



## 2022 Questions to NAEMT Board Candidates

*Please include your response below each question. Please limit each answer to 500 words or less. Thanks.*

**Candidate:** Allison G. S. Knox

### Questions for 2022 Election Candidates

1. Define what you believe are the key characteristics of good leadership and describe the leadership qualities that you will bring to the position for which you are running.

In my humble opinion, when we think about individuals that are good leaders, we often think about their charisma and what they did to inspire others. The underlying piece here is they're charismatic and able to bring people together. Collaboration, in my opinion, is one of the most important pieces to strong leadership because it can help groups of people to collaborate and support a central mission or goal.

This very notion relates to EMS for one very important reason: as an industry, we need to develop and foster innovative conversations among EMS providers throughout the country. We need to have these conversations and as we consider the future of EMS. I've met so many industry professionals who have fantastic ideas who can contribute so much to the conversation. If elected to this position, I would like to help facilitate these conversations to help the EMS industry grow and prosper. Collaboration will be one of the key factors as we consider where the EMS industry will go next.

2. What do you believe are the top issues facing the EMS profession right now, and what role should NAEMT play in addressing these issues?

There are many issues that the EMS industry is facing and in my opinion, at the core of these issues is culture. In short, the industry is facing significant workplace challenges between policy issues and recruitment and retention issues that have left the industry with significant workplace shortages. Culture is the common denominator here. As an industry, we need to rethink how we can be more supportive of EMS students, volunteers and find new ways to inspire people to become part of our industry. Further, as an industry, we need to be more

supportive of individuals wanting to join EMS to make a difference. NAEMT is already working to support these efforts through the important discussions of EMS industry issues in all of the committee meetings. We need to keep thinking about how we can make a meaningful difference in a positive fashion - particularly where culture is concerned.

3. With additional stress on an already overburdened workforce, what steps can NAEMT take to support the health, wellbeing and resilience of our EMS practitioners?

In general, NAEMT has done an excellent job in supporting the health, wellbeing and resilience of EMS practitioners. As a whole, the organization does a nice job creating committees for members to discuss and collaborate on EMS-related issues, but also offers numerous courses that will help EMS practitioners world-wide. If anything, we need to create more dialogue between practitioners in the various communities to help them be more supported. The new Lighthouse Mentor Program is a new initiative that will greatly help to support the health, wellbeing and resilience of EMS practitioners.

4. How would you explain the value of NAEMT membership to both prospective members and existing members?

There are numerous professional organizations out there that support members through all of the different programs and professional opportunities. NAEMT provides its members the environment for members to collaborate with other industry professionals through a plethora of committees, educational opportunities and other ways to network - including the new Lighthouse Mentor Program that creates mentoring opportunities for new industry professionals. These collaborative pieces will help members to grow professionally while networking throughout the country. There are many opportunities for prospective members to learn and grow as an EMS industry professional.