

**June 8, 2009**  
**NASEMSO Training Coordinators**  
**Mid-Year Meeting Minutes**

**Present:**

Jay Cason, KY Board of EMS  
Robert Austin, DC Department of  
Health, Office of EMS  
Bill Seifarth, MD EMS  
Angela Marr, CDC, National Center for  
Injury, DC  
Ed Gregoire, ND EMS  
Nancy Kelly-Goodstein, NJ EMS  
Scott Stinson, MS EMS  
Donna Tidwell, TN

David Bryson, US DOT, NHTSA OEMS  
Kathy Robinson, NASEMSO  
Deb Cason, Education Standards  
Kevin Brown, CT OEMS  
Ken Knipper, National Volunteer Fire  
Council  
Jason Grafft, DOT NHTSA OEMS  
Dia Gainor, ID EMS  
Marilyn Bourn, CO EMS

- I. Welcome and Introductions – Marilyn Bourn opened the meeting with introductions. Marilyn explained that she assumed the role of chair for the training coordinators and that because his job responsibilities have changed, Joel Bunis has resigned as Chair of and from the Training Coordinators Council. Bill Seifarth is the vice-Chair for 2009 and will assume the Chair in 2010. Members present introduced themselves and Marilyn overviewed the agenda for the day.
- II. Minutes from Annual Meeting – The minutes were distributed and approval was postponed until later. Once minutes have been reviewed and errors corrected, a copy of the minutes will be distributed to training coordinators electronically for review.
- III. Education Standards Update – Deb Cason, Principal Investigator for the Education Standards and a member of NAEMSE, provided an update to the training coordinators of the status of the education standards implementation. The implementation of the education standards is being coordinated by NASEMSO, chaired by Dan Manz (VT). There is a lot to be done to transition to the education standards in addition to the implementation of the standards. A gap analysis has been developed to assist the transition and implementation of the National EMS Education Standards.

Section 1 of the Gap Analysis provides the cross reference of Education Standards and Instructional Guidelines (by sections). The section titles are referenced in each of the levels (EMR, EMT, AEMT, and Paramedic) with page numbers in the Standards, as well as instructor guidelines. The Gap Analysis provides a gap between the original National Standard Curricula and the new Education Standards. States need to be sensitive to the fact that their programs likely exceed what educational content is taught within their states. A draft copy of the document will be sent to training coordinators with a short turn-around time for review.

Section 6 of the document provides the topic and estimated time to transition from the existing NSC to the new education standards. The inclusion of estimated time to transition providers up to the education standards was discussed at length.

There was concern raised that inclusion of time estimates will possibly erode progress of EMS toward “professionalism and competency” as it may encourage educational institutions to become “time-based” instead of “competency-based.”

Discussions on conveying information about transition to the education standards resulted in suggestions to have monthly conference calls between training coordinators, as well as providing resources for training coordinators to provide to their constituents.

Deb overviewed the introduction segment of the Gap Analysis Template that highlighted how important it is for education programs to communicate and coordinate with the State EMS Offices while transitioning to and implementing the Education Standards. There was discussion on the textbook companies’ progress written to the new Standards. Some publishers have textbooks and resources already aligned with the new Standards and others are awaiting the AHA guidelines release in 2010. Also, the education standards are not designed to be rigid and there should be flexibility in how the order of content is delivered. The same also applies to pre- and co-requisites. Some of the items that were excluded from the Standards were discussed, including immunizations. There was concern that those items should be considered within the education standards since there are operational (field) and clinical requirements outlined within the Standards.

Finally, Deb and Marilyn reviewed the Gantt chart of implementing the Education Standards. The document depicts what tasks are needed to be accomplished, who is responsible, who can help, as well as the time period when the tasks should be accomplished.

Dave Bryson overviewed with the Training Coordinators the “dots survey.” The survey was done at the last two annual NASEMSO meetings and was designed to measure progress of implementing the education standards. The NEMSAC, a federal committee that advises NHTSA on EMS issues, will be eventually doing a report card on states’ implementation progress. At the last meeting, NEMSAC approved recommendations that the Education Agenda is “a good thing” and that states should strive to implement it. NEMSAC requested that states provide a report card of implementing the Education Agenda and they will “help” states to implement and achieve the elements of the Agenda. More information on the dots survey and NEMSAC’s report card will be available in the coming months.

Marilyn discussed the webinars topic. Many who were asked if webinars for education implementation would be effective felt that they would be. However, few states did not feel that they could volunteer to host a webinar. Also discussed were the statewide conferences. States should plan in advance to have “national” speakers come to their states to inform constituents of information pertaining to the transition to the new Standards.

- IV. Monthly Conference Calls – Marilyn proposed that the Training Coordinators have a monthly conference call to address timely topics. The third Thursday of the month is the suggested date with 3:00 PM EST/EDT as the suggested time. There will be a 5-10 minute update on the Education Standards during every call as well

as a 10-15 minute presentation on a topic applicable to the training coordinators. The conference call is intended to promote communications between TCs.

Communications to TCs will also be opened up over the coming month or so as Marilyn will be touching base with every training coordinator in the country via a phone call.

- V. Military Transition – Marilyn provided an update on the military transition process. She provided EMS contacts for the Uniformed Services. Any questions regarding veterans seeking civilian should be able to be answered by contacting the EMS contacts of the applicable branch. A spreadsheet describing the training and certification eligibility will be developed once contacts with Uniformed Services are established. Also, the representatives of the Uniformed Services will be invited to the NASEMSO meetings for the future.

Dia Gainor informed the group of the challenges with wildfires and medical personnel as well as suggested that the training coordinators address the military to civilian transition process separate from the federal agencies functioning in States. The wildfire challenges will be addressed with the National Park Service et al, by the development of a resource document that outlines expectations of wildfire medical units in dealing with State EMS offices and systems. It is up to the State, ultimately, to determine what practice is legal for wildfire medical units to provide. [www.nwcg.gov](http://www.nwcg.gov) , go to “working groups” or “team pages” for more information on this, as well as the tactical plan. The credentialing and identification of personnel is outlined there as well.

- VI. Website Update – the NASEMSO TC website needs to be updated. Items to be placed on the website will be discussed at the annual meeting in September.
- VII. Annual Meeting – Agenda Items include: website, Go To Meeting or webinar, and existing agenda items.
- VIII. Educator Rollout – NAEMSE is interested in working with educators and TC to develop transitional course materials. Collaboration between the NAEMSE and NASEMSO is ideal per Deb. Some members feel that there are existing resources that can be utilized to do the rollouts with instructors. The rollouts will contain information for instructors and needs to be decided and developed in the very near future.

MOTION: Kevin Brown (CT) made a motion, second by Ed Gregoire (ND) that NASEMSO training coordinators and NAEMSE will work collaboratively to plan and develop the educator rollout materials. NAEMSE will be the lead entity with developing the resources for instructors.

- IX. Adjournment - MOTION for adjournment: Bill Seifarth (MD), Robert Austin (DC) at 1538 EDT to meet again in Littlerock, Arkansas, September 20-25.