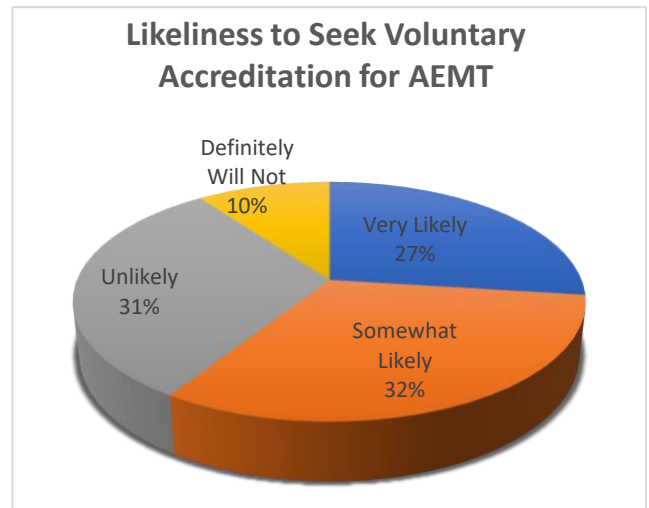
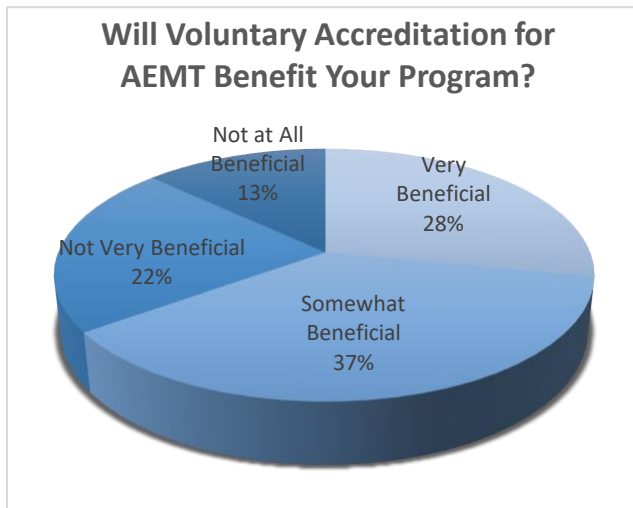




## CoAEMSP Survey of AEMT Program Directors Shows Enthusiasm for AEMT Voluntary Accreditation

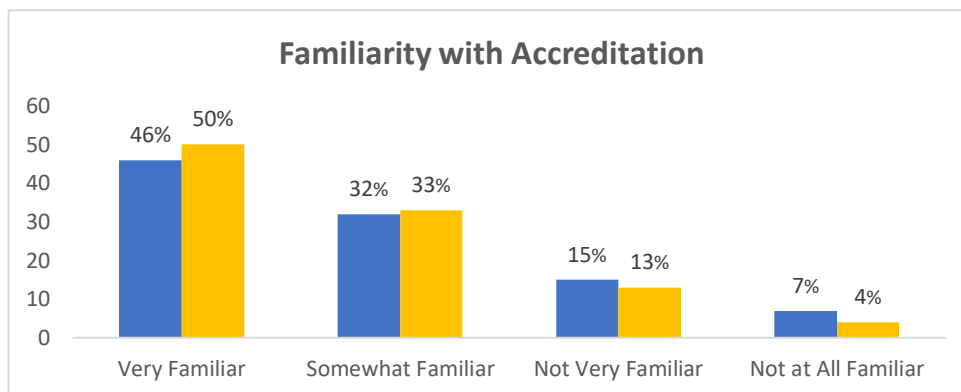
CoAEMSP surveyed AEMT Program Directors between September 19 and October 6, 2023, regarding their potential interest in voluntary accreditation and received 293 completed surveys.

### AEMT Program Directors are Enthusiastic Regarding Voluntary AEMT Accreditation



- Two-thirds of respondents (65%) believe voluntary accreditation for AEMT programs would potentially benefit their program, and 59% of respondents are likely to seek voluntary accreditation.
- Half of the respondents (50%) are from CAAHEP accredited Paramedic programs, and 65% of them are very or somewhat likely to pursue voluntary AEMT accreditation.

### AEMT Program Directors are Familiar with Programmatic Accreditation and its Benefits



- More than three-quarters of respondents (78%) are familiar with accreditation, and 4 out of 5 respondents (83%) are familiar with CAAHEP or CoAEMSP.

### **Program Directors Identify Top Three Potential Benefits of Accreditation**

- Establishes standards that ensure high-quality education (74%)
- Fosters continuous quality improvement of education programs (51%)
- Provides students confidence their program meets essential national standards (50%)

### **Goals for National Registry Pass Rates, Education Standards May Inform Interest in Voluntary Accreditation**

- Among survey respondents with an established goal for annual pass rates of the National Registry certification exam, 93% have a goal that 70% or more of exam takers pass the test. However, according to data from the National Registry:
  - Only 56% of AEMTs who voluntarily took the NREMT certification exam in 2022 passed the test the first time, and 69% passed within a cumulative three attempts.
  - In contrast, among Paramedics, all of whom attended an accredited Paramedic education program in 2022, 71% passed the first test, and 85% passed within three cumulative attempts.
- Nearly all AEMT programs (90%) adhere to the National EMS Education Standards and Guidelines for AEMT, and 58% also follow a state mandated curriculum.

### **Barriers to Accreditation are Largely Process, not Program**

When asked to identify multiple potential barriers that would prevent an AEMT Program Director from pursuing voluntary accreditation, the reasons cited were more likely to be administrative rather than programmatic, including cost (69%), time commitment (52%), and administrative requirements (51%). A minority of respondents cited a perceived lack of return on investment (42%) and an inability to meet accreditation standards (10%).

### **Background on Voluntary AEMT Accreditation**

In May 2023, the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs ([CAAHEP](#)) [announced](#) plans to launch a voluntary programmatic accreditation at the AEMT level by January 1, 2025, and the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions ([CoAEMSP](#)) will provide the accreditation services. Visit the CoAEMSP [website](#) for more information.

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*The Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions ([CoAEMSP](#)) works to advance the quality of EMS education through accreditation.*