The National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE) does not support National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians Resolution 22-13. Allowing non-accredited paramedic program graduates to challenge the National Registry Paramedic exam does not advance the profession of Paramedicine and Emergency Medical Services.

The following statements are from a recent common ground position statement published by NAEMSE regarding EMS Education and Degrees1:

Accreditation adds value and benefit to EMS educational programs and learners. As identified in previous seminal national EMS documents, there should be a single national accreditor for EMS education focused on the scope of practice and educational standards required to enter the profession. This national accreditation agency should be made up of a wide range of national stakeholders, serve as a resource, advocate for education programs, and focus on program outcomes and creditable education. All of these items are in addition to the added value from stakeholder participation and state leadership at the local program level.

Consistent with previous seminal national EMS documents, our profession is best served by a single national certification organization with a process for assessing initial and continued competency of EMS candidates and practitioners. The certification organization should follow accepted high-stakes examination practices defined within the “Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing.” This single national certification organization should have broad representation from professional stakeholders with a mission of protecting the public. Additionally, the single national certification organization should work closely and in partnership with industry stakeholders, including state EMS offices, local EMS and fire agencies, educational programs, medical directors, and others in carrying out its mission.

After receiving comments from NAEMSE membership and hosting a listening session at our 2022 Symposium, NAEMSE reaffirms these statements and our support for both a single national certifying organization and a responsive national paramedic program accreditor. NAEMSE does recognize there are systemic concerns with merit regarding existing paramedic program accreditation and national certification. We welcome continued dialogue and meaningful steps forward together as a profession.

Citation