

# Media Information

## from the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians

Formed in 1975 and today more than 32,000 members strong, the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT) is the only national association dedicated to representing the professional interests of all EMS practitioners, including paramedics, emergency medical technicians, first responders and other professionals working in prehospital emergency medicine. NAEMT members work in all sectors of EMS, including government service agencies, fire departments, hospital-based ambulance services, private companies, industrial and special operations settings, and in the military.

**For more information:** [www.naemt.org](http://www.naemt.org) | 1-800-34-NAEMT  
**Media contact:** Rebecca Dinan Schneider  
[rebecca.dinan@naemt.org](mailto:rebecca.dinan@naemt.org)

2/2011



# About NAEMT



NAEMT's strategic plan focuses on three key areas: Membership, Education and Advocacy.

## Membership

- As a national membership association, NAEMT offers members thousands of dollars in benefits, including a members-only discount of 25 percent off select 5.11 Tactical, Inc.™ merchandise, \$10,000 in AD&D insurance coverage, a voucher worth up to \$15 towards any NAEMT continuing education course, two free online continuing education courses per year from CentreLearn worth \$13.90, which also can be used as credit toward an annual subscription plan, a \$150 award upon enrollment and a 10% discount on college courses through The College Network, \$35,000 each year in educational scholarships, a \$125 discount off EMS World Expo, free subscriptions, and much more.
- NAEMT is led by a board of 15 directors who represent four regions spanning the U.S. and who volunteer their time and effort in steering the association. Committees assist the board in carrying out the work of the association. Headquarters and staff are based in Clinton, Mississippi.

## Education

- NAEMT is known for offering the best in EMS continuing education through nationally recognized programs, including Advanced Medical Life Support (AMLS), Emergency Pediatric Care (EPC), EMS Safety, Prehospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS), Tactical Casualty Combat Care, and Trauma First Response.
- Last year, NAEMT course sites conducted continuing education courses for more than 46,000 students.

## Advocacy

- Through its advocacy program, NAEMT is the national united voice of EMS on issues including pay and benefits, work environments, safety, and the ability of practitioners to effectively serve their patients. NAEMT also is one of the four sponsoring organizations of Advocates for EMS, which promotes, educates and increases awareness among governmental decision-makers on EMS issues.
- Each May, NAEMT hosts EMS on the Hill Day, a national advocacy event at which EMS professionals meet with their congressional leaders on Capitol Hill to advocate for the passage of key EMS legislation. At the 2010 inaugural event, 120 EMS professionals from across the nation met with more than 160 U.S. Senators and House Representatives.
- NAEMT publishes position statements on issues of importance to EMS practitioners. These statements can be found in the Advocacy section of our web site.

**For more information: [www.naemt.org](http://www.naemt.org) | 1-800-34-NAEMT**  
**Media contact: Rebecca Dinan Schneider**  
[rebecca.dinan@naemt.org](mailto:rebecca.dinan@naemt.org)

2/2011



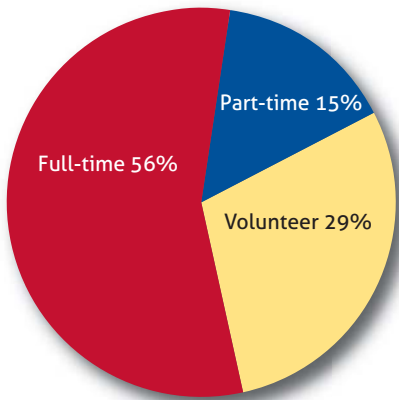
# NAEMT Membership

NAEMT members encompass both paid and volunteer EMS practitioners, working on a full-time and part-time basis.

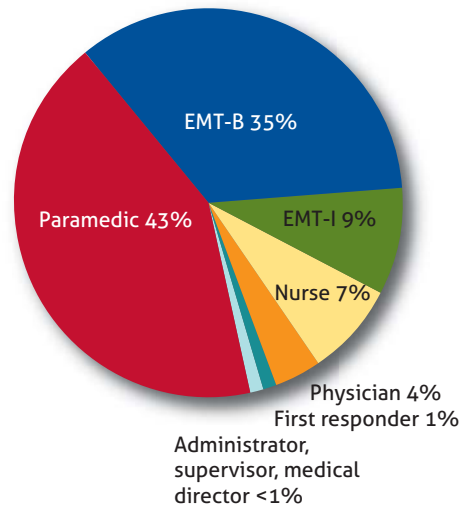
Practitioner types include EMT-Basics, EMT-Intermediates and Paramedics, with first responders, nurses and other allied health and medical professionals making up a small percentage of our membership.

