

MEDIA INFORMATION



About NAEMT

Formed in 1975 and more than 50,000 members strong, the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT) is the only national association representing the professional interests of all emergency and mobile healthcare practitioners, including emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians, emergency medical responders, paramedics, advanced practice paramedics, critical care paramedics, flight paramedics, community paramedics, and mobile integrated healthcare practitioners. NAEMT members work in all sectors of EMS, including government agencies, fire departments, hospital-based ambulance services, private companies, industrial and special operations settings, and in the military.



About EMS

EMS practitioners provide prehospital emergency medical care. People call EMS when they have had an accident or are experiencing a medical emergency, including heart attack, difficulty breathing, a fall, burns, drowning, cardiac arrest, stroke, drug overdose or acute illness. EMS practitioners can provide both basic and advanced medical care at the scene of an emergency and en route to a hospital.

CONTACT

kathleen.taormina@naemt.org
www.naemt.org | 1-800-346-2368

NAEMT: A RECOGNIZED EMS LEADER

As the leading organization in emergency and mobile healthcare, NAEMT's membership is inclusive of all delivery models and has a global reach of more than 100,000 EMS professionals. We are at the forefront of national discussions and initiatives that have significant impact on the EMS profession. Most importantly, we foster the critical elements that ensure an integrated role for EMS in our nation's changing healthcare system by supporting innovation, education and advocacy.

Membership

- As a national membership association, NAEMT offers its Agency and Individual Members thousands of dollars in benefits, including a group purchasing membership, education scholarships, conference registration and publication subscriptions, as well as discounts on education resources, EMS merchandise, insurance coverage, and more. View the full list in the Member Benefits section of www.naemt.org.
- A 16-member Board of Directors, representing every region in the United States, leads NAEMT. Board members volunteer their time and effort to furthering the mission of the association. Committees assist in carrying out the work of the association.

Education

- NAEMT education programs trained more than 70,000 students in 50 countries in 2014, and we have more than 1,800 course sites around the world.
- NAEMT's reputation for innovative EMS education programs has earned a loyal following for the best evidence-based education available. NAEMT courses are accredited by the Continuing Education Coordinating Board for Emergency Medical Services (CECBEMS) and recognized by the National Registry of EMTs (NREMT). NAEMT courses include:
 - Advanced Medical Life Support (AMLS)
 - Bleeding Control for the Injured (B-Con)
 - Emergency Pediatric Care (EPC)
 - EMS Safety
 - Geriatric Education for EMS (GEMS)
 - NAEMT Instructor Course
 - Prehospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS)
 - Principles of Ethics and Personal Leadership (PEPL)
 - Tactical Casualty Combat Care (TCCC)
 - Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC)
 - Trauma First Response (TFR)



CONTACT



Advocacy

- NAEMT is the national united voice of EMS on issues impacting the ability of EMS practitioners to effectively serve their patients, including:
 - Mobile integrated healthcare and community paramedicine
 - Disaster preparedness
 - Military medic transition programs
 - Pay, benefits, work environments and safety
- In 2014, NAEMT's advocacy efforts led the campaign for the Field EMS Bill to be successfully introduced in both the U.S. Senate and House, gain 34 co-sponsors and support from 50 emergency medical organizations. NAEMT has also been key to the passage of legislation important to EMS and its practitioners.
- EMS On The Hill Day, hosted by NAEMT each year, is the national advocacy event for all EMS professionals to meet with their congressional leaders on Capitol Hill and advocate for the passage of key EMS legislation. More than 200 EMS professionals attend from nearly all states and the District of Columbia.
- NAEMT publishes position statements on issues important to EMS practitioners which can be found in the Advocacy section of www.naemt.org.



EMS: AN ESSENTIAL PUBLIC FUNCTION

What is an EMS system?

EMS is more than an ambulance service. It includes a call center that receives 911 calls and dispatches help, those who respond first (police officers and firefighters), an ambulance transportation team of EMTs and/or Paramedics, physicians and nurses who provide advice via radio or phone, air medical services (helicopters and small airplanes), hospital receiving facilities, and governmental and medical oversight.

Who provides EMS?

When a person becomes ill or injured and dials 911, the call is answered by a dispatcher who is trained to obtain key information about the location and type of emergency. The dispatcher also may give patient care instructions while sending emergency responders to the scene, including:

- Emergency Medical Responders
- Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs)
- Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians
- Paramedics

The training level needed for EMS practitioners is a state decision. Each level is trained to perform different skills to assist patients. EMS practitioners work under protocols approved by a physician medical director, who oversees the care of patients in the EMS system and is knowledgeable about patient care interventions and how EMS systems deliver care. Typically, EMS medical directors work in conjunction with local EMS leaders to assure quality patient care. EMS care may be provided by private ambulance companies, fire or police departments, a public EMS agency, a hospital or by a combination of these. EMS practitioners may be paid workers or community volunteers.

What skills does an EMT perform?

EMTs can perform CPR, artificial ventilations, oxygen administration, basic airway management, defibrillation using an AED, spinal immobilization, monitoring of vital signs and bandaging/splinting. They also may administer nitroglycerin, glucose, epinephrine and albuterol in special circumstances.

What skills does a Paramedic perform?

A Paramedic has extensive training in patient assessment and participates in a variety of clinical experiences during training. He or she can perform all of the skills performed by an EMT-Basic, plus advanced airway management such as endotracheal intubation, electrocardiographs (ECGs), insertion of intravenous lines, administration of numerous emergency medications, and assessment of ECG tracings and defibrillation.

Do EMTs and Paramedics need a license?

Every state in the United States has a lead EMS agency or state office of EMS that determines requirements of EMS professionals in their state. Some state EMS offices issue licenses to EMS providers; others do not. All EMS practitioners are required to complete continuing education classes so they can stay current in medical treatment standards and protocols.

CONTACT