First Program in the Nation Receives Voluntary AEMT Accreditation; 12 AEMT Programs from Five States Obtain LoR in 2025

January 2026

Durham Technical Community College is the first AEMT education program in the nation to receive its voluntary accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP), the only nationally recognized accreditation organization for AEMT and paramedic education.

An additional 12 programs in six states (AZ, GA, NC, SC, VA, and WA) received their Letter of Review (LoR) from CoAEMSP in 2025. The LoR signifies that the program is in the process of seeking accreditation by CAAHEP. Beginning June 30, 2025, North Carolina became the only state to require all AEMT education programs in the state to be in the process of becoming accredited. Eight of the LoR programs are in North Carolina, as is Durham Tech.

"We are thrilled to be the first accredited AEMT education program in the nation," said Steven Wilson, director of Durham's program. "Our goal is to ensure our AEMT students can efficiently and effectively provide emergency medical care at the advanced life support level. The accreditation process provides a valuable framework to do just that, and we are proud to be a part of the statewide effort in North Carolina to ensure all programs meet national standards for high-quality AEMT education."

"Durham Tech is the first of what we hope will be many AEMT education programs in the state to receive accreditation," said Todd Messer, Education Manager at the North Carolina Office of Emergency Medical Services. "In moving to require accreditation at the AEMT level, we are ensuring graduates in our state are well prepared for the demands of today's workforce, and tomorrow's. Looking ahead, we know accreditation will strengthen our EMS workforce and ultimately enhance patient care statewide."

"When we launched voluntary AEMT accreditation just one year ago, we were hopeful that programs would see the value," said Dr. George Hatch, executive director of CoAEMSP. "We know that accreditation creates value – for educators, students, employers, and their community. Heading into a new year, we are both excited and gratified to see so many programs take the steps necessary to achieve voluntary accreditation. Congratulations to Durham Tech for being the first in the nation. And we are confident that other programs will soon join them as part of a wave of innovation and excellence in AEMT education."

The 12 AEMT education programs holding an LoR include:

- Eastern Arizona College (Thatcher, AZ)
- Fayette County Fire & Emergency Services (Jonesboro, GA)
- Brunswick Community College (Bolivia, NC)
- Edgecombe Community College-Rocky Mount (Rocky Mount, NC)
- Forsyth Technical Community College-Northwest Forsyth Center (King, NC)
- James Sprunt Community College (Kenansville, NC)
- South Piedmont Community College-Old Charlotte Highway Campus (Monroe, NC)

- Surry Community College-Yadkin Center (Yadkinville, NC)
- Wilson Community College (Wilson, NC)
- Midlands Technical College-Airport Campus (West Columbia, SC)
- Paul D. Camp Community College-Hobbs Suffolk Campus (Suffolk, VA)
- Providence St. Luke's Rehabilitation Medical Center (Spokane, WA)

Visit the CoAEMSP website for more information on voluntary AEMT accreditation.

The Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP) works to advance the quality of EMS education through accreditation. CoAEMSP is the only organization recognized by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) to provide accreditation services for Paramedic and AEMT education programs.