



June 17, 2022

In an Open Letter the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) has adopted a resolution (22-13) during its June 2022 Board meeting that would allow the *option* for State Offices of EMS to approve Paramedic education programs that do not hold either Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) accreditation or the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP's) Letter of Review (LoR), as meeting eligibility requirements for the NREMT paramedic examination and national certification. This resolution is open for public comment until August 2022, at which time a final decision will be made by the NREMT's Board of Directors.

In the event that this resolution passes, Paramedic candidates completing a program approved by their State Office of EMS would have the option to take the NREMT exam and become a practicing Paramedic without graduating from a CAAHEP accredited or CoAEMSP LoR designated program.

The CoAEMSP is highly concerned with the direction the NREMT is taking. CoAEMSP serves to advance the quality of EMS education through accreditation, which serves to ensure paramedic programs meet minimum educational standards and best practices. In doing so CoAEMSP advocates in the best interest of patient safety, ensures competent entry-level paramedic graduates, and advances the profession as a key member of the healthcare continuum.

Be assured, that the CoAEMSP believes that CAAHEP accreditation is necessary for a wellprepared and qualified workforce in Emergency Medical Services. Thus, it stands firmly behind its <u>mission and vision</u>, and will continue to maintain the highest of standards for evidence-based accreditation as defined in the *EMS Education Agenda for the Future*.

Sincerely,

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

Paul a. Berlis

Paul A. Berlin, MS, NRP Chairman of the Board

Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the EMS Professions

