

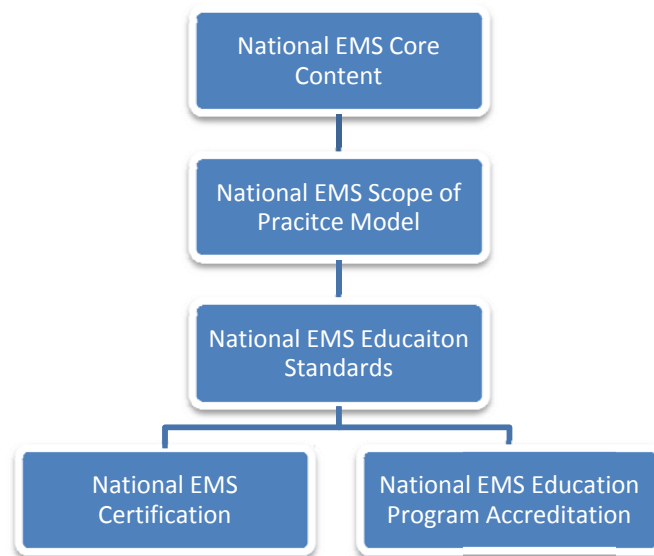
# Paramedic Program Directors Knowledge, Attitudes, and Barriers to Accreditation

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*A study conducted by the National Registry of EMTs in cooperation with the National Association of State EMS Officials and the Committee on Accreditation for the EMS Professions.*

## Introduction

In 2000, The EMS Education Agenda for the Future: A Systems Approach, proposed a vision for the future of EMS education and the credentialing of EMS professionals. The systematic approach is intended to improve efficiency, enhance consistency, and increase credibility for the EMS profession. The proposed system included five components and two processes as illustrated below:



The Education Agenda specifically discusses the relationship between National EMS Certification and National EMS Education Program Accreditation, in that “graduation from an accredited program is required to participate in National EMS Certification, which is based on the levels defined by the National EMS Scope of Practice Model...National EMS Certification is one requirement for state licensing of EMS Professional.” In 2007, as part of a series on the future of emergency care in the United States, the Institute of Medicine recommended that (Institute of Medicine of the National Academies, 2007) “states should accept national certification as a prerequisite for state licensure and local credentialing of emergency medical services providers” (recommendation 4.3).

The combination of national accreditation of EMS programs and national certification will provide greater assurance of the quality and consistency of both the process and outcome of EMS education. Accreditation represents a method to assure students and the community that an educational program meets uniform, nationally accepted standards while enabling, even encouraging, creative and flexible methods to meet or exceed accreditation standards.

A number of research projects have been conducted to evaluate the relationship between accreditation and program quality. A 2006 project concluded that “students who attended an accredited paramedic program were more likely to achieve a passing score on a national paramedic credentialing examination” (Dickison, Hosler, Platt, & Wang) and Fernandez and colleagues were able to identify national program accreditation status as one of the program characteristics associated with the probability of attaining national paramedic certification (2008).

While the ultimate goal stated in the Education Agenda is for “National EMS Education Program Accreditation [to be] applied to all nationally recognized provider levels and [be] universal,” it is clear that this is a long term goal. The IoM report also recommended that “states should require national accreditation of paramedic education programs” (recommendation 4.2).

The linkage of certification and accreditation is just one of the many interactions between the five component areas called for in the Education Agenda, and the National Registry of EMTs (NREMT) Board of Directors had previously expressed support for the system proposed in that document. EMS is currently the only licensed health care profession that does not require graduation from a nationally accredited educational program as a prerequisite to certification. This has been identified as a hindrance to the advancement of the EMS profession.

The NREMT’s Board of Directors discussed at the June 2007 Board meeting the goal of a linkage between graduation from an accredited program and certification eligibility as called for in the Education Agenda and IoM report. The June motion was tabled to allow discussion to occur. Board members were instructed to obtain feedback on the tabled motion. At the November 2007 meeting, the board, after hearing from members and based on their input passed a motion to require accreditation by June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013.

The Board decision was communicated to the EMS community in a number of ways, including electronic communiqués sent directly to State EMS Directors, State EMS Training Coordinators, and EMS Educational Program Directors and inclusion in the NREMT Spring 2008 Newsletter. While not a new issue, this action generated considerable discussion within EMS and EMS educational communities and a sense of urgency among non-accredited paramedic educational programs. This was discussed at the June 10, 2008 NREMT Board of Directors meeting, and Jimm Murray, NREMT Board Chairman, committed (in a communiqué released on July 13, 2008) to “monitor this dynamic situation and [remain] mindful that we all need to be flexible in our approach.”

In October 2008, The National Association of State EMS Officials (NAEMSO) passed a resolution (2008-03) at its annual meeting calling for “NREMT to join with NASEMSO to assist its members in developing plans by November 1, 2010 to achieve accreditation of paramedic education programs” and “to collaborate with the Association in reviewing and implementing plans”. This research project is an extension of the NREMT Board’s commitment as well as the first step in developing plans to achieve accreditation.

A *need* is defined as a gap between the current condition and the desired one, and this project is designed to identify the current state of paramedic educational program accreditation in the US. It is hoped that this project will be used to help determine what needs to occur to achieve paramedic educational program accreditation and to help stakeholders and policy makers alike make informed decisions on how to overcome the legitimate barriers standing between the current status and future possibility.

## Methods

This project is the combined effort of many individuals representing various stakeholders in the issue of paramedic program accreditation. It is designed to gather empirical data as to the knowledge and attitudes of program directors of currently operating and state approved paramedic education programs. We also sought to identify barriers to achieving accreditation by the January 1, 2013 target set by the NREMT Board of Directors.

A committee was formed with diverse representation from the NREMT, NASEMSO, CoAEMSP, and the EMS educational committee. A concerted effort was made to ensure a diversity of opinion regarding the need and utility of educational program accreditation as well as differing perspectives and roles. A list of committee members may be found in Appendix A.

The committee met first on March 12-13, 2009 at the NREMT offices in Columbus, OH. The primary purpose of the meeting was to generate the survey instrument that would be used for data collection. A draft was developed with numerous follow-ups to clarify the survey items. The survey was then pilot tested on 10 current paramedic program directors. Based on the data and feedback from a standardized cognitive debriefing protocol, changes were made to the survey to improve clarity of a number of items.

Approximately 6 weeks prior to launch of the survey, registered State EMS Training Coordinators were contacted and asked to verify the list of state approved EMS educational programs in the NREMT EdNet system. A bi-annual approval of state approved EMS educational programs is part of the regular NREMT operations, but was timed to coincide with data collection for this project. We also contacted the five states that do not require NREMT paramedic certification for initial state license and requested a list of the paramedic education programs approved in those states.

Approximately 3 weeks prior to launch, with the assistance of NAEMSO, an e-mail was sent to all State EMS Directors informing them of the survey and requesting that they encourage the participation of the paramedic program directors within their state.

On June 5, 2009, the NREMT database was queried for all state approved paramedic educational programs yielding 1192 potential programs. Once duplicates (programs with the same name, address and program director) were removed and programs not registered on the NREMT database, but state approved from non-NREMT states were added, a total of 1139 unique, state approved paramedic programs were identified, of which a program director's e-mail address was complete for 1100 programs. An e-mail pre-notification was sent to the program director's e-mail address on record, with 73 undeliverable addresses. The pre-notification informed potential participations of the project and that they would receive an official e-mail request for participation on June 10, 2009.

Thru this project, anytime an undeliverable address or change in program director was encountered, the program was contacted by telephone and/or an extensive internet search was conducted. If a program director was able to be identified, an e-mail invitation was sent. This protocol was followed throughout the project.

On June 10, 2009, e-mail invitations to participate were sent to 1040 program directors (12 initially undeliverable e-mail addresses were resolved). Reminder e-mails were sent to all non-responding participants at one week intervals (June 17, June 24, and July 1, 2009). Any potential participant, who did not respond to three e-mail requests, was contacted by phone at approximately one week intervals at least 4 times beginning in July 2009. Voice mail messages were left encouraging participation and asking that the program director contact the NREMT Research Director by phone with any questions or to receive another electronic invitation. If the program director was contacted by phone, the operator offered to complete the survey immediately. If the participant refused, the operator attempted to secure an agreement to complete the survey, the e-mail address was confirmed, and another e-mail invitation was sent at 4:00 pm that day.

According to this data collection protocol, all 1137 potential responders fall under one of the following response categories:

<b>Complete</b>	Program director participated in survey
<b>Refusal</b>	Program director explicitly refused to participate by phone or electronically
<b>Ineligible</b>	Program director indicated that (despite being state approved to do so), they do not and have no plans to, offer paramedic educational programs leading to initial certification/ licensure
<b>Defunct</b>	The program is unreachable, no website, AND had no graduates
<b>Unreachable</b>	The program director was unable to be contacted by repeated e-mails (at least 4) and phone calls (at least 4).
<b>Inactive</b>	The program director indicated that the program is not currently offering paramedic educational programs leading to initial certification/ licensure, but may do so in the future

Following guidelines by the American Association of Public Opinion Research, response rate is calculated as follows:

$$RR = \frac{Complete}{1139 - (Ineligible + defunct + Inactive + Unreachable)}$$

Response Rate:

$$RR = \frac{706}{1139 - (58 + 10 + 248 + 22)} = 88\%$$

The committee reviewed preliminary data on August, 2009. During the meeting the committee reviewed the responses to the survey based upon accreditation status, program size, community size, and performance on the national paramedic certification examination. These data will be helpful in future discussions on strategies to implement national accreditation.

During the discussion, a concern was voiced that the preliminary data included programs that were inactive. A committee decision was made to report data that did not include inactive programs (n=248). One hundred and eighty (180) programs who completed the survey were inactive, and are not reported in the national data. This report includes data from 524 programs that completed the survey (not every question was answered by every program).



<b>What are your current clinical credentials? (please choose all that apply)</b>	
<b>N=524</b>	Percent
First Responder	0.2%
EMT-Basic	1.4%
EMT-Intermediate	2.7%
Paramedic	74.9%
Licensed Practical Nurse	1.5%
Registered Nurse	18.2%
Physician	0.6%
I have not obtained any clinical credentials	0.6%

<b>What is the highest level of education you have completed?</b>	
<b>N=524</b>	Percent
Some high school, but did not graduate	0.0%
High school graduate/ GED	2.5%
Some college	16.2%
Associate degree	16.6%
Bachelor's degree	38.0%
Master's degree	23.3%
Doctorate degree	3.4%

<b>Which of the following best describes the sponsor of your paramedic education program?</b>	
<b>N=524</b>	Percent
Community college	34.0%
Hospital	18.1%
Four-year college/university	12.0%
Private EMS agency operated academy	7.8%
Public EMS agency operated academy	3.6%
Fire-based agency operated academy	6.9%
Secondary/vocational/technical school	8.4%
Proprietary school/small business/corporation	8.6%
Industrial	0.4%
Military	0.2%

<b>Is your education program currently nationally accredited by CoAEMSP/CAAHEP?</b>	
<b>N=524</b>	Percent
Yes, we are currently accredited	27.9%
We have submitted our self-study but are not yet accredited	3.4%
No, we are not currently accredited	68.7%

<b>Are you currently working to achieve accreditation?</b>	
<b>N=359</b>	Percent
Yes	46.0%
No, but will do if required	19.5%
I have no intention of becoming accredited	10.0%
I have not decided whether I will seek accreditation	24.5%

<b>Based on your program sponsorship, do you believe that you meet the sponsorship requirements according to the CoAEMSP Standards and Guidelines?</b>	
<b>N=377</b>	Percent
Yes	54.1%
No	15.4%
I don't know	30.5%