NAEMT members work in all sectors of EMS, including government service agencies, fire departments, hospital-based ambulance services, private companies, industrial and special operations settings, and in the military.

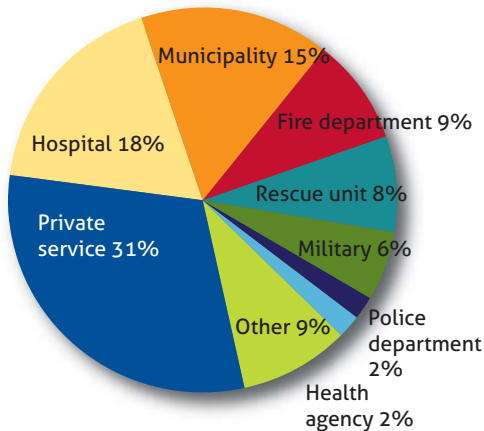
**Member demographics**



**Member careers**



**Member employment**



For more information: [www.naemt.org](http://www.naemt.org) | 1-800-34-NAEMT

Media contact: Rebecca Dinan Schneider  
[rebecca.dinan@naemt.org](mailto:rebecca.dinan@naemt.org)

2/2011



# About EMS

**What is EMS?** EMS stands for emergency medical services. EMS practitioners provide prehospital emergency medical care. Most often, people call EMS when they have had an accident or are experiencing a medical emergency, including heart attack, difficulty breathing, a fall or accident, drowning, cardiac arrest, stroke, drug overdose or acute illness. EMS services may provide both basic and advanced medical care at the scene of an emergency and en route to a hospital.

**What is an EMS system?** EMS is much more than an ambulance service. It includes the call center that receives the call for and dispatches help, those who respond first (such as police officers and firefighters), an ambulance transportation team of EMTs and/or paramedics, physicians and nurses who provide advice via radio or phone, air medical services (helicopters and small airplanes), hospital receiving facilities, and governmental and medical oversight.

**Who provides EMS?** When a person becomes ill or injured and dials 911, the call is answered by an EMS dispatcher, who is trained to obtain key information from the caller about the location and type of emergency. The dispatcher also may give the caller patient care instructions while sending emergency responders to the scene of the emergency.

These responders may be trained to different levels:

- First Responders (who have about 40 hours of training)
- EMT-Basics (who have about 110 hours of training)
- EMT-Intermediates (who have about 200-400 hours of training) and
- Paramedics (who have 1,000 or more hours of training)

The training level of practitioners is a local decision and based upon local resources and the priorities of those who fund the EMS system. Each of these levels of EMS responders is trained to perform different skills to assist the patient.

EMS responders work under protocols approved by a physician medical director, who oversees the care of patients in the EMS system and is knowledgeable about patient care interventions and how EMS systems deliver care. Typically, EMS medical directors work in conjunction with local EMS leaders to assure quality patient care. EMS care may be provided by private ambulance companies, fire or police departments, a public EMS agency, a hospital or by a combination of these. EMS responders may be paid workers or volunteers in the community.

**What skills does a basic EMT perform?** EMTs can perform CPR, artificial ventilations, oxygen administration, basic airway management, defibrillation using an AED, spinal immobilization, monitoring of vital signs and bandaging/splinting. They also may administer nitroglycerin, glucose, epinephrine and albuterol in special circumstances.

**What skills does a paramedic perform?** A paramedic has extensive training in patient assessment and participates in a variety of clinical experiences during training. He or she can perform all of the skills performed by an EMT-Basic, plus advanced airway management such as endotracheal intubation, electrocardiographs (ECGs), insertion of intravenous lines, administration of numerous emergency medications, and assessment of ECG tracings and defibrillates.



**For more information:** [www.naemt.org](http://www.naemt.org) | 1-800-34-NAEMT

**Media contact:** Rebecca Dinan Schneider  
[rebecca.dinan@naemt.org](mailto:rebecca.dinan@naemt.org)

2/2011

