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September 2019

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[NASEMSO NEWS](#)

1. Fall NASEMSO Regional Meetings

Attend a NASEMSO Regional Meeting near you this fall! [Learn more.](#)

2. Naloxone EBG Training Module

NASEMSO recently released the fully narrated Evidence-Based Training for Emergency Response Providers in the Assessment and Treatment of Suspected Opioid Overdoses. The training module is geared to all emergency response providers who have prerequisite knowledge in airway management. Narrated by Dr. John Lyng, the training is based on the [Evidence-Based Guidelines for EMS Administration of Naloxone](#) published in Prehospital Emergency Care (March 2019). The Naloxone EBG project was led by NASEMSO in collaboration with the National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP) and the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP). The endeavor was funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Office of EMS and the Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau's EMS for Children Program (EMSC). The training module and other project deliverables are available [here](#).

3. Pediatric Transport Products for Ground Ambulances, Version 2.2

NASEMSO has released the *Pediatric Transport Products for Ground Ambulances, Version 2.2* (August 2019). The document is a resource for EMS providers to determine existing options for securing infants and children who are transported by ambulance. Approximately 1.6 million children ages 0-13 are transported by ambulance each year in the United States. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has noted that ambulances are 2.5 times more likely to be involved in a crash than an automobile. While ambulances are generally well-equipped to secure adult patients, many are lacking proper devices to secure their youngest patients whose varying sizes make the challenge even greater. In recent years, ambulance industry manufacturers have developed a variety of products to fill this gap, but the options to the purchaser can be confusing. NASEMSO created the *Pediatric Transport Products for Ground Ambulances* resource to minimize the confusion, by allowing the EMS industry to compare the products available.

Inclusion of a product in the *Pediatric Transport Products for Ground Ambulances* resource does not imply that it has been deemed "safe" or is endorsed by NASEMSO. Click here to access the list: [Pediatric Transport Products for Ground Ambulances, Version 2.2](#).

Unfortunately, there are no minimum safety criteria to be included in the product list because such criteria have not been developed. NASEMSO hopes to fill this gap by organizing and leading a comprehensive crash-testing project to determine pass/fail criteria for these pediatric transport products. The project will be a collaborative effort involving national EMS organizations, manufacturers of the equipment (who will donate their devices for the crash testing research), safety engineers, and pediatric experts. For more information about the pediatric crash test project, contact Technical Project Lead Jim Green at green@nasemso.org.

4. NASEMSO Personnel Licensure Council releases State EMS Investigator Instructional Guidelines and Investigation Training Resources

The Personnel Licensure Council has published its State EMS Investigator Instructional Guidelines and Investigation Training Resources to assist state EMS officials in developing or consuming the commercial products available for

training their licensure investigation staff. It provides an outline of the recommended content for such courses as well as a guide to resources known to exist. [Access the document.](#)

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[FOR THE STATES](#)

5. Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) Database

The US DOT Federal Highway Safety Administration now offers a Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) Database containing key data from 52 state SHSPs about the data-driven approaches states are using to reduce roadway fatalities and serious injuries. The database includes information about emphasis area strategies and action plans; 4E safety partners; approaches states are using to update, implement, and evaluate plans; and much more. You can view your own or other states' plans in their entirety, or make specific selections about emphasis areas [here](#). To view a report that shows only the states with EMS/Incident Management emphasis area content and the specific objectives included, click [here](#).

6. 2019 FARB Regulatory Law Seminar: Register Now!

The Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards offers an annual Regulatory Law Seminar specifically tailored to attorneys who provide counsel to state agencies that license healthcare personnel and other state-regulated professions. This may be of interest to the individual(s) in your Office of Chief Counsel or Deputy/Assistant Attorney General that serves your state EMS office. Read more and register [here](#).

7. Community Impact and Benefit Activities of Critical Access, Other Rural, and Urban Hospitals, 2017

The Flex Monitoring Team has released a new report on the community impact and benefit activities of Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs), rural non-CAHs, and urban hospitals. The report enables State Flex Programs and CAH administrators to compare the community impact and benefit profiles of CAHs nationally to the performance of CAHs in their state. Access the report [here](#).