<b>Is your institution accredited by a regional organization and/or national career-related accrediting organizations?</b>	
<b>N=520</b>	Percent
Yes	53.9%
No	39.8%
I don't know	6.4%

<b>Your paramedic program director is primarily:</b>	
<b>N=520</b>	Percent
Full-time	76.4%
Part-time	23.7%

<b>Which of the following best describes the community in which your program is located?</b>	
<b>N=520</b>	Percent
Rural area (less than 2,500 people)	4.4%
Small town (2,500-24,999 people)	14.2%
Medium town (25,000-74,999 people)	24.6%
Large town (75,000-149,000 people)	12.7%
Mid-sized city (less than 500,000 people)	16.7%
Suburb/fringe of a mid-sized city	2.5%
Large City (500,000 or more people)	17.1%
Suburb/fringe of a large city	7.7%

<b>How would you rate your understanding of the following standards of CoAEMSP/CAAHEP?</b>				
<b>N=520</b>	Not at all	A little	Much	Very Much
Institutional Sponsorship	8.7%	33.1%	31.2%	27.1%
Program goals	6.4%	25.6%	37.7%	30.4%
Hospital clinical rotations	6.0%	24.4%	36.0%	33.7%
Field internships	6.4%	24.4%	35.0%	34.2%
Program director responsibilities	6.0%	23.9%	32.1%	38.1%
Program director qualifications	6.5%	22.9%	29.4%	41.2%
Medical director responsibilities	6.5%	24.4%	35.8%	33.3%
Medical director qualifications	6.4%	24.4%	33.3%	36.0%
Faculty responsibilities	6.2%	26.9%	33.3%	33.7%
Faculty qualifications	6.4%	28.5%	31.7%	33.5%
Curriculum	6.5%	23.5%	37.1%	32.9%
Program evaluation	7.5%	29.0%	37.3%	26.2%
Student evaluation	6.9%	28.7%	36.7%	27.7%
Overall accreditation process	8.5%	33.3%	34.4%	23.9%

Please answer the following according to the CoAEMSP Standards and Guidelines			
<b>N=520</b>	True	False	I don't know
The program director must instruct at least 50% of the course	9.0%	70.0%	21.0%
The program director is responsible for the administration, organization, and supervision of the program	91.5%	1.2%	7.3%
The program director is responsible for the educational quality review and improvement	87.7%	4.0%	8.3%
The medical director is responsible for approving all of the medical contact of the course	81.5%	7.9%	10.6%
Paramedic students must perform at least 5 live patient intubations in the operating room	35.2%	36.7%	28.1%
The program sponsor is ultimately responsible to ensure that all standards are met	66.4%	16.9%	16.7%
The medical director must attest to the entry level competence of each student	63.1%	18.1%	18.9%
The sponsoring institution must be affiliated with a Community College or University	37.1%	45.8%	17.1%
The paramedic program must have an advisory board that meets twice a year	64.4%	16.0%	19.6%
The paramedic program must have full time clerical support	30.4%	41.2%	28.5%
Students must have access to sufficient number of patients that represents the spectrum of problems encountered in the field	86.5%	2.3%	11.2%
Faculty must be nationally certified as a paramedic	21.5%	54.0%	24.4%
The paramedic program must file an annual report with the CoAEMSP	75.4%	3.1%	21.5%

<b>How much do you agree/disagree on the following? A single national EMS paramedic education accreditation...</b>		
<b>N=518</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree/Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree/Agree</b>
improves a paramedic program	31.5%	68.5%
has long term benefits for students	26.1%	73.9%
will benefit the EMS profession	21.4%	78.6%
is worth the cost	47.7%	52.3%
safeguards the time and money commitment of students	41.9%	58.1%
is a positive move for paramedic education	23.0%	77.0%
is redundant to our state approval process	50.0%	50.0%
will improve public recognition of paramedics as allied health professionals	49.0%	51.0%
will improve peer recognition of paramedics as allied health professionals	42.9%	57.1%
should be required for eligibility of national certification	49.8%	50.2%
promotes continuous quality improvement in paramedic programs	25.1%	74.9%
will produce better clinicians	49.8%	50.2%
will have little to no effect on the quality of education provided by my program	47.9%	52.1%
should be required to be eligible for homeland security	61.6%	38.4%
should be required for reciprocity	54.3%	45.8%
should be required to obtain a license in my state	54.8%	45.2%
is a fair process	35.7%	64.3%
is desirable from the students perspective	45.8%	54.3%
will significantly increase the cost to students	41.7%	58.3%

<b>How much do you agree/disagree on the following?</b>				
<b>N=518</b>	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
Paramedic students should be eligible for college credit after successful completion of paramedic school	1.4%	4.4%	41.3%	52.9%
The requirements for accreditation can be achieved by my program	3.9%	12.0%	39.0%	45.2%
If I was paying tuition for one of my children, I would send him/her to an accredited paramedic program	3.3%	26.3%	34.2%	36.3%
I would want an accredited paramedic program graduate to take care of me	9.9%	31.1%	34.4%	24.7%

<b>Accreditation helps me compete with other education programs for scarce resources.</b>	
<b>N=518</b>	Percent
Yes	46.5%
No	53.5%

<b>National accreditation should take the place of state and local program delivery approval.</b>	
<b>N=518</b>	Percent
Yes	32.8%
No	67.2%

<b>To what extent do you believe that the following are barriers to your paramedic program obtaining CoAEMSP/CAAHEP accreditation?</b>			
<b>N=516</b>	<b>Not At All/A Little</b>	<b>Much/Very Much</b>	<b>Unsure</b>
Faculty quality	86.4%	10.5%	3.1%
Medical director qualifications	85.7%	9.9%	4.5%
Equipment and supplies	85.1%	12.2%	2.7%
Student evaluation	84.5%	13.0%	2.5%
Achieving adequate skills	84.5%	12.4%	3.1%
Field Internship affiliations	83.9%	13.2%	2.9%
Hospital/Clinical affiliations	81.8%	15.5%	2.7%
Students pass rates on national/state certification examinations	81.8%	14.0%	4.3%
Classroom/lab facilities	81.2%	15.3%	3.5%
Program director responsibilities	80.4%	15.5%	4.1%
Program evaluation	80.4%	15.5%	4.1%
Computer resources	79.5%	16.9%	3.7%
Medical director responsibilities	78.9%	16.9%	4.3%
Library resources	78.5%	17.6%	3.9%
Achieving adequate patient contacts	77.9%	18.6%	3.5%
Program director qualifications	75.8%	20.2%	4.1%
Student drop-out rates in paramedic programs	75.2%	21.1%	3.7%
Sponsorship	73.6%	20.4%	6.0%
Faculty quantity	71.7%	25.0%	3.3%
Clerical/Support resources	71.1%	25.0%	3.9%
Knowledge about accreditation process	70.9%	24.6%	4.5%
Preceptor education	70.7%	25.4%	3.9%
Operation of multiple campus paramedic programs	70.2%	19.4%	10.5%
Submit a self-study prior to December 31, 2012	69.7%	23.7%	6.6%
Access to pediatric patients	69.6%	26.9%	3.5%
Institutional administration support	65.7%	29.7%	4.7%
CoAEMSP accreditation will require more resources that my program has	65.3%	27.8%	7.0%
Access to live patient intubations	60.7%	34.7%	4.7%
Cost to students	49.6%	43.8%	6.6%
Ongoing cost	49.2%	44.2%	6.6%
Initial cost	47.3%	45.2%	7.6%

<b>Do you have any additional barriers keeping your program from accreditation?</b>	
<b>N=514</b>	Percent
Yes	14.6%
No	85.4%

<b>How much time have you already expended in overcoming barriers to obtaining National EMS Paramedic Educational Program Accreditation?</b>	
<b>N=523</b>	Percent
None (0 hours)	24.3%
A little (1-10 hours)	28.1%
Much (11-40 hours)	21.2%
A great deal (>41 hours)	26.4%

<b>Have you attended an orientation seminar sponsored by CoAEMSP?</b>	
<b>N=523</b>	Percent
Yes	41.9%
No	58.1%

<b>If help in earning National EMS Paramedic Educational Program Accreditation were available, would you use it?</b>	
<b>N=523</b>	Percent
Yes	83.6%
No	16.4%

<b>What are your current clinical credentials?</b>		
	Accredited (n=180)	Non-accredited (n=338)
	Percent	Percent
First Responder	0.0%	0.3%
EMT-Basic	2.8%	0.6%
EMT-Intermediate	6.1%	0.9%
Paramedic	70.0%	77.5%
Licensed Practical Nurse	1.7%	1.5%
Registered Nurse	17.8%	18.3%
Physician	1.1%	0.3%
I have not obtained any clinical credentials	0.6%	0.6%

<b>Which of the following best describes the sponsor of your paramedic education program?</b>		
	Accredited (n=180)	Non-accredited (n=338)
	Percent	Percent
Community college	33.2%	34.4%
Hospital	18.2%	18.1%
Four-year college/university	10.5%	12.8%
Private EMS agency operated academy	9.4%	7.0%
Public EMS agency operated academy	3.3%	3.8%
Fire-based agency operated academy	6.6%	7.0%
Secondary/vocational/technical school	7.2%	9.0%
Proprietary school/small business/corporation	9.9%	7.9%
Industrial	1.1%	0.0%
Military	0.6%	0.0%

<b>What is the highest level of education you have completed?</b>		
	Accredited (n=180)	Non-accredited (n=338)
	Percent	Percent
Some high school, but did not graduate	0.0%	0.0%
High school graduate/ GED	2.8%	2.3%
Some college	17.7%	15.5%
Associate degree	18.2%	15.7%
Bachelor's degree	34.3%	39.9%
Master's degree	23.8%	23.0%
Doctorate degree	3.3%	3.5%

<b>Is your education program currently nationally accredited by CoAEMSP/CAAHEP?</b>		
	Accredited (n=180)	Non-accredited (n=338)
	Percent	Percent
Yes, we are currently accredited	22.1%	30.9%
We have submitted our self-study but are not yet accredited	2.2%	4.1%
No, we are not currently accredited	75.7%	65.0%

<b>Are you currently working to achieve accreditation?</b>		
	Accredited (n=180)	Non-accredited (n=338)
	Percent	Percent
Yes	49.6%	43.7%
No, but will do if required	16.8%	21.2%
I have no intention of becoming accredited	10.2%	9.9%
I have not decided whether I will seek accreditation	23.4%	25.2%

<b>Based on your program sponsorship, do you believe that you meet the sponsorship requirements according to the CoAEMSP Standards and Guidelines</b>		
	Accredited (n=180)	Non-accredited (n=338)
	Percent	Percent
Yes	55.3%	53.4%
No	12.8%	17.0%
I don't know	31.9%	29.7%

<b>Is your institution accredited by a regional organization and/or national career-related accrediting organizations?</b>		
	Accredited (n=180)	Non-accredited (n=338)
	Percent	Percent
Yes	53.9%	53.8%
No	40.6%	39.4%
I don't know	5.6%	6.8%

<b>Your paramedic program director is primarily:</b>		
	Accredited (n=180)	Non-accredited (n=338)
	Percent	Percent
Full-time	80.6%	74.1%
Part-time	19.4%	25.9%

<b>Which of the following best describes the community in which your program is located?</b>		
	Accredited (n=180)	Non-accredited (n=338)
	Percent	Percent
Rural area (less than 2,500 people)	5.0%	4.1%
Small town (2,500-24,999 people)	13.9%	14.4%
Medium town (25,000-74,999 people)	26.7%	23.5%
Large town (75,000-149,000 people)	11.1%	13.5%
Mid-sized city (less than 500,000 people)	18.3%	15.9%
Suburb/fringe of a mid-sized city	3.9%	1.8%
Large City (500,000 or more people)	12.2%	19.7%
Suburb/fringe of a large city	8.9%	7.1%

