



2023 Questions to NAEMT Board Candidates

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

Candidate: Bryan Nelson

Questions for 2023 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.

True servant leadership requires Integrity, empathy, communication, commitment, and empowerment. Integrity is by far, the single most important quality a leader can possess, and no leader can succeed without integrity because integrity comprises truth and honor with a moral compass. A leader must have empathy and a connection to those who follow them, to understand the issues of importance to those they represent. Leaders must be able to communicate effectively with stakeholders to facilitate change. Leaders must have a strong commitment to the organization and a passion for the causes of those they represent. Finally, leaders must empower and inspire the next generation, serving as role models and leading by example, to inspire the next generation of professionals. These are the qualities that I believe are vital to success and the qualities I strive to exhibit every day in my personal and professional life.

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

Healthcare in the United States has never been more volatile and unpredictable. The EMS workforce was challenged before the pandemic, and now we are on the precipice of disaster. Workforce issues such as recruitment and retention, livable wages and inflation are all factors that impact the delivery of prehospital care. EMS providers are some of the most resilient people on the planet; however, there are some issues that stretch beyond workforce resilience. EMS agencies must adapt to the changing environment to remain viable in the future. The fact is, the healthcare system of the future will require agencies to collect and utilize data to deliver high quality services with maximum efficiency and narrow margins for reimbursement. The NAEMT must continue to focus on collaboration with other industry partners to lobby for better

reimbursement. The NAEMT is well suited to help EMS agencies navigate the changing healthcare landscape with the vast expertise of the NAEMT leadership and the committees that work on the pathways of the future. NAEMT committees have multidisciplinary groups focused on legislation to recognize EMS as an essential public service, accurately counting the number of EMS providers, which will hopefully lead to better reimbursement. They should also continue to focus on mental health and best practices to support the strained EMS workforce, such as they did with the creation of the Mental Health Resiliency Officer (MHRO) course.

3. What do you believe EMS practitioners from younger generations are seeking from membership in a professional association, and how can NAEMT best respond to their needs?

There are currently several generations in the workforce – each with their own perspectives and priorities. Younger generations are keenly focused on flexibility, technology, and a sense of purpose. EMS practitioners from younger generations want to be aligned with an organization that shares their values and priorities. NAEMT should focus on the needs of the workforce, including employee wellness and lifelong learning. The NAEMT should focus on efforts that connect to younger generations and engage them with a shared purpose – a sense of belonging to an association that tirelessly advocates for EMS professionals and provides the inclusivity and diversity they crave.

4. Explain how you communicate the value of NAEMT membership to existing and potential members.

The National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians is among the best value, if not THE best value, among professional organizations. The leadership of the organization are all veterans of EMS and passionate about Emergency Medical Services and the essential public service we provide. Aside from the extensive discounts from numerous organizations, the NAEMT collaborates with multiple state and federal agencies on several issues including reimbursement, workforce, and education. They also lobby for legislation that improves the delivery of Emergency Medical Services, Mobile Integrated Health, and EMS reimbursement. Most importantly, they advocate for legislation that benefits EMS personnel, such as legislation that defines EMS as an essential public service and accurately counts EMS providers. The NAEMT creates and delivers courses designed to educate and train EMS providers to work smarter, work safer, and provide cutting-edge evidenced-based care. The NAEMT is one of the few professional organizations in existence that continuously strives to improve, and defend, their constituents every day. Your membership dues provide the resources to continue and strengthen the largest and most influential professional organization in the country dedicated to the profession of EMS.