

August 27, 2019

TO: Sponsoring Organizations for the CoAEMSP  
CoAEMSP Board Members

FROM: Paul Berlin, MS, NRP, Chair, CoAEMSP Board of Directors  
George W Hatch, Jr., EdD, EMT-P, LP, Executive Director, CoAEMSP

RE: Highlights from the CoAEMSP Quarterly Board Meeting – July 26-27, 2019

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The Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the EMS Professions (CoAEMSP) Board of Directors met July 26-27, 2019, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The highlights from the meeting:

1. **Program Actions.** Reviewed 57 programs for initial accreditation, continuing accreditation and progress reports.
2. **By the Numbers.** At the time of the board meeting there were **631 CAAHEP<sup>i</sup> accredited** Paramedic programs and **65 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 <https://www.caahep.org/Students/Find-a-Program.aspx>.
3. **ACCREDITCON.** The inaugural ACCREDITCON, a new conference focused only on the accreditation standards, debuted May 31-June 2, 2019, supporting the CoAEMSP's mission "to advance the quality of EMS education through accreditation" and responding to the needs of nearly 700 Paramedic educational programs. [Annually there are about 160 program directors that change. As of July 25, there were 110 program director changes in calendar year 2019.] ACCREDITCON drew nearly 500 people. For more information, visit [www.accreditcon.org](http://www.accreditcon.org).
4. **Outreach.** The CoAEMSP, represented by its Executive Director, is participating in the NHTSA discussion surrounding nomenclature as well as rewriting the EMS Education Standards.  
  
Senior staff have met with various states to temper concerns about accreditation, demystifying the misconceptions.
5. **Accreditation of AEMT Programs.** CoAEMSP has a group working on accreditation for AEMT programs as we have received several requests from State Offices of EMS and Programs to offer accreditation at the AEMT level.
6. **Audit Committee** presented the 2017-18 audit results, which included the auditor providing the CoAEMSP a clean bill of health.
7. **Data (Research) Committee has several research projects in progress, including:**
  - High Performing Paramedic Programs (current)
  - Paramedic Education Competencies (current)
  - The current status of students with disabilities in EMS (assisting with)
  - The turnover of Paramedic Education Program Directors (assisting with)
  - Active Learning and the Flipped Classroom (assisting with)
  - Socially Equitable Access to EMS (assisting with)
  - Safety Risks Encountered by Paramedic Students (assisting with)

## CoAEMSP Quarterly Board Meeting Highlights

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8. **Finance Committee** is developing policies to strengthen the organization's policies on reserves.
9. **Governance Committee** presented and gained approval for policies specific to the Board, including codifying the spokesperson for the CoAEMSP, annual review of the strategic plan, and regular review of the crisis management plan.
10. **Quality Improvement** presented the results of the 2019 annual report, which included:
  - a. Submitted reports: 675 reports
  - b. Retention: 172 below threshold (threshold is 70%)
  - c. Written Exam: 91 below threshold (threshold is 70%)
  - d. Positive Placement: 24 below threshold (threshold is 70%)
11. **Site Visit & Visitor Committee** is offering a Site Visitor Workshop in 2020, increasing its cadre of 100+ site visitors. Site visitors are Paramedic educators, primarily program directors and medical directors from programs in good standing and have demonstrated an understanding of the CAAHEP *Standards* and the CoAEMSP policies.
12. **Directors' Elections** occur every summer, approximately one-third of the board members are up for election. Those elected this year:
  - AAA – Gibson McCullagh
  - ACOEP – Rosa Anna Roantree
  - ASA – Michael Souter
  - IAFF – Thomas Breyer
  - NAEMSE – Michael Miller
  - NASEMSO – Terrie Godde
13. **Next Meetings:**

<b>2019:</b>	November 1	web meeting
<b>2020:</b>	February 5-6-7-8	TBD
	May 1	web meeting
	July 29-30-31-August 1	TBD
	November 6	web meeting

## CoAEMSP Quarterly Board Meeting Highlights

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Prior to the board meeting, the board members met in smaller teams via web meeting for several hours each. The members of the CoAEMSP Board of Directors are dedicated and give a great deal of their talents to advancing the mission of the CoAEMSP and the education of future Paramedics. Each board member has stated that it has taken them two to three years to feel comfortable with the business of the board and to feel as though they are ramped up. The CoAEMSP is grateful for each board member's dedication to the mission – to advance the quality of EMS education through accreditation.

**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** of the CoAEMSP

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

### The **Vision Statement** of the CoAEMSP

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

### The **Core Values** of the CoAEMSP: **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.

**Accountability:** Advancing the mission of the CoAEMSP with integrity, honesty, professionalism and high ethical standards.

**Respect:** Honoring the perspective of any individual or organization.

**Integrated:** Carrying out the work of the CoAEMSP in collaboration with EMS stakeholders.

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

### The **Goals** of the CoAEMSP

GOAL #1: To conduct scholarly inquiry of relevant topics related to accreditation and EMS Education.

GOAL #2: Foster diverse instructional methodologies.

GOAL #3: Explore expanding scope of quality assurance/improvement activities to EMT and AEMT and internationally.

GOAL #4: Continue to strengthen the engagement and effectiveness of the CoAEMSP Board of Directors.

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<sup>i</sup> **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 31 health science professions. [caahep.org]