How would you rate your understanding of the following standards of CoAEMSP/CAAHEP								
(row percentage)	Accredited (n=180)				Non-Accredited (n=338)			
	Not at all	A little	Much	Very Much	Not at all	A little	Much	Very Much
Institutional Sponsorship	8.9%	33.9%	32.2%	25.0%	8.5%	32.7%	30.6%	28.2%
Program goals	6.7%	27.2%	37.8%	28.3%	6.2%	24.7%	37.7%	31.5%
Hospital clinical rotations	4.4%	26.7%	39.4%	29.4%	6.8%	23.2%	34.1%	35.9%
Field internships	5.0%	27.2%	36.7%	31.1%	7.1%	22.9%	34.1%	35.9%
Program director responsibilities	5.0%	23.3%	35.6%	36.1%	6.5%	24.1%	30.3%	39.1%
Program director qualifications	5.0%	25.0%	32.8%	37.2%	7.4%	21.8%	27.7%	43.2%
Medical director responsibilities	4.4%	28.3%	38.3%	28.9%	7.7%	22.4%	34.4%	35.6%
Medical director qualifications	4.4%	28.3%	36.7%	30.6%	7.4%	22.4%	31.5%	38.8%
Faculty responsibilities	5.0%	28.9%	36.7%	29.4%	6.8%	25.9%	31.5%	35.9%
Faculty qualifications	5.0%	31.1%	35.0%	28.9%	7.1%	27.1%	30.0%	35.9%
Curriculum	6.7%	27.2%	35.0%	31.1%	6.5%	21.5%	38.2%	33.8%
Program evaluation	7.2%	31.1%	36.7%	25.0%	7.7%	27.9%	37.7%	26.8%
Student evaluation	6.7%	32.2%	35.6%	25.6%	7.1%	26.8%	37.4%	28.8%
Overall accreditation process	7.2%	37.2%	31.7%	23.9%	9.1%	31.2%	35.9%	23.8%

Please answer the following according to the CoAEMSP Standards and Guidelines						
	Accredited (n=180)			Non-Accredited (n=338)		
	True	False	I don't know	True	False	I don't know
The program director must instruct at least 50% of the course	8.9%	71.7%	19.4%	9.1%	69.1%	21.8%
The program director is responsible for the administration, organization, and supervision of the program	94.4%	0.6%	5.0%	90.0%	1.5%	8.5%
The program director is responsible for the educational quality review and improvement	89.4%	5.0%	5.6%	86.8%	3.5%	9.7%
The medical director is responsible for approving all of the medical contact of the course	85.0%	7.2%	7.8%	79.7%	8.2%	12.1%
Paramedic students must perform at least 5 live patient intubations in the operating room	34.4%	38.3%	27.2%	35.6%	35.9%	28.5%
The program sponsor is ultimately responsible to ensure that all standards are met	67.8%	18.9%	13.3%	65.6%	15.9%	18.5%
The medical director must attest to the entry level competence of each student	63.9%	18.3%	17.8%	62.7%	17.9%	19.4%
The sponsoring institution must be affiliated with a Community College or University	42.2%	42.8%	15.0%	34.4%	47.4%	18.2%
The paramedic program must have an advisory board that meets twice a year	63.9%	18.3%	17.8%	64.7%	14.7%	20.6%
The paramedic program must have full time clerical support	33.3%	38.9%	27.8%	28.8%	42.4%	28.8%
Students must have access to sufficient number of patients that represents the spectrum of problems encountered in the field	88.9%	2.8%	8.3%	85.3%	2.1%	12.7%
Faculty must be nationally certified as a paramedic	23.9%	50.0%	26.1%	20.3%	56.2%	23.5%
The paramedic program must file an annual report with the CoAEMSP	75.0%	4.4%	20.6%	75.6%	2.4%	22.1%

<b>How much do you agree/disagree on the following? A single national EMS paramedic education accreditation...</b>				
	<b>Accredited (n=180)</b>		<b>Non-Accredited (n=338)</b>	
	<b>Strongly Agree/ Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree/ Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree/ Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree/ Disagree</b>
will benefit the EMS profession	76.7%	23.3%	79.6%	20.4%
is a positive move for paramedic education	74.5%	25.5%	78.4%	21.6%
promotes continuous quality improvement in paramedic programs	72.8%	27.2%	76.1%	23.9%
has long term benefits for students	69.4%	30.6%	76.4%	23.6%
improves a paramedic program	67.2%	32.8%	69.2%	30.8%
will significantly increase the cost to students	65.6%	34.4%	54.4%	45.6%
is a fair process	59.4%	40.6%	66.8%	33.2%
will have little to no effect on the quality of education provided by my program	57.2%	42.8%	49.4%	50.6%
safeguards the time and money commitment of students	56.6%	43.4%	58.9%	41.1%
will improve peer recognition of paramedics as allied health professionals	56.1%	43.9%	57.7%	42.3%
is redundant to our state approval process	53.3%	46.7%	48.2%	51.8%
is desirable from the students perspective	50.0%	50.0%	56.5%	43.5%
will produce better clinicians	48.3%	51.7%	51.2%	48.8%
will improve public recognition of paramedics as allied health professionals	47.3%	52.7%	52.9%	47.1%
should be required for eligibility of national certification	45.6%	54.4%	52.6%	47.4%
is worth the cost	43.9%	56.1%	56.8%	43.2%
should be required for reciprocity	41.6%	58.4%	47.9%	52.1%
should be required to obtain a license in my state	40.5%	59.5%	47.7%	52.3%
should be required to be eligible for homeland security	33.8%	66.2%	40.8%	59.2%

<b>Do you have any additional barriers keeping your program from accreditation?</b>		
	Accredited (n=180)	Non-accredited (n=338)
	Percent	Percent
Yes	12.9%	15.5%
No	87.2%	84.5%

<b>How much time have you already expended in overcoming barriers to obtaining National EMS Paramedic Educational Program Accreditation?</b>		
	Accredited (n=180)	Non-accredited (n=338)
	Percent	Percent
None (0 hours)	23.2%	24.9%
A little (1-10 hours)	28.2%	28.1%
Much (11-40 hours)	22.1%	20.8%
A great deal (>41 hours)	26.5%	26.3%

<b>Have you attended an orientation seminar sponsored by CoAEMSP?</b>		
	Accredited (n=180)	Non-accredited (n=338)
	Percent	Percent
Yes	44.2%	40.6%
No	55.8%	59.4%

<b>If help in earning National EMS Paramedic Educational Program Accreditation were available, would you use it?</b>		
	Accredited (n=180)	Non-accredited (n=338)
	Percent	Percent
Yes	81.8%	84.5%
No	18.2%	15.5%

**\*\*All further analysis only includes those programs who are not currently nationally accredited.\*\***

The following analysis is based on program performance. High Performing Programs were defined as having an 86% first time pass rate. Medium Performing Programs were defined as having a first time pass rate between 85% and 57%. Low Performing Programs were defined as have a first time pass rate of 56% or lower.

<b>What are your current clinical credentials? (please choose all that apply)</b>			
	<b>Low (n=124)</b>	<b>Medium (n=141)</b>	<b>High (n=79)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
First Responder	0.0%	0.7%	0.0%
EMT-Basic	0.8%	0.7%	0.0%
EMT-Intermediate	0.8%	1.5%	0.0%
Paramedic	78.1%	74.5%	82.1%
Licensed Practical Nurse	1.6%	0.7%	2.6%
Registered Nurse	17.9%	21.2%	14.1%
Physician	0.0%	0.7%	0.0%
I have not obtained any clinical credentials	0.8%	0.0%	1.3%

<b>What is the highest level of education you have completed?</b>			
	<b>Low (n=124)</b>	<b>Medium (n=141)</b>	<b>High (n=79)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
High school graduate/ GED	1.6%	0.7%	6.4%
Some college	14.5%	17.0%	14.1%
Associate degree	12.1%	19.2%	15.4%
Bachelor's degree	41.1%	38.3%	41.0%
Master's degree	28.2%	21.3%	18.0%
Doctorate degree	2.4%	3.6%	5.1%

<b>Which of the following best describes the sponsor of your paramedic education program?</b>			
	<b>Low (n=124)</b>	<b>Medium (n=141)</b>	<b>High (n=79)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Community college	41.1%	17.7%	53.9%
Hospital	14.5%	23.4%	14.1%
Four-year college/university	15.3%	12.1%	10.3%
Private EMS agency operated academy	4.0%	11.4%	3.9%
Public EMS agency operated academy	4.0%	5.7%	0.0%
Fire-based agency operated academy	6.5%	7.1%	7.7%
Secondary/vocational/technical school	8.1%	12.8%	3.9%
Proprietary school/small business/corporation	6.5%	9.9%	6.4%

<b>Is your education program currently nationally accredited by CoAEMSP/CAAHEP?</b>			
	<b>Low (n=124)</b>	<b>Medium (n=141)</b>	<b>High (n=79)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes, we are currently accredited	42.7%	10.6%	48.7%
We have submitted our self-study but are not yet accredited	4.8%	3.6%	3.9%
No, we are not currently accredited	52.4%	85.8%	47.4%

<b>Are you currently working to achieve accreditation?</b>			
	<b>Low (n=124)</b>	<b>Medium (n=141)</b>	<b>High (n=79)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	49.2%	45.0%	29.7%
No, but will do if required	15.4%	20.0%	35.1%
I have no intention of becoming accredited	10.8%	8.3%	13.5%
I have not decided whether I will seek accreditation	24.6%	26.7%	21.6%

<b>Based on your program sponsorship, do you believe that you meet the sponsorship requirements according to the CoAEMSP Standards and Guidelines</b>			
	<b>Low (n=124)</b>	<b>Medium (n=141)</b>	<b>High (n=79)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	60.6%	52.0%	45.0%
No	12.7%	16.0%	27.5%
I don't know	26.8%	32.0%	27.5%

<b>Is your institution accredited by a regional organization and/or national career-related accrediting organizations?</b>			
	<b>Low (n=124)</b>	<b>Medium (n=141)</b>	<b>High (n=79)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	64.5%	39.1%	62.8%
No	30.7%	52.9%	29.5%
I don't know	4.8%	8.0%	7.7%

<b>Your paramedic program director is primarily:</b>			
	<b>Low (n=124)</b>	<b>Medium (n=141)</b>	<b>High (n=79)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Full-time	80.7%	67.4%	75.6%
Part-time	19.4%	32.6%	24.4%

<b>Which of the following best describes the community in which your program is located?</b>			
	<b>Low (n=124)</b>	<b>Medium (n=141)</b>	<b>High (n=79)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Rural area (less than 2,500 people)	2.4%	5.1%	5.1%
Small town (2,500-24,999 people)	10.5%	15.2%	19.2%
Medium town (25,000-74,999 people)	21.8%	26.1%	21.8%
Large town (75,000-149,000 people)	15.3%	12.3%	12.8%
Mid-sized city (less than 500,000 people)	19.4%	13.8%	14.1%
Suburb/fringe of a mid-sized city	2.4%	0.7%	2.6%
Large City (500,000 or more people)	20.2%	20.3%	18.0%
Suburb/fringe of a large city	8.1%	6.5%	6.4%