8. Council of State Governments Legal Advisory Opinion on EMS Compact

A legal advisory opinion on the constitutionality of the EMS Compact is available [here](#).

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[AIR MEDICAL](#)

9. When Rural Hospitals Close

After rural hospitals close, one of the thorniest dilemmas communities face is how to provide emergency care, particularly for patients who require specialized expertise. In times of crisis, the local emergency workers can find themselves dealing with changing leadership, budgets and questions about where to take patients. Air ambulance companies are often seen as a key part of the solution. [Read more.](#)

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[AMBULANCE VEHICLE LICENSURE](#)

10. AMD issues 2019 Standardized Test Methods

NTEA's [Ambulance Manufacturers Division](#) (AMD) revised [AMD Standardized Test Methods](#) — formerly known as AMD Standards — for 2019. Last updated in 2014, this document provides procedures to validate specific performance requirements of tests cited in governing ambulance standards. Key changes include reserving document numbers and adding a new AMD 028.

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[COMMUNICATIONS](#)

11. FirstNet Authority Releases Public Safety-Driven Roadmap for Future of Network

The First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) marked a significant milestone today with release of a new Roadmap for the future of FirstNet, the nationwide public safety broadband network.

Unveiled at the APCO International Conference and Expo in Baltimore, the FirstNet Authority Roadmap builds on the organization's nationwide engagement with public safety to gather feedback on the most important communications capabilities for their missions. Through hundreds of individual engagements, workshops, and summits with first responders, the FirstNet Authority developed prioritized technology areas to ensure the Roadmap reflects their specific communications needs. [Read more.](#)

12. 9-1-1 Location Accuracy Debate

NASEMSO Communications Technology Advisor Kevin McGinnis says that the nation's public safety representatives are preparing to engage again in the 9-1-1 location accuracy debate. The FCC is considering requests from commercial wireless carriers to extend a deadline on when the 25 largest population centers must be served by wireless service which can accurately locate a caller to 9-1-1. The current deadline, 2021, is supposed to see the establishment of a technological capability to allow dispatchers to know the "dispatchable location" of a caller in an urban area. That would be a specific building, and the office, suite, apartment, or other room designator in the building.

"Dispatchable location" is a gold standard substituted a few years back for X,Y and Z (height) axis distances from the caller's physical location in a building. Seeking the capability for determining "dispatchable location" delayed FCC implementation of its proposed standard for X,Y, and Z axis distances. The Z axis distance, the most controversial proposal, was 3 meters. This would allow determination of the caller's floor in a building in most case. Along with the X and Y distances, this would allow responders to locate a caller in most buildings.

In the intervening years, it has become evident that dispatchable location cannot be accurately determined by current technology in time for the 2021 deadline. However, current technology does enable X,Y, and Z axis distance determination to the standards originally proposed by the FCC. NASEMSO will continue to partner with the IAFC, IACP, and National Sheriff's Association in particular, and other public safety and EMS associations to urge the FCC to pursue the X, Y, and Z axis standards, a position it has held for several years.

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[COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE](#)

13. How Cities Are Bringing 9-1-1 Into the 21st Century

Governing.com interviewed NASEMSO staff Kevin McGinnis and others on the evolution of community paramedicine programs across the United States. [Read more.](#)

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[DATA](#)

14. Electronic Health Records: Data Quality Best Practices for Increased Scientific Acceptability

The National Quality Forum (NQF) is ensuring that all Americans have safe, effective, and high-value healthcare relies on the transparency of valid healthcare quality information. Today, Electronic Health Records (EHRs) represent the primary means of capturing essential clinical and administrative data for patients. EHRs are widely used, with 86% of office-based physicians and 96% of acute care hospitals using EHRs to capture both structured and unstructured patient care data. EHRs are seen as a critical opportunity to address priorities for safety, improve

quality, and alleviate burden. Click [here](#) to read more.

