

National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians® THE NATION'S EMS CERTIFICATION™	Designated Authorizing Agency (DAA)		
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Intent

This policy establishes the requirements, authority, and expectations for designation and continued recognition of a Designated Authorizing Agency (DAA) by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (National Registry).

Scope

This policy applies to governmental entities seeking or maintaining designation as a DAA. The National Registry defines the eligibility requirements for DAA designation, the roles and expectations of DAAs, as well as conditions and duration of designation.

Definitions

Designated Authorizing Agency (DAA):

A governmental EMS entity that functions as both an employer and quasi-regulator. DAAs credential and authorize EMS clinicians to operate within specific governmental roles and under a defined scope of practice. DAAs may be granted the State Office Official (SOO) role within the National Registry database.

State Lead Licensing Agent Equivalent (SLA):

Individual responsible for EMS system oversight and reporting disciplinary actions to the National Registry. (This role cannot be delegated to a contractor.)

State Training Coordinator Equivalent (STC) :

Individual responsible for educational program oversight including program approval by validating these programs meet or exceed national EMS education standards. This role also validates recertification activities for clinicians. This role may be covered by the SLA.

State Office Official Equivalent (SOO):

Individual responsible for verifying skills competency for EMR and EMT applications and monitoring candidate progress.

State EMS Medical Director Equivalent:

Individual responsible for clinical oversight and review of disciplinary actions affecting EMS clinicians employed by the DAA. This role must be at the physician or advanced practitioner level.

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Policy

A governmental EMS authority may be designated as a Designated Authorizing Agency (DAA) when it demonstrates appropriate authority, infrastructure, and accountability to authorize EMS clinicians, oversee EMS education programs, and maintain compliance with National Registry requirements.

- The agency must demonstrate authority and jurisdiction to credential, authorize, monitor, and, when appropriate, remove authorization for EMS clinicians operating under its authority.
- The agency must maintain standards and oversight processes for EMS education programs, EMS educators, candidate authorization, certification-related approvals, investigations, compliance, and reporting of sanctions or disciplinary actions.
- The agency must identify qualified key personnel responsible for carrying out DAA responsibilities, including functions equivalent to the SLA, STC, SOO, and State EMS Medical Director, as applicable.
- The National Registry is responsible for evaluating whether an agency meets the requirements for DAA designation and for determining whether the designation should be approved, denied, continued, modified, or withdrawn.
- The National Registry CEO/Executive Director, or designee, determines whether DAA designation requests are approved, denied, continued, modified, or withdrawn and serves as the final approval authority for all DAA designation decisions.
- DAA designation is conditional and subject to ongoing monitoring, including periodic review to confirm continued compliance with designation requirements and National Registry expectations.
- Approved DAAs must comply with National Registry system access, role assignment, data integrity, reporting, and communication requirements necessary to administer certification-related responsibilities.

Rationale

The integration of certification, education, and licensure ensures EMS clinicians meet consistent national standards. DAAs extend this framework into governmental and specialized environments, ensuring accountability, competency, and public safety.

Related Policies and Procedures

Terms of Certification Policy

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Certification Schemes (EMR, EMT, AEMT, Paramedic)

DAA Procedure

References

NCCA Accreditation Standards

Document History

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