

NAEMT Position Statement

Accreditation of Training Programs

Statement: NAEMT supports the next step in implementing the National EMS Education Agenda for the Future: Accreditation of Paramedic Training Programs.

In support of the National EMS Educational Agenda for the Future: A Systems Approach (2000) and the Institute of Medicine's report "EMS at the Crossroads" (2006), NAEMT believes in the linkage of accreditation and certification. We recognize the value of a single national educational program accreditation and a single national EMS certification. We believe that the EMS profession and EMS educational systems have matured to the point that graduation from a nationally accredited program should be part of the eligibility for the national certification of paramedics on January 1, 2013.

Background: Peer reviewed research supports the position that graduates from nationally accredited programs perform better than those from non-accredited schools. Together, educational program accreditation and certification provide a strong system that ensures high quality education, consistent instruction, and student and public protection. The linkage is an essential step in the maturation of EMS.

Fulfilling these final two steps is essential for the professionalization of EMS.

Adopted: May 16, 2008