



July 15, 2022

On behalf of the National Association of Emergency Medical Services Physicians (NAEMSP) Colorado Chapter, we offer the following statement regarding the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians **22-RESOLUTION-13, “Resolution on Updated Eligibility Criteria for Initial EMS Education”**:

The National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) has recently proposed Resolution 22-13 changing the initial certification requirements criteria for the Full Education Pathway for all levels to include successful completion of an EMS education program that meets or exceeds the National Emergency Medical Services Education Standards and:

- has been awarded CAAHEP-accreditation, or
- has been issued a CoAEMSP “Letter of Review,” or
- has received state EMS office approval.

The NAEMSP Colorado Chapter Board of Directors, on behalf of the membership of the NAEMSP Colorado Chapter, have significant concerns over the proposed addition of ‘*has received state EMS office approval*’ criterion proposed to be added by NREMT. Specifically, the NAEMSP Colorado Chapter would like to highlight the following points regarding the process and decision proposed:

- Robust stakeholder discussions conventionally occur *prior* to the release of significant policy change. As such, NREMT should engage stakeholders in the EMS education and certification process, especially when the integrity of the EMS education system in the United States is potentially undermined.
- Removing national accreditation standards for EMS initial education eliminates baseline education standards and disrupts the unified approach to EMS initial education.

In particular, allowing for isolated state EMS office approval of education programs will result in various educational standards, which will result in the following:

- **Obviate the need for NREMT certification** as the EMS educational standards foundation of certification will be eroded by removing national level educational standards.
- **Increase time and monetary costs to EMS agencies and medical directors** who will have to assess the competencies and provide gap training to meet state minimum standards for EMS clinicians who wish to work in a different state from where they were trained.
- **Eliminate the ease of reciprocity** for EMS clinicians searching for job opportunities throughout the United States due to disruption of nationalized educational standards, a founding principle of NREMT certification.

- **Disrupt the EMS COMPACT** which is founded on current nationally accepted EMS education and certification standards between states. This disruption will affect interstate emergency response and disaster response as well as limit EMS clinician flexibility on transferring between EMS COMPACT states.
- **Undermine decades of effort to develop and implement national standards** for EMS education, certification, and standardized EMS provider levels.

Based on these concerns, the NAEMSP Colorado Chapter strongly encourages the NREMT to reject Resolution 22-13 and continue to uphold the current EMS education standards. Instead, we recommend the NREMT work with states and education programs to develop a more robust EMS education system based on national standards to assure consumer protection and EMS clinician opportunities for interstate career opportunities.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to reach out to our organization with any questions or ways we can assist you.

Sincerely,



Jeremy DeWall, MD, FAEMS, NRP
President, NAEMSP Colorado Chapter
On behalf of the NAEMSP Colorado Chapter Board of Directors and Members