NQF will convene a technical expert panel (TEP) to identify the causes, nature, and extent of EHR data quality issues and recommend best practices for addressing these issues to increase scientific acceptability (i.e. reliability, validity), use and usability, and feasibility of eCQMs. Click [here](#) to learn more about how to get involved.

15. Linking Traffic Records in Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Traffic Records Integration Plan identifies the current state of Pennsylvania's traffic records system and provides a detailed integration plan that outlines barriers and benefits of integrating component data systems. In its review of linked datasets in other states and countries, the report found

the most commonly linked data sets are crash records and hospital/ EMS data. The addition of hospital/EMS data significantly enriches datasets in terms of detailing the severity of the injuries and providing additional demographic information.

[Read more.](#)

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[HEALTH AND MEDICAL PREPAREDNESS](#)

16. Mass Casualty Trauma Triage: Paradigms and Pitfalls

APSR Tracie has released this white paper highlighting some of the challenges of mass casualty response and triage during disasters, and areas in which EMS agencies and hospitals can consider changing their processes to improve care in the face of overwhelmed systems. The focus of this paper is EMS and hospital response to incidents of mass violence—particularly mass shootings—but also vehicular or bomb attacks on crowds where the scene is dynamic, the numbers of patients is exceedingly high, and the mechanism of injury is frequently life-threatening and time sensitive. [Read more.](#)

17. FEMA Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) 2019 Review

FEMA is reviewing the 2013 Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) doctrine to incorporate the lessons learned and best practices from the past six years of HSEEP's use among the whole community's exercise practitioners.

A critical element of the HSEEP review process is direct engagement with state, local, tribal, territorial, and federal partners and stakeholders. Initial outreach and engagement was conducted between July 1 – August 15. The secondary outreach and engagement based on initial draft from initial inputs will be conducted between October 1 – 21. The current HSEEP doctrine can be found on FEMA's website [here](#).

18. Call for Abstracts: 2020 Preparedness Summit

The abstract submission period for the [2020 Preparedness Summit](#) (March 31-April 3, 2020; Dallas, TX) is officially open! A whole and fully functioning national security system is only as strong as its weakest component. That's why this year's theme, *Fixing Our Fault Lines: Addressing Systemic Vulnerabilities*, will focus on methods to identify systemic weaknesses and highlight tools and policies that can empower all communities, and particularly the ones that are most vulnerable, to address those weaknesses and become more resilient. Abstracts must be submitted by September 17. Read more information on the submission process [here](#).

19. Mass Attacks in Public Spaces

Between January and December 2018, 27 incidents of mass attacks – in which three or more persons were harmed – were carried out in public spaces within the United States. In total, 91 people were killed and 107 more were injured in locations where people should feel safe, including workplaces, schools, and other public areas. The loss of life and traumatic nature of these attacks had a devastating impact on the victims and their families, local communities, and the entire nation.

The violence described in this report is not the result of a single cause or motive. The findings emphasize, however, that we can identify warning signs prior to an act of violence. While not every act of violence will be prevented, this report indicates that targeted violence may be *preventable*, if appropriate systems are in place to identify concerning behaviors, gather information to assess the risk of violence, and utilize community resources to mitigate the risk. [Read more.](#)

20. National Health Security Preparedness Index

The United States experienced one of its most active and expensive years for disasters and emergency events in 2018, with total economic damages exceeding \$91 billion. For an eighth consecutive year, Americans endured more than seven high-consequence natural disasters during the year that exceeded \$1 billion each. Hurricanes, storms, floods, fires, and extreme temperatures touched every region of the country. California's wildfires contributed to record losses from fire in 2018, totaling more than \$24 billion.

Beyond natural disasters, the U.S. faced a myriad of other hazardous events in 2018, including widespread outbreaks of hepatitis A, surging numbers of measles cases, a continuing epidemic of opioid overdose deaths, and tragic episodes of community violence at schools, churches, and other public spaces. The nation's health security enterprise mobilized repeatedly to reduce the incidence of disease, injury, and death in the face of these and many other hazardous events.