How would you rate your understanding of the following standards of CoAEMSP/CAAHEP						
	Low (n=124)		Medium (n=141)		High (n=79)	
	Not At All/ A Little	Much/ Very Much	Not At All/ A Little	Much/ Very Much	Not At All/ A Little	Much/ Very Much
Institutional Sponsorship	32.3%	67.7%	54.3%	45.7%	32.1%	68.0%
Program goals	23.4%	76.6%	42.8%	57.2%	21.8%	78.2%
Hospital clinical rotations	24.2%	75.8%	39.1%	60.9%	23.1%	76.9%
Field internships	23.4%	76.6%	39.9%	60.2%	23.1%	76.9%
Program director responsibilities	23.4%	76.6%	42.8%	57.3%	20.5%	79.5%
Program director qualifications	22.6%	77.4%	38.4%	61.6%	23.1%	76.9%
Medical director responsibilities	22.6%	77.4%	40.6%	59.4%	23.1%	76.9%
Medical director qualifications	23.4%	76.6%	40.6%	59.4%	20.5%	79.5%
Faculty responsibilities	24.2%	75.8%	44.2%	55.8%	25.6%	74.4%
Faculty qualifications	25.0%	75.0%	48.6%	51.4%	23.1%	76.9%
Curriculum	23.4%	76.6%	36.2%	63.8%	20.5%	79.5%
Program evaluation	26.6%	73.4%	47.1%	52.9%	29.5%	70.5%
Student evaluation	25.0%	75.0%	44.9%	55.1%	28.2%	71.8%
Overall accreditation process	29.8%	70.2%	54.3%	45.7%	32.1%	68.0%

Please answer the following according to the CoAEMSP Standards and Guidelines									
	Low (n=124)			Medium (n=141)			High (n=79)		
	True	False	I don't know	True	False	I don't know	True	False	I don't know
The program director must instruct at least 50% of the course	7.3%	77.4%	15.3%	10.1%	62.3%	27.5%	10.3%	68.0%	21.8%
The program director is responsible for the administration, organization, and supervision of the program	95.2%	0.8%	4.0%	89.2%	1.5%	9.4%	83.3%	2.6%	14.1%
The program director is responsible for the educational quality review and improvement	91.9%	3.2%	4.8%	84.8%	3.6%	11.6%	82.1%	3.9%	14.1%
The medical director is responsible for approving all of the medical contact of the course	83.9%	10.5%	5.7%	76.1%	7.3%	16.7%	79.5%	6.4%	14.1%
Paramedic students must perform at least 5 live patient intubations in the operating room	46.0%	37.9%	16.1%	28.3%	30.4%	41.3%	32.1%	42.3%	25.6%
The program sponsor is ultimately responsible to ensure that all standards are met	70.2%	16.9%	12.9%	60.1%	15.9%	23.9%	68.0%	14.1%	18.0%
The medical director must attest to the entry level competence of each student	65.3%	21.8%	12.9%	55.1%	18.8%	26.1%	71.8%	10.3%	18.0%
The sponsoring institution must be affiliated with a Community College or University	37.1%	50.0%	12.9%	33.3%	45.7%	21.0%	32.1%	46.2%	21.8%
The paramedic program must have an advisory board that meets twice a year	66.1%	17.7%	16.1%	63.8%	10.1%	26.1%	64.1%	18.0%	18.0%
The paramedic program must have full time clerical support	31.5%	43.6%	25.0%	29.0%	37.7%	33.3%	24.4%	48.7%	26.9%
Students must have access to sufficient number of patients that represents the spectrum of problems encountered in the field	90.3%	4.0%	5.7%	81.9%	1.5%	16.7%	83.3%	0.0%	16.7%
Faculty must be nationally certified as a paramedic	19.4%	64.5%	16.1%	21.7%	47.1%	31.2%	19.2%	59.0%	21.8%
The paramedic program must file an annual report with the CoAEMSP	84.7%	1.6%	13.7%	68.8%	2.2%	29.0%	73.1%	3.9%	23.1%

<b>How much do you agree/disagree on the following? A single national EMS paramedic education accreditation...</b>						
	<b>Low (n=124)</b>		<b>Medium (n=141)</b>		<b>High (n=79)</b>	
	<b>Strongly Disagree/ Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree/ Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree/ Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree/ Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree/ Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree/ Agree</b>
improves a paramedic program	24.4%	75.6%	38.0%	62.0%	28.2%	71.8%
has long term benefits for students	20.3%	79.7%	28.5%	71.5%	20.5%	79.5%
will benefit the EMS profession	13.8%	86.2%	27.7%	72.3%	18.0%	82.1%
is worth the cost	38.2%	61.8%	53.3%	46.7%	33.3%	66.7%
safeguards the time and money commitment of students	35.8%	64.2%	47.5%	52.6%	38.5%	61.5%
is a positive move for paramedic education	13.8%	86.2%	28.5%	71.5%	21.8%	78.2%
is redundant to our state approval process	52.0%	48.0%	50.4%	49.6%	53.9%	46.2%
will improve public recognition of paramedics as allied health professionals	38.2%	61.8%	55.5%	44.5%	46.2%	53.8%
will improve peer recognition of paramedics as allied health professionals	34.2%	65.9%	51.8%	48.2%	38.5%	61.5%
should be required for eligibility of national certification	37.4%	62.6%	60.6%	39.4%	39.8%	60.3%
promotes continuous quality improvement in paramedic programs	17.1%	82.9%	30.7%	69.3%	23.1%	76.9%
will produce better clinicians	42.3%	57.7%	55.5%	44.5%	47.4%	52.6%
will have little to no effect on the quality of education provided by my program	56.9%	43.1%	43.1%	56.9%	53.9%	46.2%
should be required to be eligible for homeland security	54.5%	45.5%	65.7%	34.3%	55.1%	44.9%
should be required for reciprocity	44.7%	55.3%	65.7%	34.3%	39.7%	60.3%
should be required to obtain a license in my state	45.5%	54.5%	65.0%	35.0%	41.0%	59.0%
is a fair process	22.0%	78.1%	43.1%	56.9%	33.3%	66.7%
is desirable from the students perspective	38.2%	61.8%	51.1%	48.9%	38.5%	61.5%
will significantly increase the cost to students	48.8%	51.2%	35.0%	65.0%	59.0%	41.0%

How much do you agree/disagree on the following?												
	Low (n=124)				Medium (n=141)				High (n=79)			
	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
Paramedic students should be eligible for college credit after successful completion of paramedic school	0.8%	4.1%	37.4%	57.7%	0.7%	3.7%	47.5%	48.2%	2.6%	5.1%	28.2%	64.1%
The requirements for accreditation can be achieved by my program	2.4%	5.7%	35.0%	56.9%	4.4%	16.1%	45.3%	34.3%	2.6%	10.3%	24.4%	62.8%
If I was paying tuition for one of my children, I would send him/her to an accredited paramedic program	3.3%	17.9%	29.3%	49.6%	1.5%	33.6%	38.0%	27.0%	2.6%	25.6%	26.9%	44.9%
I would want an accredited paramedic program graduate to take care of me	8.9%	23.6%	34.2%	33.3%	8.8%	42.3%	30.7%	18.3%	10.3%	23.1%	28.2%	38.5%

Accreditation helps me compete with other education programs for scarce resources			
	Low (n=124)	Medium (n=141)	High (n=79)
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	57.7%	43.1%	46.2%
No	42.3%	56.9%	53.9%

National accreditation should take the place of state and local program delivery approval			
	Low (n=124)	Medium (n=141)	High (n=79)
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	39.0%	27.0%	33.3%
No	61.0%	73.0%	66.7%

To what extent do you believe that the following are barriers to your paramedic program obtaining CoAEMSP/CAAHEP accreditation?									
	Low (n=124)			Medium (n=141)			High (n=79)		
	Not at all/ A little	Much/ Very Much	Unsure	Not at all/ A little	Much/ Very Much	Unsure	Not at all/ A little	Much/ Very Much	Unsure
Sponsorship	81.7%	14.2%	4.2%	67.9%	23.6%	8.6%	77.9%	16.9%	5.2%
Faculty quality	92.5%	6.7%	0.8%	83.6%	11.4%	5.0%	85.7%	9.1%	5.2%
Faculty quantity	79.2%	20.0%	0.8%	66.4%	29.3%	4.3%	76.6%	18.2%	5.2%
Clerical/Support resources	81.7%	16.7%	1.7%	67.2%	27.1%	5.7%	66.2%	29.9%	3.9%
Classroom/lab facilities	85.8%	12.5%	1.7%	75.7%	19.3%	5.0%	83.1%	11.7%	5.2%
Hospital/Clinical affiliations	85.0%	14.2%	0.8%	78.6%	17.9%	3.6%	83.1%	11.7%	5.2%
Field Internship affiliations	85.8%	13.3%	0.8%	80.0%	15.7%	4.3%	87.0%	7.8%	5.2%
Equipment and supplies	87.5%	11.7%	0.8%	80.0%	16.4%	3.6%	87.0%	7.8%	5.2%
Library resources	85.0%	13.3%	1.7%	72.9%	22.2%	5.0%	80.5%	13.0%	6.5%
Computer resources	87.5%	11.7%	0.8%	70.7%	23.6%	5.7%	85.7%	9.1%	5.2%
Program director responsibilities	81.7%	15.0%	3.3%	77.1%	17.2%	5.7%	81.8%	13.0%	5.2%
Program director qualifications	80.8%	16.7%	2.5%	70.7%	25.0%	4.3%	72.7%	20.8%	6.5%
Medical director responsibilities	81.7%	15.8%	2.5%	76.1%	16.7%	7.1%	80.5%	14.3%	5.2%
Medical director qualifications	89.2%	9.2%	1.7%	83.6%	9.3%	7.1%	85.7%	9.1%	5.2%
Program evaluation	87.5%	10.8%	1.7%	69.3%	24.3%	6.4%	84.4%	10.4%	5.2%
Initial cost	60.0%	36.7%	3.3%	36.4%	52.1%	11.4%	62.3%	33.8%	3.9%
Ongoing cost	60.8%	36.7%	2.5%	38.6%	52.1%	9.3%	61.0%	33.8%	5.2%
Cost to students	65.8%	32.5%	1.7%	39.3%	50.0%	10.7%	62.3%	33.8%	3.9%
Institutional administration support	80.0%	18.3%	1.7%	54.3%	37.2%	8.6%	72.7%	23.4%	3.9%
Achieving adequate patient contacts	86.7%	11.7%	1.7%	72.1%	22.9%	5.0%	84.4%	11.7%	3.9%
Achieving adequate skills	88.3%	10.8%	0.8%	81.4%	14.3%	4.3%	84.4%	10.4%	5.2%
Access to live patient intubations	64.2%	33.3%	2.5%	55.7%	38.6%	5.7%	66.2%	29.9%	3.9%
Access to pediatric patients	72.5%	25.8%	1.7%	63.6%	32.1%	4.3%	81.8%	14.3%	3.9%
Preceptor education	75.8%	22.5%	1.7%	70.7%	24.3%	5.0%	71.4%	23.4%	5.2%
Student evaluation	88.3%	10.8%	0.8%	80.7%	15.7%	3.6%	88.3%	6.5%	5.2%
Students pass rates on national/state certification examinations	89.2%	10.0%	0.8%	77.2%	15.7%	7.1%	84.4%	10.4%	5.2%
Student drop-out rates in paramedic programs	81.7%	17.5%	0.8%	65.0%	28.6%	6.4%	81.8%	13.0%	5.2%
Submit a self-study prior to December 31, 2012	82.5%	15.8%	1.7%	59.3%	30.0%	10.7%	77.9%	13.0%	9.1%
Knowledge about accreditation process	84.2%	15.0%	0.8%	61.4%	30.7%	7.9%	75.3%	19.5%	5.2%
Operation of multiple campus paramedic programs	84.2%	11.7%	4.2%	67.1%	20.0%	12.9%	75.3%	11.7%	13.0%
CoAEMSP accreditation will require more resources that my program has	70.8%	24.2%	5.0%	59.3%	33.6%	7.1%	72.4%	23.7%	4.0%

<b>Do you have any additional barriers keeping your program from accreditation?</b>			
	<b>Low (n=124)</b>	<b>Medium (n=141)</b>	<b>High (n=79)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	10.8%	21.6%	11.8%
No	89.2%	78.4%	88.2%

<b>How much time have you already expended in overcoming barriers to obtaining National EMS Paramedic Educational Program Accreditation?</b>			
	<b>Low (n=124)</b>	<b>Medium (n=141)</b>	<b>High (n=79)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
None (0 hours)	18.6%	25.7%	33.3%
A little (1-10 hours)	28.2%	31.4%	21.8%
Much (11-40 hours)	23.4%	20.0%	18.0%
A great deal (>41 hours)	29.8%	22.9%	26.9%

<b>Have you attended an orientation seminar sponsored by CoAEMSP?</b>			
	<b>Low (n=124)</b>	<b>Medium (n=141)</b>	<b>High (n=79)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	47.6%	32.1%	44.9%
No	52.4%	67.9%	55.1%

<b>If help in earning National EMS Paramedic Educational Program Accreditation were available, would you use it?</b>			
	<b>Low (n=124)</b>	<b>Medium (n=141)</b>	<b>High (n=79)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	78.2%	88.6%	87.2%
No	21.8%	11.4%	12.8%

The below analysis are based on program size. A small program was defined as graduating 1-9 candidates. A medium program was defined as graduating 10-19 candidates. A large program was defined as graduating 20 or more candidates.

