



NAEMSE Statement on Current Events

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As our members, graduates, and students respond to events around the country, The National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE) reaffirms our commitment to racial justice, equality in patient care and education, and to doing everything we can to recognize the inherent value in every human life.

We recognize the systemic inequities in care which unfortunately exist and know we must continue the hard work we have begun to address and mitigate those disparities. Although our Annual Symposium was cancelled in response to the pandemic, we were planning to host a national summit to discuss concrete steps we can take to address those disparities. We remain committed to continuing the conversation, either virtually or in person, until our goal of equal care for all patients is met.

NAEMSE members authored, and our leadership approved, a position paper (<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10903127.2019.1709001>) on 7/15/2019. This paper advocated for the following:

1. All members of our society, regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, age, national origin, native language, religion, socioeconomic status, cultural background, or sexual orientation have equal access to EMS education.
2. All members of our society should have access to, and receive, identical high-quality, and evidence-based care.
3. EMS educators should acquire, utilize, and teach the ideals of cultural competency and humility.
4. A diverse EMS workforce, representative of the patients it serves, is crucial to promote understanding among EMTs and Paramedics, patients, and other providers in the healthcare system, and to eliminate disparities in care experienced by minority patients.
5. EMS training programs should increase efforts to recruit, enroll, and retain minority students.
6. EMS employers should increase efforts to recruit, hire, and retain minority providers.

We believe these steps are a good start to ensure all students are welcome in our programs, that all patients cared for by our graduates receive the best possible care, and that we do more to increase the diversity of our workforce, so we better represent the communities we care for. We are committed to continuing to do this work, to listen, to learn and to move our association, and our profession forward.

NAEMSE thanks PEC who agreed to open this position paper to anyone to read at no cost.