Results from the 2019 release of the National Health Security Preparedness Index indicate that readiness for disasters, disease outbreaks, and other emergencies continued to improve in 2018, but current levels of health security remain far from optimal. [Read more.](#)

21. Planning Guidance for a Nuclear Detonation

This planning guidance is organized in a stepwise manner using terminology and concepts of the National Planning Scenario #1, the National Response Framework, and other technical and policy documents. The planning guidance presents general background information that builds a foundation for specific planning recommendations. [Read more.](#)

22. Naval Postgraduate Schools Center for Homeland Defense and Security Multi-Media Annotated Enhancement of Threat Assessment

The Naval Postgraduate School's Center for Homeland Defense and Security (CHDS) continues with their annual multi-media annotated enhancement of the Worldwide Threat Assessment presented by the Director of National Intelligence (DNI). This 2019 assessment was released by the DNI on January 29th. This threat assessment testimony is one of the most informative top-level products of the U.S. Intelligence Community that is publicly available. [Read more.](#)

23. FEMA's Planning Considerations: Evacuation and Shelter-in-Place Guidance

FEMA has released [*Planning Considerations: Evacuation and Shelter-in-Place: Guidance for State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Partners*](#). The document draws upon the collective experience of those partners to provide relevant concepts, principals, and guidance as a resource for emergency managers and planners. Lessons learned from recent disasters, to include hurricanes, wildfires, and floods, have highlighted the value of enacting a zone-phased approach to evacuation and shelter-in-place, enabling jurisdictions to move as few people as necessary. Sheltering-in-place populations that are not directly in harm's way, rather than having them evacuate, can help jurisdictions reduce costs and resource requirements, and limit the negative impacts of evacuations, while promoting improved response and quicker re-entry and recovery.

24. The Deadliest Flu: The Complete Story of the Discovery and Reconstruction of the 1918 Pandemic Virus

The 100-year anniversary of the 1918 pandemic and the 10-year anniversary of the 2009 H1N1 pandemic are milestones that provide an opportunity to reflect on the groundbreaking work that led to the discovery, sequencing and reconstruction of the 1918 pandemic flu virus. Read more from CDC [here](#).

25. Five-Year Analysis Shows Continued Deficiencies in Antibiotic Development

The Pew Charitable Trusts has tracked the pipeline of antibiotics in clinical development since 2014 and has aggregated updates into an interactive tool that illustrates trends in the pipeline—as drugs are either approved, discontinued from development, or remain stagnant. This longitudinal assessment underscores the long-standing

concerns of scientists, doctors, public health officials, and other stakeholders regarding the dangerously low number of antibiotics in development to address current and future patient needs, particularly for treating the most urgent bacterial threats, such as Gram-negative pathogens, and those prioritized by the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) and the [World Health Organization](#). [Read more](#).

26. The Current Ebola Outbreak and the U.S. Role: An explainer

The Henry J Kaiser Family Foundation issued a [report](#) outlining the current ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the role of the United States.

27. Chemical Suicides: Risk to Emergency Responders

The Department of Health and Human Services Chemical Hazards Emergency Medical Management (CHEMM) offers [Chemical Suicides: The Risk to Emergency Responders](#). The webpage lists toxic gases commonly seen at these incidents and response considerations when managing size up, securing the scene, decontamination, air monitoring and officer safety. CHEMM also offers links to resources from other organizations.

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[PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY CARE](#)

28. Children Count in Disasters

Children are growing up in a world affected by more frequent and intense disasters. The Natural Hazards Center and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention partnered to provide to a wide audience a special collection of recent research on children and disasters. This collection includes original briefs from experts in public health, medicine, psychology, sociology, urban planning, and other disciplines. Read the articles in the series [Children and Disasters Special Collection](#).

29. EMSC Program Reauthorization Act of 2019

Both the House and the Senate passed [H.R. 776](#), the EMSC Program Reauthorization Act of 2019, extending the authorization for the EMSC program for another 5 years, until 2024. Congress acted just like they did five years ago to extend the program ahead of schedule (the authorization was set to expire on Sept. 30). H.R. 776 was signed into law by the President on August 22, 2019.