<b>What are your current clinical credentials? (please choose all that apply)</b>			
	<b>Small (n=172)</b>	<b>Medium (n=90)</b>	<b>Large (n=76)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
First Responder	0.0%	0.0%	1.3%
EMT-Basic	0.6%	0.0%	1.3%
EMT-Intermediate	1.2%	0.0%	1.3%
Paramedic	80.2%	75.6%	73.7%
Licensed Practical Nurse	1.2%	1.1%	2.6%
Registered Nurse	16.9%	22.2%	17.1%
Physician	0.0%	0.0%	1.3%
I have not obtained any clinical credentials	0.0%	1.1%	1.3%

<b>What is the highest level of education you have completed?</b>			
	<b>Small (n=172)</b>	<b>Medium (n=90)</b>	<b>Large (n=76)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
High school graduate/ GED	0.0%	4.4%	5.3%
Some college	10.8%	14.3%	27.6%
Associate degree	10.2%	23.1%	19.7%
Bachelor's degree	42.6%	39.6%	34.2%
Master's degree	31.3%	16.5%	11.8%
Doctorate degree	5.1%	2.2%	1.3%

<b>Which of the following best describes the sponsor of your paramedic education program?</b>			
	<b>Small (n=172)</b>	<b>Medium (n=90)</b>	<b>Large (n=76)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Community college	50.0%	30.8%	2.6%
Hospital	2.3%	24.2%	47.4%
Four-year college/university	20.5%	8.8%	0.0%
Private EMS agency operated academy	1.1%	0.0%	29.0%
Public EMS agency operated academy	5.1%	4.4%	0.0%
Fire-based agency operated academy	1.1%	24.2%	0.0%
Secondary/vocational/technical school	15.3%	4.4%	0.0%
Proprietary school/small business/corporation	4.6%	3.3%	21.1%

<b>Is your education program currently nationally accredited by CoAEMSP/CAAHEP?</b>			
	<b>Small (n=172)</b>	<b>Medium (n=90)</b>	<b>Large (n=76)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes, we are currently accredited	60.2%	0.0%	0.0%
We have submitted our self-study but are not yet accredited	8.0%	0.0%	0.0%
No, we are not currently accredited	31.8%	100.0%	100.0%

<b>Are you currently working to achieve accreditation?</b>			
	<b>Small (n=172)</b>	<b>Medium (n=90)</b>	<b>Large (n=76)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	64.3%	41.8%	30.7%
No, but will do if required	12.5%	25.3%	22.7%
I have no intention of becoming accredited	5.4%	9.9%	13.3%
I have not decided whether I will seek accreditation	17.9%	23.1%	33.3%

<b>Based on your program sponsorship, do you believe that you meet the sponsorship requirements according to the CoAEMSP Standards and Guidelines</b>			
	<b>Small (n=172)</b>	<b>Medium (n=90)</b>	<b>Large (n=76)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	80.0%	41.8%	42.7%
No	10.0%	22.0%	17.3%
I don't know	10.0%	36.3%	40.0%

<b>Is your institution accredited by a regional organization and/or national career-related accrediting organizations?</b>			
	<b>Small (n=172)</b>	<b>Medium (n=90)</b>	<b>Large (n=76)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	78.4%	33.7%	20.0%
No	17.1%	58.4%	69.3%
I don't know	4.6%	7.9%	10.7%

Your paramedic program director is primarily:			
	Small (n=172)	Medium (n=90)	Large (n=76)
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Full-time	88.1%	59.6%	58.7%
Part-time	11.9%	40.5%	41.3%

Which of the following best describes the community in which your program is located?			
	Small (n=172)	Medium (n=90)	Large (n=76)
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Rural area	1.7%	9.0%	4.0%
Small town	11.4%	14.6%	21.3%
Medium town	21.0%	28.1%	24.0%
Large town	16.5%	10.1%	10.7%
Mid-sized city	15.9%	15.7%	16.0%
Suburb/fringe of a mid-sized city	2.8%	1.1%	0.0%
Large City	25.6%	13.5%	13.3%
Suburb/fringe of a large city	5.1%	7.9%	10.7%

How would you rate your understanding of the following standards of CoAEMSP/CAAHEP												
	Small (n=172)				Medium (n=90)				Large (n=76)			
	Not at all	A little	Much	Very Much	Not at all	A little	Much	Very Much	Not at all	A little	Much	Very Much
Institutional Sponsorship	2.8%	18.8%	33.0%	45.5%	16.9%	48.3%	27.0%	7.9%	12.0%	46.7%	29.3%	12.0%
Program goals	2.3%	13.1%	35.8%	48.9%	10.1%	39.3%	39.3%	11.2%	10.7%	34.7%	40.0%	14.7%
Hospital clinical rotations	2.8%	11.9%	34.7%	50.6%	12.4%	38.2%	31.5%	18.0%	9.3%	32.0%	36.0%	22.7%
Field internships	2.8%	13.6%	33.5%	50.0%	12.4%	36.0%	32.6%	19.1%	10.7%	29.3%	37.3%	22.7%
Program director responsibilities	2.3%	11.9%	27.8%	58.0%	11.2%	38.2%	34.8%	15.7%	10.7%	36.0%	30.7%	22.7%
Program director qualifications	2.3%	9.7%	25.6%	62.5%	13.5%	37.1%	30.3%	19.1%	12.0%	32.0%	29.3%	26.7%
Medical director responsibilities	2.3%	11.9%	35.8%	50.0%	13.5%	37.1%	31.5%	18.0%	13.3%	29.3%	34.7%	22.7%
Medical director qualifications	2.3%	11.9%	32.4%	53.4%	13.5%	36.0%	29.2%	21.4%	12.0%	30.7%	32.0%	25.3%
Faculty responsibilities	2.8%	11.9%	31.8%	53.4%	12.4%	40.5%	31.5%	15.7%	9.3%	41.3%	30.7%	18.7%
Faculty qualifications	2.8%	12.5%	30.7%	54.0%	11.2%	43.8%	29.2%	15.7%	12.0%	41.3%	29.3%	17.3%
Curriculum	2.3%	12.5%	36.4%	48.9%	11.2%	36.0%	38.2%	14.6%	10.7%	25.3%	42.7%	21.3%
Program evaluation	2.8%	15.3%	42.1%	39.8%	12.4%	42.7%	33.7%	11.2%	13.3%	40.0%	32.0%	14.7%
Student evaluation	2.8%	15.9%	38.6%	42.6%	11.2%	41.6%	36.0%	11.2%	12.0%	34.7%	36.0%	17.3%
Overall accreditation process	3.4%	17.6%	38.1%	40.9%	16.9%	44.9%	34.8%	3.4%	13.3%	46.7%	32.0%	8.0%

Please answer the following according to the CoAEMSP Standards and Guidelines									
	Small			Medium			Large		
	True	False	I don't know	True	False	I don't know	True	False	I don't know
The program director must instruct at least 50% of the course	9.1%	78.4%	12.5%	10.1%	59.6%	30.3%	8.0%	58.7%	33.3%
The program director is responsible for the administration, organization, and supervision of the program	97.2%	0.0%	2.8%	84.3%	3.4%	12.4%	80.0%	2.7%	17.3%
The program director is responsible for the educational quality review and improvement	92.6%	2.8%	4.6%	84.3%	2.3%	13.5%	76.0%	6.7%	17.3%
The medical director is responsible for approving all of the medical contact of the course	85.2%	9.1%	5.7%	79.8%	3.4%	16.9%	66.7%	12.0%	21.3%
Paramedic students must perform at least 5 live patient intubations in the operating room	39.8%	44.9%	15.3%	31.5%	21.4%	47.2%	30.7%	32.0%	37.3%
The program sponsor is ultimately responsible to ensure that all standards are met	68.8%	19.3%	11.9%	67.4%	10.1%	22.5%	56.0%	14.7%	29.3%
The medical director must attest to the entry level competence of each student	69.9%	16.5%	13.6%	60.7%	15.7%	23.6%	48.0%	24.0%	28.0%
The sponsoring institution must be affiliated with a Community College or University	31.8%	58.0%	10.2%	36.0%	38.2%	25.8%	38.7%	33.3%	28.0%
The paramedic program must have an advisory board that meets twice a year	73.3%	18.2%	8.5%	51.7%	14.6%	33.7%	60.0%	6.7%	33.3%
The paramedic program must have full time clerical support	25.0%	56.3%	18.8%	33.7%	24.7%	41.6%	32.0%	30.7%	37.3%
Students must have access to sufficient number of patients that represents the spectrum of problems encountered in the field	92.1%	1.7%	6.3%	77.5%	2.3%	20.2%	78.7%	2.7%	18.7%
Faculty must be nationally certified as a paramedic	16.5%	72.2%	11.4%	27.0%	38.2%	34.8%	21.3%	40.0%	38.7%
The paramedic program must file an annual report with the CoAEMSP	85.2%	2.3%	12.5%	62.9%	3.4%	33.7%	68.0%	1.3%	30.7%

How much do you agree/disagree on the following? A single national EMS paramedic education accreditation...						
	Small		Medium		Large	
	Strongly Disagree /Disagree	Strongly Agree/ Agree	Strongly Disagree/ Disagree	Strongly Agree/ Agree	Strongly Disagree/ Disagree	Strongly Agree/ Agree
improves a paramedic program	14.9%	85.1%	46.1%	53.9%	49.3%	50.7%
has long term benefits for students	11.5%	88.5%	40.5%	59.6%	32.0%	68.0%
will benefit the EMS profession	10.3%	89.7%	33.7%	66.3%	28.0%	72.0%
is worth the cost	23.6%	76.4%	62.9%	37.1%	65.3%	34.7%
safeguards the time and money commitment of students	27.6%	72.4%	57.3%	42.7%	53.3%	46.7%
is a positive move for paramedic education	10.9%	89.1%	33.7%	66.3%	32.0%	68.0%
is redundant to our state approval process	59.2%	40.8%	47.2%	52.8%	40.0%	60.0%
will improve public recognition of paramedics as allied health professionals	31.6%	68.4%	58.4%	41.6%	69.3%	30.7%
will improve peer recognition of paramedics as allied health professionals	26.4%	73.6%	55.1%	44.9%	64.0%	36.0%
should be required for eligibility of national certification	27.6%	72.4%	66.3%	33.7%	70.7%	29.3%
promotes continuous quality improvement in paramedic programs	11.5%	88.5%	34.8%	65.2%	40.0%	60.0%
will produce better clinicians	33.3%	66.7%	66.3%	33.7%	64.0%	36.0%
will have little to no effect on the quality of education provided by my program	63.8%	36.2%	38.2%	61.8%	34.7%	65.3%
should be required to be eligible for homeland security	43.7%	56.3%	78.7%	21.4%	72.0%	28.0%
should be required for reciprocity	31.6%	68.4%	76.4%	23.6%	70.7%	29.3%
should be required to obtain a license in my state	30.5%	69.5%	76.4%	23.6%	74.7%	25.3%
is a fair process	17.2%	82.8%	46.1%	53.9%	54.7%	45.3%
is desirable from the students perspective	29.3%	70.7%	60.7%	39.3%	56.0%	44.0%
will significantly increase the cost to students	67.2%	32.8%	25.8%	74.2%	18.7%	81.3%

