

National Association of State EMS Officials

Education and Professional Standards Council (EPSC) Mentoring Toolkit

EMS Abbreviations and Acronyms

The following list provides a general overview of EMS abbreviations and acronyms that are referenced in NASEMSO documents, meetings, and web site. The list is intended simply as a reference and no endorsements should be implied to outside projects or standards.

Abbreviation	Agency/Organization	Description	Web Site
AAMS	Association of Air Medical Services	Non-profit 501C (6) trade association that represents and advocates on behalf of its membership to enhance their ability to deliver quality, safe, and effective medical care and medical transportation for every patient in-need	http://aams.org/
AASHTO	American Association of Highway and Transportation Officials	Serves as a liaison between state departments of transportation and the federal government	http://www.transportation.org/Pages/Default.aspx
AAA	American Ambulance Association	Serves as a voice and clearinghouse for ambulance services across the nation	http://www.the-aaa.org/
ACCT	Association of Critical Care Transport	Non-profit grassroots patient advocacy organization committed to ensuring that critically ill and injured patients have access to the safest and highest quality	http://www.acctforpatients.org/

		critical care transport system possible	
ADA	Airlines Deregulation Act	The main purpose of the act was to remove government control over fares, routes and market entry (of new airlines) from commercial aviation. As states have attempted to regulate HEMS programs and ensure their integration with state and local EMS systems, operators have responded with lawsuits asserting the exclusive authority of the Federal Aviation Administration under the Airline Deregulation Act	http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/STATUTE-92/pdf/STATUTE-92-Pg1705.pdf
AM	NASEMSO's Annual Meeting	Addresses current issues and trends in emergency medical services systems	http://www.nasemso.org/Meetings/Annual/AnnualMeeting2015.asp
AMC	NASEMSO's Air Medical Committee	Provide technical assistance and representation of State EMS Directors on issues related to state and federal regulation of air medical services (AMS)	http://www.nasemso.org/Projects/AirMedical/
ASMI	Association and Society Management International Inc	Provides NASEMSO staff and management services	http://www.asmii.com/
ASPR	HHS Office of Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response	Lead agency for the National Response Framework (NRF) for	http://www.phe.gov/about/aspr/pages/default.aspx

		Emergency Support Function 8 (ESF).	
ASTHO	Association of State and Territorial Health Officials	National nonprofit organization representing public health agencies in the United States, the U.S. Territories, and the District of Columbia	http://www.astho.org
AVL	NASEMSO's Ambulance and Vehicle Licensure Committee	Developing model regulatory language for state adoption related to the design of ambulances for state promulgation as needed	http://www.nasemso.org/Projects/AgencyAndVehicleLicensure/index.asp
BCCTPC	Board for Critical Care Transport Certification	Non-profit organization responsible for the administration and the development of the FP-C®, CCP-C®, and TP-C® exams	http://bcctpc.org/
CAAHEP	Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs	Largest programmatic accreditor in the health sciences field	http://www.caahep.org/
CAAS	Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services	Independent commission that established a comprehensive series of standards for the ambulance service industry	http://www.caas.org/
(CAAS) GVS-2015	Ground Vehicle Standard- (Version 2015)	Identifies the minimum requirements for new automotive Emergency Medical Services (EMS) ground ambulances built on Original Equipment	http://www.groundvehiclestandard.org/

		Manufacturer's Chassis (OEM) that are prepared by the OME for use as an ambulance	
CAMTS	Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems	An organization of non-profit organizations dedicated to improving the quality and safety of medical transport services, with 21 current member organizations (including NASEMSO) each of which sends one representative to the CAMTS Board of Directors dedicated to improving the quality of patient care and safety of the transport environment for services providing rotorwing, fixed wing and ground transport systems	http://www.camts.org/
CAP (#)	Cooperative Agreement Proposal	General abbreviation for a work order proposed to a federal agency intended to facilitate the achievement of goals identified by NASEMSO's Councils and Committees	
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (HHS)	Primary federal agency for Nation's health protection	www.cdc.gov
CECBEMS	Continuing Education Coordinating Board for Emergency Medical Services	National accrediting body for EMS continuing education courses and	http://www.cecbems.org/