30. NHTSA SCI Releases Report on 2016 Crash

NHTSA Special Crash Investigations (SCI) released their report on a 2016 Albuquerque ambulance crash involving a 6-week old patient ejected from an incubator. The rollover crash occurred at an urban intersection when the ambulance was traveling with lights and sirens activated. Read the July 2019 published report [here](#).

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[RURAL EMS](#)

31. Rural Community Ambulance Agency Transformation Resources

A new resource is available from the Technical Assistance and Services Center (TASC), a program of the National Rural Health Resource Center.

[Rural Community Ambulance Agency Transformation](#) consists of a self-assessment and associated resource collections in the areas of the [Critical Access Hospital Blueprint for Performance Excellence](#), adapted specifically for rural ambulance agencies, from the Baldrige Excellence Framework for Health Care. Leaders are encouraged to complete the assessment periodically to monitor their progress and receive updated resources to guide their continued journey. The self-assessment and resource collections include:

- [Leadership](#)
- [Strategic Planning](#)
- [Patients, Partners, and the Community](#)
- [Data, Collection, Management, and Analysis](#)
- [Operations and Processes](#)
- [Workforce](#)
- [Outcomes and Impact](#)

32. NPR Interviews Wyoming EMS Director on Rural EMS

Wyoming EMS Director and NASEMSO President-Elect Andy Gienapp was interviewed on NYC public radio about the impact of hospital closures on rural EMS. Read more and listen to the show [here](#).

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[INDUSTRY NEWS](#)

33. Distracted Driving a Threat to First Responders

According to a survey released by the [National Safety Council](#) and the [Emergency Responder Safety Institute](#), 71 percent of U.S. drivers take photos or videos when they see an emergency vehicle on the side of the road

responding to a fire or a crash, and sixty percent post to social media. [Read more.](#)

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[RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT](#)

34. Preventing Suicide Among Emergency First Responders

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Emergency Management and Response - Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC) published this list of suicide prevention resources for first responders in [The InfoGram](#).

- [Fire/EMS Helpline](#): 1-888-731-FIRE (3473)
- [CopLine](#): 1-800-267-5463, available for the United States and Canada
- [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#): 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
- [Law Enforcement Suicide Prevention and Awareness](#), International Association of Chiefs of Police
- [Share the Load program](#), National Volunteer Fire Council.
- [Center for Firefighter Behavioral Health](#).
- [First Responder Lifeline substance abuse counseling services](#), American Addiction Centers.
- [Everyone Goes Home resources](#), National Fallen Firefighter Foundation.
- Topic: [Suicide in the Fire Service](#), U.S. Fire Administration.

35. TRAIN Learning Network Offers Free Courses

The Public Health Foundation's [TRAIN.org](#) learning management system offers thousands of free courses across a range of topic areas. Available training dates and registration can be secured through [TRAIN.org](#) for courses for all levels of experience. Public health preparedness professionals who are early in their careers may be interested in exploring two targeted preparedness trainings, which guide the learner through a series of modules to introduce key preparedness concepts.

- Click [here](#) to access the Basics of Public Health Preparedness training plan.
- Click [here](#) to access the Foundations of Public Health Preparedness training plan.

36. Resilience Against Ransomware

The recent ransomware attacks targeting systems across the country are the latest in a string of attacks affecting state and local government partners. The growing number of such attacks highlights the critical importance of making cyber preparedness a priority and taking the necessary steps to secure our networks against adversaries. Prevention is the most effective defense against ransomware.

Three Steps for Resilience Against Ransomware:

1. Back-Up Your Systems – Now (and Daily)

Immediately and regularly back up all critical agency and system configuration information on a separate device and store the backups offline, verifying their integrity and restoration process. If recovering after an attack, restore a stronger system than you lost, fully patched and updated to the latest version.

2. Reinforce Basic Cybersecurity Awareness and Education

Ransomware attacks often require the human element to succeed. Refresh employee training on recognizing cyber threats, phishing and suspicious links - the most common vectors for ransomware attacks. Remind employees of how to report incidents to appropriate IT staff in a timely manner, which should include out-of-band communication paths.

