

# Fundamentals of Regulating EMS: Agencies, Personnel, and Education



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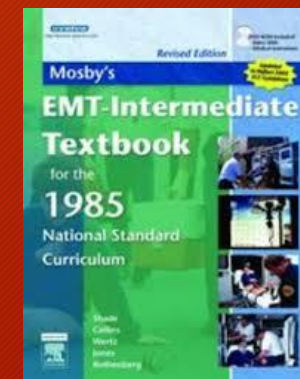
Bureau Chief

New Mexico Emergency Medical Systems Bureau



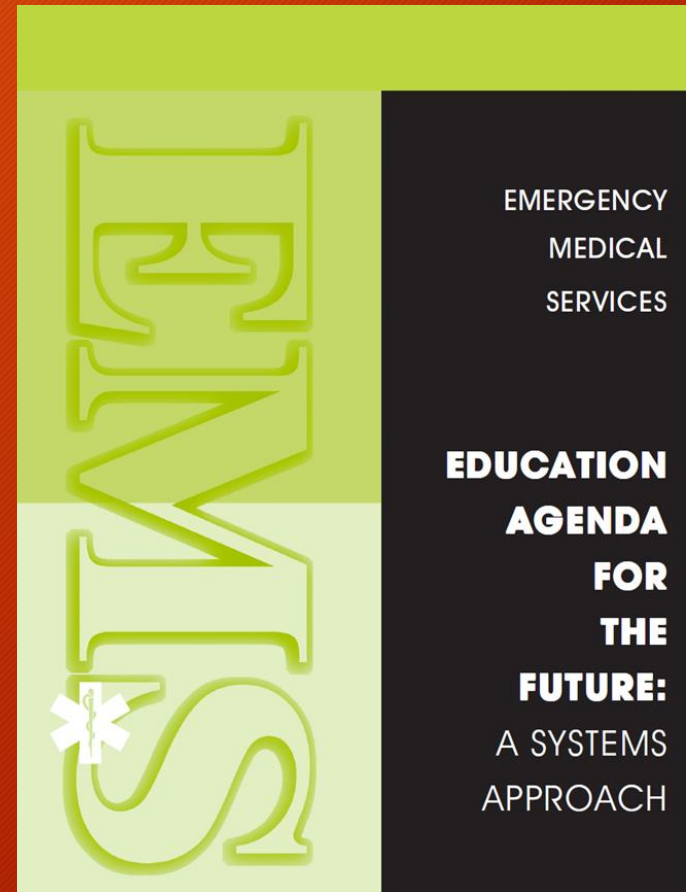
# The “Old” System... National Standard Curricula

- Five, level-specific curricula published by NHTSA.
  - First Responder, EMT-Basic, Intermediate EMT-85, Intermediate EMT-99 and EMT-Paramedic.
- Served as the foundation of EMS examinations and provider scopes of practice.
- Relied on the educational content to drive scope.
  - Proved difficult for many states when changes or deviations were desired in the scopes.



# EMS Education Agenda for the Future; A Systems Approach

- Published in 2000 - A product of the original “EMS Agenda for the Future”
- Led by NASEMSO, sponsored by NHTSA, supported by multiple national partners
- Describes a system approach to education that parallels other allied health professions





# EMS EDUCATION AGENDA



# EMS Education Agenda for the Future; A Systems Approach

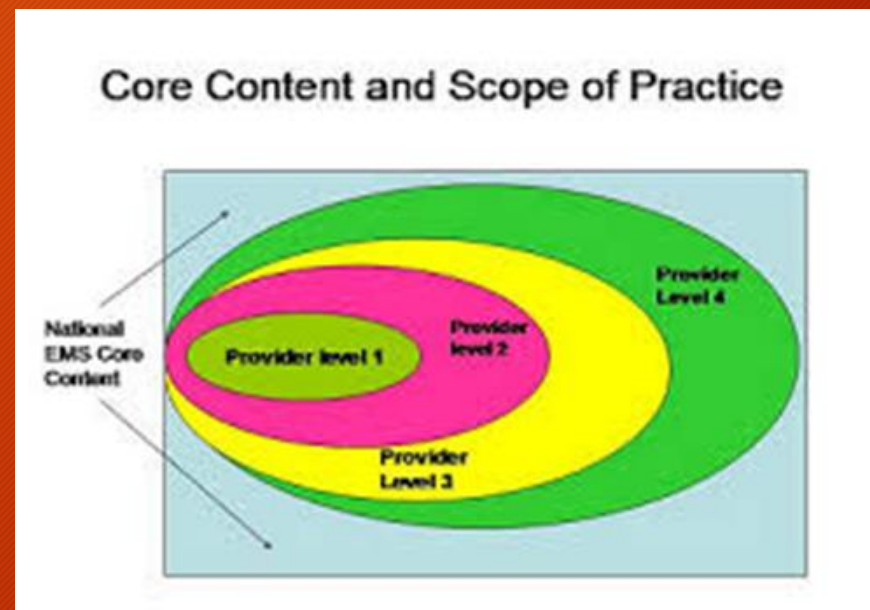
- Providers of EMS education should seek to establish relationships with academic institutions
- Such relationships should enhance the academic basis of EMS education and facilitate recognition