How much do you agree/disagree on the following?												
	Small				Medium				Large			
	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
Paramedic students should be eligible for college credit after successful completion of paramedic school	1.7%	4.6%	28.7%	64.9%	1.1%	3.4%	55.1%	40.5%	0.0%	4.0%	45.3%	50.7%
The requirements for accreditation can be achieved by my program	1.2%	3.5%	25.3%	70.1%	4.5%	18.0%	48.3%	29.2%	6.7%	20.0%	49.3%	24.0%
If I was paying tuition for one of my children, I would send him/her to an accredited paramedic program	1.2%	13.2%	27.6%	58.1%	4.5%	43.8%	32.6%	19.1%	2.7%	34.7%	42.7%	20.0%
I would want an accredited paramedic program graduate to take care of me	5.8%	17.8%	31.6%	44.8%	12.4%	43.8%	31.5%	12.4%	13.3%	46.7%	30.7%	9.3%

Accreditation helps me compete with other education programs for scarce resources			
	Small (n=172)	Medium (n=90)	Large (n=76)
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	60.3%	34.8%	40.0%
No	39.7%	65.2%	60.0%

National accreditation should take the place of state and local program delivery approval			
	Small (n=172)	Medium (n=90)	Large (n=76)
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	46.6%	16.9%	20.0%
No	53.5%	83.2%	80.0%

To what extent do you believe that the following are barriers to your paramedic program obtaining CoAEMSP/CAAHEP accreditation?									
	Small			Medium			Large		
	Not At All/ A Little	Much/ Very Much	Unsure	Not At All/ A Little	Much/ Very Much	Unsure	Not At All/ A Little	Much/ Very Much	Unsure
Sponsorship	86.7%	8.7%	4.6%	65.6%	30.0%	4.4%	59.5%	28.4%	12.2%
Faculty quality	91.3%	5.2%	3.5%	86.7%	10.0%	3.3%	78.4%	17.6%	4.1%
Faculty quantity	79.8%	17.3%	2.9%	70.0%	26.7%	3.3%	62.2%	33.8%	4.1%
Clerical/Support resources	80.4%	17.3%	2.3%	64.4%	31.1%	4.4%	62.2%	31.1%	6.8%
Classroom/lab facilities	88.4%	8.7%	2.9%	81.1%	15.6%	3.3%	63.5%	29.7%	6.8%
Hospital/Clinical affiliations	85.6%	11.6%	2.9%	84.4%	13.3%	2.2%	70.3%	25.7%	4.1%
Field Internship affiliations	86.7%	10.4%	2.9%	87.8%	8.9%	3.3%	71.6%	24.3%	4.1%
Equipment and supplies	89.6%	7.5%	2.9%	83.3%	14.4%	2.2%	73.0%	23.0%	4.1%
Library resources	88.4%	7.5%	4.1%	75.6%	22.2%	2.2%	60.8%	32.4%	6.8%
Computer resources	90.2%	6.9%	2.9%	78.9%	18.9%	2.2%	58.1%	33.8%	8.1%
Program director responsibilities	89.6%	6.9%	3.5%	73.3%	22.2%	4.4%	64.9%	27.0%	8.1%
Program director qualifications	86.1%	11.6%	2.3%	66.7%	28.9%	4.4%	58.1%	33.8%	8.1%
Medical director responsibilities	86.7%	9.8%	3.5%	77.8%	17.8%	4.4%	62.2%	28.4%	9.5%
Medical director qualifications	91.9%	4.6%	3.5%	85.6%	10.0%	4.4%	73.0%	18.9%	8.1%
Program evaluation	89.6%	7.5%	2.9%	75.6%	20.0%	4.4%	59.5%	32.4%	8.1%
Initial cost	70.5%	26.6%	2.9%	32.2%	58.9%	8.9%	27.0%	59.5%	13.5%
Ongoing cost	69.9%	27.2%	2.9%	34.4%	57.8%	7.8%	29.7%	59.5%	10.8%
Cost to students	74.6%	22.6%	2.9%	34.5%	57.8%	7.8%	29.7%	59.5%	10.8%
Institutional administration support	82.1%	14.5%	3.5%	57.8%	36.7%	5.6%	45.9%	46.0%	8.1%
Achieving adequate patient contacts	85.0%	12.1%	2.9%	78.9%	17.8%	3.3%	70.3%	24.3%	5.4%
Achieving adequate skills	89.0%	8.1%	2.9%	86.7%	10.0%	3.3%	71.6%	24.3%	4.1%
Access to live patient intubations	64.2%	31.8%	4.1%	58.9%	37.8%	3.3%	56.8%	37.8%	5.4%
Access to pediatric patients	78.6%	18.5%	2.9%	70.0%	26.7%	3.3%	54.1%	41.9%	4.1%
Preceptor education	76.9%	20.2%	2.9%	71.1%	24.5%	4.4%	64.9%	29.7%	5.4%
Student evaluation	90.2%	7.5%	2.3%	80.0%	16.7%	3.3%	79.7%	16.2%	4.1%
Students pass rates on national/state certification examinations	89.0%	7.5%	3.5%	81.1%	14.5%	4.4%	71.6%	21.6%	6.8%
Student drop-out rates in paramedic programs	77.5%	19.1%	3.5%	80.0%	15.6%	4.4%	62.2%	32.4%	5.4%
Submit a self-study prior to December 31, 2012	83.8%	10.4%	5.8%	63.3%	28.9%	7.8%	54.1%	36.5%	9.5%
Knowledge about accreditation process	81.5%	15.6%	2.9%	68.9%	26.7%	4.4%	56.8%	33.8%	9.5%
Operation of multiple campus paramedic programs	82.1%	8.7%	9.3%	75.6%	16.7%	7.8%	58.1%	28.4%	13.5%
CoAEMSP accreditation will require more resources that my program has	83.8%	13.3%	2.9%	56.2%	39.3%	4.5%	37.8%	48.7%	13.5%

<b>Do you have any additional barriers keeping your program from accreditation?</b>			
	<b>Small (n=172)</b>	<b>Medium (n=90)</b>	<b>Large (n=76)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	7.5%	26.1%	21.6%
No	92.5%	73.9%	78.3%

<b>How much time have you already expended in overcoming barriers to obtaining National EMS Paramedic Educational Program Accreditation?</b>			
	<b>Small (n=172)</b>	<b>Medium (n=90)</b>	<b>Large (n=76)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
None (0 hours)	19.9%	27.5%	33.3%
A little (1-10 hours)	23.3%	41.8%	22.7%
Much (11-40 hours)	22.7%	16.5%	21.3%
A great deal (>41 hours)	34.1%	14.3%	22.7%

<b>Have you attended an orientation seminar sponsored by CoAEMSP?</b>			
	<b>Small (n=172)</b>	<b>Medium (n=90)</b>	<b>Large (n=76)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	51.1%	28.6%	30.7%
No	48.9%	71.4%	69.3%

<b>If help in earning National EMS Paramedic Educational Program Accreditation were available, would you use it?</b>			
	<b>Small (n=172)</b>	<b>Medium (n=90)</b>	<b>Large (n=76)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	83.0%	91.2%	80.0%
No	17.1%	8.8%	20.0%

The below analysis is based on community size. Rural area (less than 2,500 people) and Small Town (2,500 – 24,999 people) were combined. Medium town (25,000 – 74,999 people) and Large town (75,000 – 149,000 people) were combined. Mid-sized city (less than 500,000 people) and Suburb/fringe of a mid-sized city were combined, and Large City (500,000 people or more) and Suburb/fringe of a large city were combined.

<b>What are your current clinical credentials? (please choose all that apply)</b>				
	<b>Rural/Small Town (n=62)</b>	<b>Medium/Large Town (n=122)</b>	<b>Mid-Sized City/Suburb (n=60)</b>	<b>Large City/Suburb (n=90)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
First Responder	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%
EMT-Basic	1.6%	0.0%	1.7%	0.0%
EMT-Intermediate	0.0%	0.8%	1.7%	1.1%
Paramedic	78.7%	77.4%	78.3%	77.5%
Licensed Practical Nurse	1.6%	0.8%	0.0%	3.4%
Registered Nurse	16.4%	21.0%	16.7%	15.7%
Physician	1.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
I have not obtained any clinical credentials	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%	1.1%

<b>What is the highest level of education you have completed?</b>				
	<b>Rural/Small Town (n=62)</b>	<b>Medium/Large Town (n=122)</b>	<b>Mid-Sized City/Suburb (n=60)</b>	<b>Large City/Suburb (n=90)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
High school graduate/ GED	9.5%	0.0%	1.7%	1.1%
Some college	27.0%	14.3%	15.0%	8.8%
Associate degree	14.3%	20.6%	13.3%	12.1%
Bachelor's degree	27.0%	44.4%	46.7%	38.5%
Master's degree	19.1%	19.1%	18.3%	34.1%
Doctorate degree	3.2%	1.6%	5.0%	5.5%

<b>Which of the following best describes the sponsor of your paramedic education program?</b>				
	<b>Rural/Small Town (n=62)</b>	<b>Medium/Large Town (n=122)</b>	<b>Mid-Sized City/Suburb (n=60)</b>	<b>Large City/Suburb (n=90)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Community college	23.8%	35.7%	35.0%	40.7%
Hospital	15.9%	21.4%	16.7%	15.4%
Four-year college/university	11.1%	10.3%	13.3%	17.6%
Private EMS agency operated academy	15.9%	4.0%	6.7%	5.5%
Public EMS agency operated academy	7.9%	2.4%	1.7%	4.4%
Fire-based agency operated academy	6.4%	4.8%	8.3%	7.7%
Secondary/vocational/technical school	4.8%	15.9%	6.7%	4.4%
Proprietary school/small business/corporation	14.3%	5.6%	11.7%	4.4%

<b>Is your program education program currently nationally accredited by CoAEMSP/CAAHEP?</b>				
	<b>Rural/Small Town (n=62)</b>	<b>Medium/Large Town (n=122)</b>	<b>Mid-Sized City/Suburb (n=60)</b>	<b>Large City/Suburb (n=90)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes, we are currently accredited	19.1%	22.2%	41.7%	45.1%
We have submitted our self-study but are not yet accredited	0.0%	7.9%	1.7%	3.3%
No, we are not currently accredited	81.0%	69.8%	56.7%	51.7%

<b>Are you currently working to achieve accreditation?</b>				
	<b>Rural/Small Town (n=62)</b>	<b>Medium/Large Town (n=122)</b>	<b>Mid-Sized City/Suburb (n=60)</b>	<b>Large City/Suburb (n=90)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	17.7%	44.3%	67.7%	55.3%
No, but will do if required	23.5%	21.6%	11.8%	23.4%
I have no intention of becoming accredited	21.6%	8.0%	5.9%	2.1%
I have not decided whether I will seek accreditation	37.3%	26.1%	14.7%	19.2%

