

# How to Use the Interpretations

*July 30, 2020*

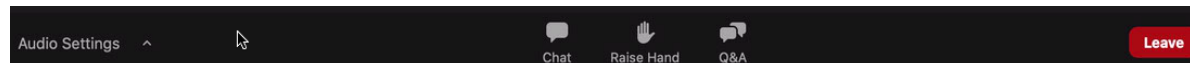
---



## Ways to Participate

**Have a question?** Type it in the **Question & Answer** window:

1. Open the Q&A window.
2. Type your question into the Q&A box. Click **Send**.
3. The host will reply back either via text in the Q&A window or will answer your question live.



**Have a Best Practice?** Type it in the **Chat** window

1. Open the **Chat** window.
2. Type your best practice. Tap Enter on keyboard.



# The Voices



Jennifer Anderson Warwick  
Accreditation Consultant



Lisa Collard, AS  
Accreditation Services Specialist



Mike Miller  
*Day Job:* PD, Creighton Univ  
(Nebraska)  
*Volunteer Role:* Board Member



Joseph Mistovich  
*Day Job:* Retired, Youngstown State  
University (Ohio)  
*Volunteer Role:* Board Member





**CoAEMSP INTERPRETATIONS OF THE  
CAAHEP 2015 STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES  
For the Accreditation of Educational Programs in the EMS Professions**

This companion document contains the CAAHEP *Standards and Guidelines for the Accreditation of Educational Programs in the Emergency Medical Services Professions* with CoAEMSP interpretations adopted by CoAEMSP through policies. The interpretations are NOT part of the *Standards and Guidelines* document and are subject to change by CoAEMSP. Policy revisions may occur often, so this document should be reviewed frequently to ensure the most current version. Please refer to the Glossary for the definition of terms which is available at [www.coaemsp.org/policies](http://www.coaemsp.org/policies). Questions regarding the interpretations can be directed to the CoAEMSP Executive Office. [Standards interpretations first approved by CoAEMSP August 2010; revisions February 2011, August 2011, August 2012, February 2013, February 2014, August 2014, August 2015, February 2016, August 2016, February 2017, February 2018, July 2018, February 2019, July 2019, **February 2020**]

**Description of the Profession (as per EMS Agenda for Future, NHTSA)**

The Emergency Medical Services Professions include four levels: Paramedic, Advanced EMT, EMT, and Emergency Medical Responder. CAAHEP accredits educational programs at the Paramedic and Advanced EMT levels. Programs at the EMT and Emergency Medical Responder levels may be included as exit points in CAAHEP-accredited Paramedic and Advanced EMT programs. "Stand-alone" EMT and Emergency Medical Responder programs may be reviewed by the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP).

**Paramedic**

The Paramedic is an allied health professional whose primary focus is to provide advanced emergency medical care for critical and emergent patients who access the emergency medical system. This individual possesses the complex knowledge and skills necessary to provide patient care and transportation. Paramedics function as part of a comprehensive EMS response, under medical oversight. Paramedics perform interventions with the basic and advanced equipment typically found on an ambulance. The Paramedic is a link from the scene into the health care system.

**Advanced Emergency Medical Technician**

The primary focus of the Advanced Emergency Medical Technician is to provide basic and limited advanced emergency medical care and transportation for critical and emergent patients who access the emergency medical system. This individual possesses the basic knowledge and skills necessary to provide patient care and transportation. Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians function as part of a comprehensive EMS response, under medical oversight. Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians perform interventions with the basic and advanced equipment typically found on an ambulance. The Advanced Emergency Medical Technician is a link from the scene to the emergency health care system.

**Emergency Medical Technician**

The primary focus of the Emergency Medical Technician is to provide basic emergency medical care and transportation for critical and emergent patients who access the emergency medical system. This individual possesses the basic knowledge and skills necessary to provide patient care and transportation. Emergency Medical Technicians function as part of a comprehensive EMS response, under medical oversight. Emergency Medical Technicians perform interventions with the basic equipment typically found on an ambulance. The Emergency Medical Technician is a link from the scene to the emergency health care system.

# 2015 CAAHEP *Standards and Guidelines*

- I – Sponsorship
- II – Program Goals
- III – Resources
- IV – Student and Graduate Evaluation/Assessment
- V – Fair Practices



## What are the “Interpretations?”

- Companion document
- Adopted policies by CoAEMSP
- Provides guidance and examples how to comply with CAAHEP *Standards*
- Revisions may occur frequently
- Most recent updates – February 2020



## February 2020 Updates <sup>(1)</sup>

- Standard III.C.3. Curriculum (Team Leads)
  - “Each program is required to define Team Lead and document it in program materials.”
  - “The program must have a written definition of a successful Team Lead available to the students (e.g., syllabus, student handbook, evaluation form).
- Standards IV.B.1. Outcomes Assessment & IV.B.2. Outcomes Reporting
  - “All programs (accredited and LoR) must publish their latest annual outcomes results for the National Registry or State Written Exam, Retention, and Positive Job Placement on the paramedic program’s homepage of their website. At all times, the published results must be consistent with and verifiable by the latest Annual Report of the program (see CoAEMSP Policy IV.D.).



## February 2020 Updates <sup>(2)</sup>

- Standard V.A.4. Publications and Disclosures
  - "Institutions and programs accredited by the recognized accrediting organization: 1. Provide timely, readily accessible, accurate and consistent aggregate information to the public about institutional or programmatic performance and student achievement, as such information is determined by the institution or program, based on quantitative or qualitative information with external verification as appropriate. (see Council for Higher Education Accreditation [CHEA] policy XI.A.1.).



## Public Comment Period (CoAEMSP Policies & Procedures for Programs, p. 41, May 1, 2020)

- CoAEMSP Interpretations Committee meets twice annually or as necessary
- Interpretations Committee draft language, reviewed & approved by the CoAEMSP Board, may undergo a public comment period
- Draft substantive changes published:
  - Electronic update distributed to PDs and subscribers
  - Direct electronic communication to PDs
- Link provided to an electronic survey tool for comments submission
- Feedback will be considered by committee and board in drafting final language





# Takeaways

- Interpretations designed to assist programs in demonstrating compliance with Standards
- Policies adopted by the CoAEMSP Board
- Changes frequently – monitor CoAEMSP e-newsletter and other correspondence



Accreditation is  
an everyday activity



Thank you.