		course providers	
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	Codification of the general and permanent rules and regulations (sometimes called administrative law) published in the Federal Register by the executive departments and agencies of the federal government of the United States	http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/
CoAEMSP	Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the EMS Professions (CAAHEP)	Serves the programmatic accreditor (CAAHEP) to facilitate recognition for EMS programs in the US by providing an independent, external, objective peer-review of institutional and/or programmatic quality as compared with national standards	http://www.coaemsp.org/
CP	Community Paramedicine	General abbreviation	
DHS	US Department of Homeland Security	Lead federal agency for safe, secure, and resilient Nation	http://www.dhs.gov/
(DHS) OHA	Office of Health Affairs (DHS)	Serves as the Department of Homeland Security's principal authority for all medical and health issues	http://www.dhs.gov/office-health-affairs
DMC	NASEMSO's Data Managers Council	Promotes the development, standardization, and improvement of state and national EMS data	http://www.nasemso.org/Councils/DataManagers/

		systems	
DOT	US Department of Transportation	Lead federal agency for ensuring a fast, safe, efficient, accessible and convenient transportation system	http://www.dot.gov/
DP	NAEMSO's Domestic Preparedness Committee	Provides technical assistance for and representation of State EMS Directors regarding both natural as well as terrorist type incidents as they relate to planning, preparedness, response and recovery, to include homeland security activities	http://www.nasemso.org/Projects/DomesticPreparedness/
EBG	Evidence based guidelines	General abbreviation	
ECCC	Emergency Care Coordination Center (HHS)	Policy home for the emergency care community within the federal government	http://www.phe.gov/ECCC/Pages/default.aspx
ED	Emergency department	General abbreviation	
EMAC	Emergency Management Assistance Compact	National disaster-relief compact that offers assistance during governor-declared states of emergency through a responsive, straightforward system that allows states to send personnel, equipment, and commodities to help disaster relief efforts in other states	http://www.emacweb.org/
EMS	Emergency Medical Services	General abbreviation	

EMS-C	Emergency Medical Services for Children (HRSA)	Primary federal program established to reduce child and youth mortality and morbidity caused by severe illness or trauma	http://mchb.hrsa.gov/programs/emergencymedical/
EPSC	NASEMSO's Education and Professional Standards Council	Evolved from the former National Association of State EMS Training Coordinators (NASEMSTC), the EPSC formulates recommendations on policies and positions specific to EMS training, education, licensure, certification, and complaint investigation matters.	http://nasemsso.org/Councils/TrainingCoordinators/
FARB	Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards	Not-for-profit corporation to promote public protection and provide a forum for information exchange for associations of regulatory boards and their affiliate stakeholders with interests in professional regulation. (NASEMSO is a Governing Member)	www.farb.org
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency (DHS)	Federal agency that supports citizens and first responders to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and	http://www.fema.gov/

		mitigate all hazards	
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration (DOT)	Provides stewardship over the construction, maintenance and preservation of the Nation's highways, bridges and tunnels; also conducts research and provides technical assistance to state and local agencies in an effort to improve safety, mobility, and livability, and to encourage innovation	http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/
FICEMS	Federal Interagency Committee on Emergency Medical Services	Ensures coordination among Federal agencies involved with State, local, tribal, and regional emergency medical services and 9-1-1 systems	http://www.ems.gov/FICEMS.htm
FirstNet	First Responder Network Authority	Independent government authority created by Congress with a mandate to provide specialized communication services for public safety	http://www.firstnet.gov/
GIC	NASEMSO's Government Information Committee	Actively tracks legislation introduced in Congress and provides periodic analysis and issue papers to the membership	https://www.nasemso.org/Projects/Government-Information.asp
HEMS	Helicopter EMS	General abbreviation	
HIPDB	Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank	Outdated reference	The HIPDB merged with the NPDB in 2013 and no longer exists as a separate entity

HITS	NAEMSO's Highway Incident and Transportation Systems Committee	Engages NAEMSO to collaborate on highway safety issues relevant to EMS	http://www.nasemso.org/Projects/HITS/index.asp
HL7	Health Level 7 Information Standards	ANSI-accredited standards developing organization dedicated to providing a comprehensive framework and related standards for the exchange, integration, sharing, and retrieval of electronic health information that supports clinical practice and the management, delivery and evaluation of health services.	http://www.hl7.org/index.cfm?ref=nav
HHS	US Department of Health and Human Services	Lead federal agency for protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services	http://www.hhs.gov/
HRSA	Health Resources and Services Administration (HHS)	Primary Federal agency for improving access to health care by strengthening the health care workforce, building healthy communities and achieving health equity	http://www.hrsa.gov/index.html
ICD-10	International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Health Related Problems, Version 10	Used to code and classify morbidity data from the inpatient and outpatient records, physician offices,	http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/icd.htm