<b>Based on your program sponsorship, do you believe that you meet the sponsorship requirements according to the CoAEMSP Standards and Guidelines</b>				
	<b>Rural/Small Town (n=62)</b>	<b>Medium/Large Town (n=122)</b>	<b>Mid-Sized City/Suburb (n=60)</b>	<b>Large City/Suburb (n=90)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	29.4%	56.1%	57.1%	68.0%
No	31.4%	14.3%	20.0%	6.0%
I don't know	39.2%	29.6%	22.9%	26.0%

<b>Is your institution accredited by a regional organization and/or national career-related accrediting organizations?</b>				
	<b>Rural/Small Town (n=62)</b>	<b>Medium/Large Town (n=122)</b>	<b>Mid-Sized City/Suburb (n=60)</b>	<b>Large City/Suburb (n=90)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	38.1%	56.4%	53.3%	61.5%
No	54.0%	33.3%	45.0%	34.1%
I don't know	7.9%	10.3%	1.7%	4.4%

<b>Your paramedic program director is primarily:</b>				
	<b>Rural/Small Town (n=62)</b>	<b>Medium/Large Town (n=122)</b>	<b>Mid-Sized City/Suburb (n=60)</b>	<b>Large City/Suburb (n=90)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Full-time	58.7%	69.1%	83.3%	85.7%
Part-time	41.3%	31.0%	16.7%	14.3%

How would you rate your understanding of the following standards of CoAEMSP/CAAHEP								
	Rural/Small Town (n=62)				Medium/Large Town (n=122)			
	Not at all	A little	Much	Very Much	Not at all	A little	Much	Very Much
Institutional Sponsorship	12.7%	44.4%	28.6%	14.3%	12.7%	34.1%	27.8%	25.4%
Program goals	9.5%	28.6%	38.1%	23.8%	9.5%	28.6%	37.3%	24.6%
Hospital clinical rotations	9.5%	31.8%	28.6%	30.2%	10.3%	27.0%	31.8%	31.0%
Field internships	9.5%	31.8%	28.6%	30.2%	11.1%	26.2%	31.0%	31.8%
Program director responsibilities	9.5%	33.3%	28.6%	28.6%	10.3%	27.0%	27.8%	34.9%
Program director qualifications	12.7%	27.0%	25.4%	34.9%	11.1%	26.2%	25.4%	37.3%
Medical director responsibilities	11.1%	28.6%	31.8%	28.6%	11.9%	25.4%	32.5%	30.2%
Medical director qualifications	11.1%	31.8%	28.6%	28.6%	11.9%	24.6%	28.6%	34.9%
Faculty responsibilities	9.5%	33.3%	31.8%	25.4%	11.1%	27.0%	31.0%	31.0%
Faculty qualifications	11.1%	34.9%	27.0%	27.0%	11.1%	27.0%	29.4%	32.5%
Curriculum	9.5%	25.4%	33.3%	31.8%	10.3%	25.4%	34.1%	30.2%
Program evaluation	11.1%	41.3%	27.0%	20.6%	11.1%	26.2%	39.7%	23.0%
Student evaluation	9.5%	31.8%	36.5%	22.2%	11.1%	28.6%	34.1%	26.2%
Overall accreditation process	15.9%	41.3%	28.6%	14.3%	12.7%	32.5%	34.1%	20.6%

How would you rate your understanding of the following standards of CoAEMSP/CAAHEP								
	Mid-Sized City/Suburb (n=60)				Large City/Suburb (n=90)			
	Not at all	A little	Much	Very Much	Not at all	A little	Much	Very Much
Institutional Sponsorship	3.3%	23.3%	38.3%	35.0%	3.3%	28.6%	30.8%	37.4%
Program goals	1.7%	16.7%	40.0%	41.7%	2.2%	22.0%	36.3%	39.6%
Hospital clinical rotations	1.7%	13.3%	41.7%	43.3%	3.3%	18.7%	36.3%	41.8%
Field internships	1.7%	13.3%	41.7%	43.3%	3.3%	18.7%	37.4%	40.7%
Program director responsibilities	1.7%	16.7%	33.3%	48.3%	2.2%	18.7%	33.0%	46.2%
Program director qualifications	1.7%	13.3%	33.3%	51.7%	2.2%	17.6%	28.6%	51.7%
Medical director responsibilities	3.3%	15.0%	41.7%	40.0%	2.2%	18.7%	34.1%	45.1%
Medical director qualifications	1.7%	16.7%	36.7%	45.0%	2.2%	16.5%	34.1%	47.3%
Faculty responsibilities	1.7%	20.0%	36.7%	41.7%	2.2%	23.1%	28.6%	46.2%
Faculty qualifications	1.7%	21.7%	36.7%	40.0%	2.2%	25.3%	28.6%	44.0%
Curriculum	1.7%	11.7%	53.3%	33.3%	2.2%	19.8%	37.4%	40.7%
Program evaluation	3.3%	21.7%	46.7%	28.3%	3.3%	25.3%	36.3%	35.2%
Student evaluation	3.3%	21.7%	41.7%	33.3%	2.2%	24.2%	39.6%	34.1%
Overall accreditation process	3.3%	23.3%	45.0%	28.3%	3.3%	27.5%	37.4%	31.9%

Please answer the following according to the CoAEMSP Standards and Guidelines						
	Rural/Small Town (n=62)			Medium/Large Town (n=122)		
	True	False	I don't know	True	False	I don't know
The program director must instruct at least 50% of the course	11.1%	58.7%	30.2%	7.9%	66.7%	25.4%
The program director is responsible for the administration, organization, and supervision of the program	81.0%	3.2%	15.9%	85.7%	1.6%	12.7%
The program director is responsible for the educational quality review and improvement	81.0%	3.2%	15.9%	85.2%	0.8%	13.5%
The medical director is responsible for approving all of the medical contact of the course	69.8%	9.5%	20.6%	77.8%	7.1%	15.1%
Paramedic students must perform at least 5 live patient intubations in the operating room	34.9%	31.8%	33.3%	34.1%	28.6%	37.3%
The program sponsor is ultimately responsible to ensure that all standards are met	65.1%	14.3%	20.6%	59.5%	16.7%	23.8%
The medical director must attest to the entry level competence of each student	54.0%	19.1%	27.0%	54.8%	19.1%	26.2%
The sponsoring institution must be affiliated with a Community College or University	28.6%	44.4%	27.0%	32.5%	44.4%	23.0%
The paramedic program must have an advisory board that meets twice a year	54.0%	12.7%	33.3%	60.3%	14.3%	25.4%
The paramedic program must have full time clerical support	15.9%	47.6%	36.5%	23.8%	42.9%	33.3%
Students must have access to sufficient number of patients that represents the spectrum of problems encountered in the field	74.6%	3.2%	22.2%	79.4%	1.6%	19.1%
Faculty must be nationally certified as a paramedic	27.0%	44.4%	28.6%	20.6%	49.2%	30.2%
The paramedic program must file an annual report with the CoAEMSP	63.5%	3.2%	33.3%	68.3%	3.2%	28.6%

Please answer the following according to the CoAEMSP Standards and Guidelines						
	Mid-Sized City/Suburb (n=60)			Large City/Suburb (n=90)		
	True	False	I don't know	True	False	I don't know
The program director must instruct at least 50% of the course	10.0%	75.0%	15.0%	8.8%	75.8%	15.4%
The program director is responsible for the administration, organization, and supervision of the program	98.3%	1.7%	0.0%	96.7%	0.0%	3.3%
The program director is responsible for the educational quality review and improvement	91.7%	6.7%	1.7%	89.0%	5.5%	5.5%
The medical director is responsible for approving all of the medical contact of the course	88.3%	10.0%	1.7%	83.5%	7.7%	8.8%
Paramedic students must perform at least 5 live patient intubations in the operating room	33.3%	55.0%	11.7%	39.6%	36.3%	24.2%
The program sponsor is ultimately responsible to ensure that all standards are met	75.0%	15.0%	10.0%	68.1%	16.5%	15.4%
The medical director must attest to the entry level competence of each student	75.0%	20.0%	5.0%	71.4%	14.3%	14.3%
The paramedic program director must have a bachelor's degree or above	85.0%	8.3%	6.7%	82.4%	8.8%	8.8%
The sponsoring institution must be affiliated with a Community College or University	38.3%	53.3%	8.3%	38.5%	49.5%	12.1%
The paramedic program must have an advisory board that meets twice a year	75.0%	13.3%	11.7%	71.4%	17.6%	11.0%
The paramedic program must have full time clerical support	38.3%	51.7%	10.0%	38.5%	31.9%	29.7%
Students must have access to sufficient number of patients that represents the spectrum of problems encountered in the field	95.0%	3.3%	1.7%	94.5%	1.1%	4.4%
Faculty must be nationally certified as a paramedic	16.7%	70.0%	13.3%	17.6%	64.8%	17.6%
The paramedic program must file an annual report with the CoAEMSP	91.7%	3.3%	5.0%	83.5%	0.0%	16.5%

How much do you agree/disagree on the following? A single national EMS paramedic education accreditation...				
	Rural/Small Town (n=62)		Medium/Large Town (n=122)	
	Strongly Disagree/ Disagree	Strongly Agree/ Agree	Strongly Disagree/ Disagree	Strongly Agree/ Agree
improves a paramedic program	46.0%	54.0%	28.2%	71.8%
has long term benefits for students	38.1%	61.9%	25.0%	75.0%
will benefit the EMS profession	36.5%	63.5%	21.8%	78.2%
is worth the cost	57.1%	42.9%	41.9%	58.1%
safeguards the time and money commitment of students	52.4%	47.6%	43.5%	56.5%
is a positive move for paramedic education	34.9%	65.1%	23.4%	76.6%
is redundant to our state approval process	47.6%	52.4%	46.0%	54.0%
will improve public recognition of paramedics as allied health professionals	54.0%	46.0%	48.4%	51.6%
will improve peer recognition of paramedics as allied health professionals	47.6%	52.4%	44.3%	55.7%
should be required for eligibility of national certification	63.5%	36.5%	49.2%	50.8%
promotes continuous quality improvement in paramedic programs	39.7%	60.3%	21.8%	78.2%
will produce better clinicians	60.3%	39.7%	55.7%	44.4%
will have little to no effect on the quality of education provided by my program	36.5%	63.5%	52.4%	47.6%
should be required to be eligible for homeland security	69.8%	30.2%	58.1%	41.9%
should be required for reciprocity	61.9%	38.1%	54.0%	46.0%
should be required to obtain a license in my state	65.1%	34.9%	53.2%	46.8%
is a fair process	50.8%	49.2%	30.6%	69.4%
is desirable from the students perspective	49.2%	50.8%	44.4%	55.6%
will significantly increase the cost to students	33.3%	66.7%	41.9%	58.1%

