



February 16, 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 – February 5-6, 2016

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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. **Bill Goding.** A member of the CoAEMSP and CAAHEP families unexpectedly and suddenly passed away on January 11, 2016. Bill was a friend, a colleague, and a mentor. Many of us were fortunate to work with Bill, including CoAEMSP staff, board members, and Paramedic program directors. Bill was a true professional that had an impact on the CAAHEP accreditation community.

In recognition of Bill's tireless services to CAAHEP and all its Committees on Accreditation (CoAs), the CAAHEP Board voted to rename the CAAHEP Award for Exceptional Service, to be the William W. Goding Award for Exceptional Service. His spirit will live through those that demonstrate their commitment to quality allied health accreditation. Bill will be missed but never forgotten.

2. **Program Actions.** Reviewed 64 programs for initial accreditation, continuing accreditation and progress reports.
3. **By the Numbers.** At the time of the board meeting there were **495 CAAHEP<sup>i</sup> accredited** Paramedic programs and **196 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/>.
4. **Workshops & Webinars.** In 2016, the CoAEMSP will host three Accreditation Workshops, which will focus on the 2015 CAAHEP *Standards* and the new self study report templates. The workshop is geared toward program directors of all levels of experience.

In addition to the workshops, there will be a series of webinars offered on various topics. The topics will be determined based on the needs of the program directors' and the Paramedic programs' needs.

5. **2015 CAAHEP *Standards* Effective January 1, 2016.** The CAAHEP Board of Directors voted on May 15 to approve the 2015 CAAHEP *Standards and Guidelines for the EMS Professions*; they took effect January 1, 2016.
6. **Professional Development** focused on the Duty of Care was conducted with all board members and staff by the CoAEMSP's legal counsel.
7. **Governance Committee** continues to review and revised job descriptions for the volunteer positions within the CoAEMSP and fine-tune the nominations and elections of board members. Each sponsoring organization of the CoAEMSP will receive a personalized letter from the CoAEMSP informing them of which individuals they have seated on the CoAEMSP Board of Directors and when their respective terms are up for re-election.

## CoAEMSP Board Meeting Highlights

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February 5-6, 2016

8. **Site Visit & Visitor Committee** will conduct another site visitor training workshop; the date and location are to be determined. In addition, developed protocol for a site visitor that is participating virtually; and reviewed the qualifications of a site visitor.
  9. **Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement Committee** received 481 annual reports submitted by the CAAHEP accredited programs. Of the nearly 300 programs, 73 programs did not meet one or more of the outcomes thresholds; therefore, will be required to submit additional information on the program's analysis and action plans. The outcomes that programs are held accountable for include successful passing of the National Registry for the EMT-Paramedic written exam or the State written exam, student retention, and positive placement.
  10. **Interpretations Committee** further defined terms used commonly when reviewing programs and comparing them against the agreed upon standards of Paramedic programs.
  11. **Advanced Placement.** The CoAEMSP recently conducted a study on the use of advanced placement by Paramedic programs and to determine to what extent programs are reporting the students being accepted via advanced placement.
  12. **Next Meetings:**

<b>2016:</b> May 6	web meeting
July 29-30	TBD
November 4	web meeting
  13. **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.
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**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.

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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 28 health science professions. [caahep.org]