		and most National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) surveys	
IOM	Institute of Medicine (of the National Academies)	Independent, nonprofit organization that works outside of government to provide unbiased and authoritative advice to decision makers and the public	http://iom.edu/
IRCP	International Roundtable on Community Paramedicine	An organization of delegates from various countries and regions dedicated to exploring the promotion and better delivery of health care through the utilization of “traditional” and “non-traditional” models of care	http://ircp.info/
ITS	Intelligent Transportation Systems	General abbreviation	
JNEMSLF	Joint National EMS Leadership Forum	Coalition of national EMS organizations	http://www.nasemso.org/Projects/JNEMSLF/
JCREC	Joint Committee on Rural Emergency Care	Joint committee between NASEMSO’s Rural EMS Committee and National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH)	http://www.nasemso.org/Projects/RuralEMS/JCREC.asp
JTC	Joint Trauma Committee	Joint committee between NASEMSO and the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma	
KSA’s	Knowledge, Skills and Abilities	General abbreviation	

MDC	NASEMSO's Medical Directors Council	Provides a forum for state EMS medical directors to provide medical expertise and leadership to NASEMSO	http://www.nasemso.org/Councils/MedicalDirectors/
MIH	Mobile Integrated Healthcare	General abbreviation	
MY	NASEMSO's Mid-Year Meeting	Smaller version of NASEMSO's Annual Meeting	http://www.nasemso.org/Meetings/MidYear/index.asp
NAAMTA	National Accreditation Alliance Medical Transport Applications	Provides medical transportation accreditation based on ISO standards supporting quality management systems	http://www.naamta.com/
NACCHO	National Association of County and City Health Officials	Represents the nation's local health departments including counties, cities, city/counties, districts, tribes, and townships that protect and promote health, prevent disease, and seek to establish the social foundations for wellness in nearly every community across the US	http://naccho.org/
NAED/IAED	National Academies of Emergency Dispatch NOW KNOWN as IAED or International Academies of Emergency Dispatch	Non-profit standard-setting organization promoting safe and effective emergency dispatch services world-wide	http://www.emergencydispatch.org/
NAEMSE	National Association of EMS Educators	National EMS organization that seeks to inspire and promote excellence in EMS	http://www.naemse.org/

		education and lifelong learning within the global community	
NAEMSP	National Association of EMS Physicians	An organization of physicians and other professionals partnering to provide leadership and foster excellence in out-of-hospital emergency services	www.naemsp.org
NAEMT	National Association of EMTs	Largest professional association for EMS practitioners in the United States.	http://www.naemt.org/
NAPSICO	National Association for Public Safety Infection Control Officers	Non-profit association established to provide designated infection control officers (DICOs) the tools needed to develop and manage an effective infection control program in their organization	http://www.napsico.org/
NASEMSO	National Association of State EMS Officials	Lead national organization for EMS, a respected voice for national EMS policy with comprehensive concern and commitment for the development of effective, integrated, community-based, universal and consistent EMS systems	http://www.nasemso.org
NASNA	National Association of State 9-1-1 Administrators	National organization committed to assisting the implementation of	http://nasna911.org/

		statewide 9-1-1 telephone system programs	
National 9-1-1 Program	National 9-1-1 Program (NHTSA)	Primary agency to provide Federal leadership and coordination in supporting and promoting optimal 911 services	http://www.911.gov/ (See also NG 9-1-1 at http://www.its.dot.gov/ng911/index.htm)
NEDARC	National EMS for Children Data Analysis Resource Center (HRSA)	Assists EMS-C grantees in data collection, analysis and dissemination	http://www.nedarc.org/
NEMSAC	National EMS Advisory Council (NHTSA)	Nationally recognized council of EMS representatives and consumers to provide advice and recommendations regarding EMS to NHTSA	http://www.ems.gov/NEMSAC.htm
NEMSIS	National EMS Information System	National repository that will be used to potentially store EMS data from every state in the nation	http://www.nemsis.org/
NEMSMA	National EMS Management Association	Professional association of EMS leaders dedicated to the discovery, development, and promotion of excellence in leadership and management in EMS systems	https://www.nemsma.org/
NGO	Non-governmental organization	General abbreviation	
NIMS	National Incident Management System (FEMA)	Provides a consistent nationwide approach for Federal, State, Tribal and	https://www.fema.gov/national-incident-management-system