How much do you agree/disagree on the following? A single national EMS paramedic education accreditation...				
	Mid-Sized City/Suburb (n=60)		Large City/Suburb (n=90)	
	Strongly Disagree/ Disagree	Strongly Agree/ Agree	Strongly Disagree /Disagree	Strongly Agree/ Agree
improves a paramedic program	20.0%	80.0%	30.8%	69.2%
has long term benefits for students	10.0%	90.0%	20.9%	79.1%
will benefit the EMS profession	10.0%	90.0%	14.3%	85.7%
is worth the cost	31.7%	68.3%	42.9%	57.1%
safeguards the time and money commitment of students	25.0%	75.0%	40.7%	59.3%
is a positive move for paramedic education	11.7%	88.3%	16.5%	83.5%
is redundant to our state approval process	51.7%	48.3%	62.6%	37.4%
will improve public recognition of paramedics as allied health professionals	40.0%	60.0%	45.1%	55.0%
will improve peer recognition of paramedics as allied health professionals	33.3%	66.7%	41.8%	58.2%
should be required for eligibility of national certification	35.0%	65.0%	41.8%	58.3%
promotes continuous quality improvement in paramedic programs	15.0%	85.0%	22.0%	78.0%
will produce better clinicians	33.3%	66.7%	41.8%	58.2%
will have little to no effect on the quality of education provided by my program	61.7%	38.3%	50.6%	49.5%
should be required to be eligible for homeland security	51.7%	48.3%	58.3%	41.8%
should be required for reciprocity	40.0%	60.0%	50.6%	49.5%
should be required to obtain a license in my state	38.3%	61.7%	51.6%	48.4%
is a fair process	18.3%	81.7%	34.1%	65.9%
is desirable from the students perspective	33.3%	66.7%	45.1%	55.0%
will significantly increase the cost to students	55.0%	45.0%	52.7%	47.3%

How much do you agree/disagree on the following?								
	Rural/Small Town (n=62)				Medium/Large Town (n=122)			
	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
Paramedic students should be eligible for college credit after successful completion of paramedic school	3.2%	6.4%	39.7%	50.8%	0.0%	4.8%	37.9%	57.3%
The requirements for accreditation can be achieved by my program	11.1%	22.2%	42.9%	23.8%	1.6%	8.9%	38.7%	50.8%
If I was paying tuition for one of my children, I would send him/her to an accredited paramedic program	4.8%	34.9%	31.8%	28.6%	2.4%	31.5%	28.2%	37.9%
I would want an accredited paramedic program graduate to take care of me	15.9%	36.5%	33.3%	14.3%	8.9%	37.1%	25.0%	29.0%

How much do you agree/disagree on the following?								
	Mid-Sized City/Suburb (n=60)				Large City/Suburb (n=90)			
	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
Paramedic students should be eligible for college credit after successful completion of paramedic school	0.0%	3.3%	41.7%	55.0%	2.2%	2.2%	39.6%	56.0%
The requirements for accreditation can be achieved by my program	0.0%	10.0%	31.7%	58.3%	2.2%	6.6%	33.0%	58.2%
If I was paying tuition for one of my children, I would send him/her to an accredited paramedic program	0.0%	15.0%	38.3%	46.7%	2.2%	19.8%	34.1%	44.0%
I would want an accredited paramedic program graduate to take care of me	5.0%	21.7%	35.0%	38.3%	7.7%	25.3%	36.3%	30.7%

Accreditation helps me compete with other education programs for scarce resources				
	Rural/Small Town (n=62)	Medium/Large Town (n=122)	Mid-Sized City/Suburb (n=60)	Large City/Suburb (n=90)
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	46.0%	46.8%	58.3%	48.4%
No	54.0%	53.2%	41.7%	51.7%

National accreditation should take the place of state and local program delivery approval				
	Rural/Small Town (n=62)	Medium/Large Town (n=122)	Mid-Sized City/Suburb (n=60)	Large City/Suburb (n=90)
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	25.4%	31.5%	38.3%	36.3%
No	74.6%	68.6%	61.7%	63.7%

To what extent do you believe that the following are barriers to your paramedic program obtaining CoAEMSP/CAAHEP accreditation?						
	Rural/Small Town (n=62)			Medium/Large Town (n=122)		
	Not At All/ A Little	Much/ Very Much	Unsure	Not At All/ A Little	Much/ Very Much	Unsure
Sponsorship	62.9%	30.7%	6.5%	77.9%	13.1%	9.0%
Faculty quality	79.0%	14.5%	6.5%	85.2%	9.0%	5.7%
Faculty quantity	64.5%	29.0%	6.5%	74.6%	20.5%	4.9%
Clerical/Support resources	51.6%	43.6%	4.8%	71.3%	23.0%	5.7%
Classroom/lab facilities	71.0%	22.6%	6.5%	78.7%	15.6%	5.7%
Hospital/Clinical affiliations	71.0%	22.6%	6.5%	81.2%	13.9%	4.9%
Field Internship affiliations	72.6%	21.0%	6.5%	84.4%	10.7%	4.9%
Equipment and supplies	77.4%	16.1%	6.5%	81.2%	13.9%	4.9%
Library resources	66.1%	25.8%	8.1%	78.7%	15.6%	5.7%
Computer resources	69.4%	22.6%	8.1%	81.2%	13.9%	4.9%
Program director responsibilities	62.9%	30.7%	6.5%	79.5%	13.1%	7.4%
Program director qualifications	54.8%	38.7%	6.5%	71.3%	23.8%	4.9%
Medical director responsibilities	64.5%	25.8%	9.7%	77.9%	15.6%	6.6%
Medical director qualifications	71.0%	19.4%	9.7%	82.8%	11.5%	5.7%
Program evaluation	62.9%	29.0%	8.1%	77.9%	16.4%	5.7%
Initial cost	29.0%	58.1%	12.9%	50.8%	41.0%	8.2%
Ongoing cost	30.6%	56.5%	12.9%	50.0%	42.6%	7.4%
Cost to students	30.7%	56.5%	12.9%	50.8%	41.8%	7.4%
Institutional administration support	53.2%	38.7%	8.1%	66.4%	27.1%	6.6%
Achieving adequate patient contacts	69.4%	22.6%	8.1%	77.9%	17.2%	4.9%
Achieving adequate skills	75.8%	17.7%	6.5%	82.8%	12.3%	4.9%
Access to live patient intubations	59.7%	33.9%	6.5%	60.7%	34.4%	4.9%
Access to pediatric patients	71.0%	22.6%	6.5%	65.6%	30.3%	4.1%
Preceptor education	72.6%	19.4%	8.1%	69.7%	25.4%	4.9%
Student evaluation	80.7%	12.9%	6.5%	79.5%	16.4%	4.1%
Students pass rates on national/state certification examinations	71.0%	21.0%	8.1%	82.0%	12.3%	5.7%
Student drop-out rates in paramedic programs	71.0%	21.0%	8.1%	71.3%	22.9%	5.7%
Submit a self-study prior to December 31, 2012	62.9%	24.2%	12.9%	70.5%	22.1%	7.4%
Knowledge about accreditation process	62.9%	27.4%	9.7%	68.9%	25.4%	5.7%
Operation of multiple campus paramedic programs	61.3%	24.2%	14.5%	76.2%	16.4%	7.4%
CoAEMSP accreditation will require more resources that my program has	50.8%	37.7%	11.5%	63.9%	28.7%	7.4%

To what extent do you believe that the following are barriers to your paramedic program obtaining CoAEMSP/CAAHEP accreditation?						
	Mid-Sized City/Suburb (n=60)			Large City/Suburb (n=90)		
	Not At All/ A Little	Much/ Very Much	Unsure	Not At All/ A Little	Much/ Very Much	Unsure
Sponsorship	81.7%	15.0%	3.3%	75.6%	20.0%	4.4%
Faculty quality	88.3%	10.0%	1.7%	95.6%	4.5%	0.0%
Faculty quantity	71.7%	26.7%	1.7%	78.9%	21.1%	0.0%
Clerical/Support resources	83.3%	13.3%	3.3%	81.1%	17.8%	1.1%
Classroom/lab facilities	88.3%	10.0%	1.7%	85.6%	13.3%	1.1%
Hospital/Clinical affiliations	86.7%	13.3%	0.0%	86.7%	13.3%	0.0%
Field Internship affiliations	86.7%	11.7%	1.7%	87.8%	12.2%	0.0%
Equipment and supplies	88.3%	11.7%	0.0%	90.0%	10.0%	0.0%
Library resources	88.3%	11.7%	0.0%	81.1%	16.7%	2.2%
Computer resources	86.7%	13.3%	0.0%	82.2%	15.6%	2.2%
Program director responsibilities	83.3%	13.3%	3.3%	90.0%	8.9%	1.1%
Program director qualifications	76.7%	18.3%	5.0%	91.1%	7.8%	1.1%
Medical director responsibilities	81.7%	15.0%	3.3%	87.8%	11.1%	1.1%
Medical director qualifications	91.7%	5.0%	3.3%	96.7%	2.2%	1.1%
Program evaluation	85.0%	11.7%	3.3%	88.9%	10.0%	1.1%
Initial cost	58.3%	36.7%	5.0%	60.0%	37.8%	2.2%
Ongoing cost	63.3%	33.3%	3.3%	60.0%	38.9%	1.1%
Cost to students	68.3%	28.3%	3.3%	65.6%	33.3%	1.1%
Institutional administration support	76.7%	21.7%	1.7%	73.3%	23.3%	3.3%
Achieving adequate patient contacts	85.0%	13.3%	1.7%	86.7%	13.3%	0.0%
Achieving adequate skills	88.3%	10.0%	1.7%	90.0%	10.0%	0.0%
Access to live patient intubations	60.0%	35.0%	5.0%	62.2%	36.7%	1.1%
Access to pediatric patients	70.0%	26.7%	3.3%	78.9%	21.1%	0.0%
Preceptor education	70.0%	26.7%	3.3%	78.9%	21.1%	0.0%
Student evaluation	91.7%	6.7%	1.7%	91.1%	8.9%	0.0%
Students pass rates on national/state certification examinations	90.0%	6.7%	3.3%	87.7%	11.2%	1.1%
Student drop-out rates in paramedic programs	73.3%	23.3%	3.3%	83.3%	16.7%	0.0%
Submit a self-study prior to December 31, 2012	73.3%	23.3%	3.3%	80.0%	15.6%	4.4%
Knowledge about accreditation process	76.7%	18.3%	5.0%	82.2%	17.8%	0.0%
Operation of multiple campus paramedic programs	73.3%	15.0%	11.7%	83.3%	7.8%	8.9%
CoAEMSP accreditation will require more resources that my program has	66.7%	30.0%	3.3%	80.0%	18.9%	1.1%

<b>Do you have any additional barriers keeping your program from accreditation?</b>				
	<b>Rural/Small Town (n=62)</b>	<b>Medium/Large Town (n=122)</b>	<b>Mid-Sized City/Suburb (n=60)</b>	<b>Large City/Suburb (n=90)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	26.7%	17.2%	10.0%	10.0%
No	73.3%	82.8%	90.0%	90.0%

<b>How much time have you already expended in overcoming barriers to obtaining National EMS Paramedic Educational Program Accreditation?</b>				
	<b>Rural/Small Town (n=62)</b>	<b>Medium/Large Town (n=122)</b>	<b>Mid-Sized City/Suburb (n=60)</b>	<b>Large City/Suburb (n=90)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
None (0 hours)	31.8%	25.6%	21.7%	22.0%
A little (1-10 hours)	33.3%	28.8%	21.7%	26.4%
Much (11-40 hours)	17.5%	24.8%	26.7%	13.2%
A great deal (>41 hours)	17.5%	20.8%	30.0%	38.5%

<b>Have you attended an orientation seminar sponsored by CoAEMSP?</b>				
	<b>Rural/Small Town (n=62)</b>	<b>Medium/Large Town (n=122)</b>	<b>Mid-Sized City/Suburb (n=60)</b>	<b>Large City/Suburb (n=90)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	28.6%	39.2%	48.3%	44.0%
No	71.4%	60.8%	51.7%	56.0%

<b>If help in earning National EMS Paramedic Educational Program Accreditation were available, would you use it?</b>				
	<b>Rural/Small Town (n=62)</b>	<b>Medium/Large Town (n=122)</b>	<b>Mid-Sized City/Suburb (n=60)</b>	<b>Large City/Suburb (n=90)</b>
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Yes	81.0%	87.2%	85.0%	82.4%
No	19.1%	12.8%	15.0%	17.6%

