Resolution 2022-03

Requirement for Accreditation of Paramedic Programs



Whereas, in Resolution 2010-04, the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) resolved to support the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians' (NREMT) decision of 2013 to require graduation from a nationally accredited paramedic education program as a prerequisite for personnel to gain National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Certification as a paramedic; and

Whereas, NASEMSO recognizes the importance of the 1996 *EMS Agenda for the Future* calling for a national standard for EMS personnel; and

Whereas, NASEMSO endorsed by resolution the principles of *EMS Agenda: 2050* and encouraged our partner organizations and associations to do likewise;

Whereas, National EMS Certification and National EMS Education Program Accreditation are identified by *EMS Education Agenda for the Future: A Systems Approach (Education Agenda)* as components of the system for preparing qualified EMS personnel; and

Whereas, the *Education Agenda* calls for a single National EMS Certification agency and a single National EMS Education Program Accreditation agency, and calls for all states to adopt National EMS Certification and National EMS Education Program Accreditation; and

Whereas, the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) issues the national accreditation to paramedic education programs and CAAHEP's Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the EMS Professions (CoAEMSP), through whose many outreach efforts has made significant progress in assisting paramedic education programs to achieve accreditation; and

Whereas, NASEMSO recognizes and respects that the regulation and licensure of EMS personnel and EMS education programs is the sole jurisdictional authority and responsibility of the state EMS offices; and

Whereas, during their June 2022 meeting the NREMT Board adopted resolution 22-RESOLUTION-13: Resolution on Updated Eligibility Criteria for Initial EMS Education permitting candidates from state-approved but non-accredited education programs to obtain National EMS Certification at the paramedic level; and

Whereas, the NREMT resolution is in direct conflict with NASEMSO Resolution 2010-04; and the *Education Agenda*;

Now, therefore be it resolved that NASEMSO calls upon the NREMT to require graduation from a nationally accredited paramedic education program as a requirement for personnel to gain national EMS certification at the paramedic level; and

Be it further resolved, NASEMSO calls upon the NREMT, as an established expert in development and administration of EMS examinations, to collaborate with states that may need an assessment examination tool for state-only licensure.

Submitted by Donnie Woodyard (CO)

Signed this 23rd day of June, 2022.

Alisa Williams 2021-2023 President

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Jason Rhodes 2021-2023 Secretary

Intended Distribution:

• Partner Organizations and Associations