		local government; the private sector; and NGOs to work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents regardless of cause, size, or complexity. To provide for interoperability and compatibility among Federal, State, Tribal, and local capabilities	
NIOSH	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (CDC)	Primary federal agency responsible for conducting research and making recommendations for the prevention of work-related illnesses and injuries	http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/
NFPA	National Fire Protection Association	Develops, publishes, and disseminates more than 300 consensus codes and standards intended to minimize the possibility and effects of fire and other risks	http://www.nfpa.org/
NFPA 1917	NFPA Standard for Automotive Ambulances	Developed with consideration of the Federal Specification KKK-A-1822 and NFPA 1901: Standard for Automotive Fire Apparatus, NFPA 1917 defines the minimum	http://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/document-information-pages?mode=code&code=1917

		requirements for the design, performance, and testing of new automotive ambulances intended for use under emergency conditions to provide medical treatment and transportation of sick or injured people to appropriate medical facilities	
NHTSA	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (DOT)	Primary federal agency dedicated to achieving the highest standards of excellence in motor vehicle and highway safety	http://www.nhtsa.gov/
NHTSA OEMS	Office of Emergency Medical Services (NHTSA)	Primary federal agency providing leadership and coordination to the EMS community in assessing, planning, developing, and promoting comprehensive, evidence-based emergency medical services and 9-1-1 systems	http://www.ems.gov/
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology (US Dept of Commerce)	Federal technology agency that works with industry to develop and apply technology, measurements, and standards	http://www.nist.gov/
NPDB	National Practitioner Data Bank	Primarily an alert or	http://www.npdb.hrsa.gov/

	(HRSA)	flagging system intended to facilitate a comprehensive review of the professional credentials of health care practitioners, health care entities, providers, and suppliers	
NQF	National Quality Forum	Not-for-profit, nonpartisan, membership-based organization that works to catalyze improvements in healthcare	http://www.qualityforum.org/Home.aspx
NRC	National Resource Center (EMS-C)	Works to promote EMS and trauma system development at local, state, regional, and national levels to adequately prepare for the care of children	http://www.emscnrc.org/
NREMT	National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians	Serves as the National EMS Certification organization by providing a valid, uniform process to assess the knowledge and skills required for competent practice by EMS professionals throughout their careers and by maintaining a registry of certification status	http://nremt.org/
NTSB	National Transportation Safety Board	An independent agency placed within the DOT for administrative purposes,	http://www.nts.gov/Pages/default.aspx

		the NTSB conducts thorough, accurate, and independent investigations and for producing timely, well-considered recommendations to enhance transportation safety	
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration (US Dept of Labor)	Lead federal agency for worker health and safety	http://www.osha.gov
OSHA 1910.120 or HAZWOPER	Hazardous waste operations and emergency response	Regulations/Standards	http://www.osha.gov
OSHA 1910.1030	Bloodborne Pathogens Standards	Applies to all occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials	http://www.osha.gov
OSHA 1910.134	Respiratory Protection Standards	Applies to all occupational exposures related to atmospheric contamination	
PECC	NASEMSO's Pediatric Emergency Care Council	Provides leadership, promote policies and research, and share resources to improve the emergency medical care system for children	http://www.nasemso.org/Councils/PEDS/index.asp
PHE	Public Health Emergency	General abbreviation	
PPACA (or ACA)	Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act	General abbreviation	
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment	General abbreviation	
REPLICA	Recognition of EMS Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact	Model legislation intended to facilitate day-to-day movement of EMS personnel across state	http://nasemso.org/Projects/InterstateCompacts/index.asp

		boundaries in the performance of their EMS duties as assigned by an appropriate authority	
TAC	Technical Assistance Center	General abbreviation	
TMC	NAEMSO's Trauma Managers Council	Formulates recommendations on policies and positions specific to EMS trauma systems	https://www.nasemso.org/Councils/TraumaManagers/
TRB	Transportation Research Board	One of six major divisions of the National Research Council— a private, nonprofit institution that is the principal operating agency of the National Academies in providing services to the government, the public, and the scientific and engineering communities	http://www.trb.org/Main/Home.aspx
USFA	United States Fire Administration (FEMA)	Federal agency that provides national leadership to foster a solid foundation for fire and emergency services stakeholders in prevention, preparedness and response.	http://www.usfa.fema.gov/