# EMS Education Agenda

- Scope of Practice drives education, not education driving scope of practice.
- EMS Programs should have National Accreditation
- EMS National Certification involves a standardized examination process and contributes to the protection of the public by ensuring the entry-level competence of EMS providers.

# SCOPE OF PRACTICE MODEL

- Adoption varies from state to state
  - Scope of Practice often drives what reciprocity is allowed from state to state
- Usually set in regulation...but sometimes statutory





# Educational Standards

- Implementation varies from state to state.
  - In some states...decided by schools...not by regulatory entity
- Sometimes set in statute and/or regulation; but not always





# CoAEMSP

- Recognized as the single EMS education accreditation agency.
- The CoAEMSP currently only accredits paramedic educational institutions.



# LICENSURE VS CERTIFICATION

- Dependent on state statute and regulations.



# CERTIFICATION

- Certification is based on graduation from an approved/ accredited education program
- Process of verifying competency at a predetermined level of proficiency





# LICENSURE

- Licensure is the formal permission from a governmental or other constituted authority to do something
- Process of a state government agency granting permission to practice within the state



# LICENSURE ATTRIBUTES VARY

- Some of the different attributes that states and territories consider in their licensing models are:
  - Approved/Accredited Education
  - National Certification (EXAM)
  - EMS Agency Affiliation
  - Criminal Background Check



# LICENSURE ATTRIBUTES VARY

- Proof of Residency
- Medical Director Approval
- Tax, Child Support or Other Unique State Requirements





# STANDARD

- Graduates of CoAEMSP Accredited Programs may sit for NREMT EXAM
- Programs with an active Letter of Review from CoAEMSP
- Not all states use NREMT
  - Some use for one level but not all



# Renewal of Certification/Licensure

- Become intimate with your state's requirements.
  - Things like:
    - Live versus distributive/distance
      - Synchronous versus asynchronous
    - Who approves CE's and what are the parameters
    - Why are the rules the way they are?

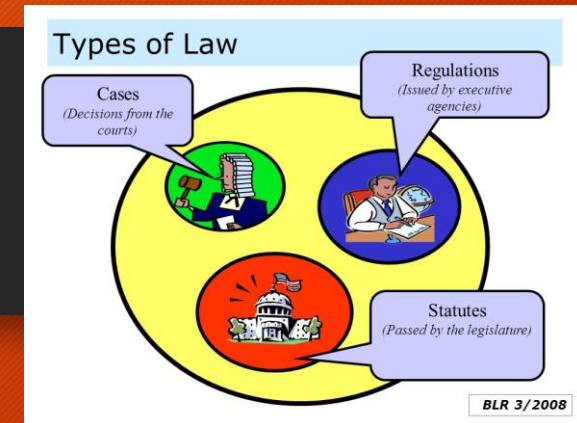
# Regulation

- Review the stuff you learned in mid-school civics...
  - Executive Branch
  - Legislative Branch
  - Judicial Branch
- How a bill becomes a law in your state
- The difference between your constitution, your statutes, and your rules/regulations.





# Regulation



- Understand what authority your legislature has given your department/bureau/office in *statute*.
- Then, figure out what authority you have in rule/regulation...and then reference your rules often.

# Regulation

- Who do you regulate?
  - Agencies? Transport? Rescue? Both? Neither?
  - Personnel?
  - Schools?
  - Air Ambulance?



# Regulation

- Writing Statute:
  - Convey the idea effectively
  - Anticipate questions - strange ones!
  - Get help - OGC/AG, legislative writers, etc





# Air Ambulance Regulation

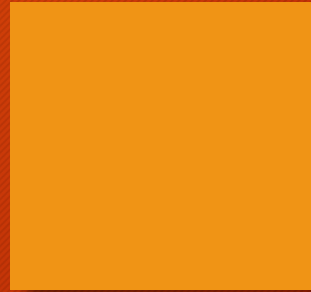


- WAAYYY to much to discuss here...
- You can't do as much as you think you can.
- Think personnel requirements, education requirements, and equipment requirements.
- Use the new Model Guidelines by NASEMSO





Questions?



Comments?

