016:	November 4	web meeting
2017:	February 2-4	TBD
	May 5	web meeting
	August 3-5	TBD
	November 3	web meeting

Communication Protocols. The Board has adopted protocols that permit more predictable, consistent, and deliberate communications with sponsors about the work of the Board. The Board will continue to provide official updates via the Board Highlights to sponsors within 30 days of each Board meeting.

CAAHEP = Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs

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

The Mission Statement for the CoAEMSP

The mission of the CoAEMSP is to advance the quality of EMS education through CAAHEP accreditation.

The Vision Statement for the CoAEMSP

CoAEMSP is recognized as the leader in evidence based standards for accreditation.

ⁱ **CAAHEP** = Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs.

CAAHEP is a programmatic postsecondary accrediting agency recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) and carries out its accrediting activities in cooperation with its Committees on Accreditation. CAAHEP currently accredits over 2000 educational programs in 28 health science professions. [caahep.org]