3. Revisit and Refine Cyber Incident Response Plans

Agencies must have a clear plan to address attacks when they occur, including when internal capabilities are overwhelmed. Make sure response plans include how to request assistance from external cyber first responders, such as state agencies, CISA and the MS-ISAC, in the event of an attack.

Additional Resources

- [MS-ISAC Security Primer on Ransomware](#)
- [CISA Tip Sheet on Ransomware](#)
- [NGA Disruption Response Planning Memo](#)
- [NASCIO Cyber Disruption Planning Guide](#)

37. Webinar on NFPA 3000: A Community Approach to Planning for Active Shooter/Hospital Events

On May 1, 2018 the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) released a standard to help communities manage the growing number of mass casualty incidents, including active shooters that continue to occur throughout our nation and the world. The first of its kind, NFPA 3000 was developed to help communities with unified planning, response and recovery. NFPA 3000™(PS) was developed by a 50-member Technical Committee that includes representatives from law enforcement, fire, EMS, facility safety and security, hospitals, universities, private businesses, and federal agencies. This body of knowledge provides the framework that enables communities to establish comprehensive plans, policies, procedures and guidelines for managing ASHER events. The webinar is free for American Trauma Society members and \$15 for non-members. NASEMSO members may also access the webinar for free— review the members list digest for the code or contact [Kathy Robinson](#). [Register here](#).

38. Webinar on Social Media Monitoring in Public Health Emergencies

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and the New York City Department of Health offer a recording of the webinar [Social Media Monitoring in Public Health Emergencies](#), showing viewers the benefits of social media when monitoring and responding to the spread of (mis)information during public health emergencies.

This 2-hour webinar recording describes the importance of being aware of public sentiment during a public health emergency. It identifies how to use social media bidirectionally to both provide updates and collect public feedback, and shares scalable approaches for managing social media monitoring regardless of organizational budget. This is a

recorded webinar, originally part of a multi-part series to help local health departments build capacity to engage in public health communication. Registration is required to view the recording.

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[UPCOMING EVENTS](#)

Send calendar events to robinson@nasemsso.org

[EARTH EX 2019](#)

August 21, 2019 – October 31, 2019

[NASEMSO Western Plains Region Meeting](#)

September 23-25, 2019 in Kansas City, MO

[Emergency Nurses Association Annual Meeting](#)

September 29, 2019 – October 2, 2019 in Austin, TX

[NASEMSO West Region Meeting](#)

October 1-3, 2019 in Portland, OR

[2019 FARB Regulatory Law Seminar](#)

October 3-6, 2019 in St Louis, MO

[EMS World Expo](#)

October 14-18, 2019 in New Orleans, LA

[American College of Emergency Physicians Annual Meeting](#)

October 27-30, 2019 in Denver, CO

[American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress](#)

October 27-31, 2019 in San Francisco, CA

[NASEMSO South Region Meeting](#)

October 29-30, 2019 in Georgetown, TX

[NASEMSO East Region Meeting](#)

October 30, 2019 in Burlington, VT

[American Public Health Association's Annual Meeting and Expo](#)

November 2-6, 2019 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

[Air Medical Transport Conference](#)

November 4-6, 2019 in Atlanta, GA

[American Ambulance Association Annual Meeting](#)

November 4-6, 2019 in Nashville, TN

[Virginia EMS Symposium \(40th Anniversary\)](#)

November 6-10, 2019 in Norfolk, VA

[IAEM EMEX and Annual Conference](#)

November 15-20, 2019 in Savannah, Georgia

[National Association of State EMS Officials Annual Meeting](#)

June 15-18, 2020 in Reno, NV

See more EMS Events on the [NASEMSO Calendar](#).

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Please use these links to access monthly course schedules and registration info related to:

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- [NAEMSE Instructor Course Level 2](#)
- [CAAHEP Accreditation Update & Evaluating Student Competency Workshops](#)
- [NAEMSE/NREMT Regional Scenario Development Workshops](#)

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