



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
152 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

MIKE SAUSCHUCK
COMMISSIONER

WIL O'NEAL
DIRECTOR

Education Committee – May 14, 2025

Virtual via ZOOM: <https://mainestate.zoom.us/j/82789080665>

Members present: Aiden Koplovsky (Chair), Cathy Gosselin, Ben Zetterman, Amy Drinkwater, Paul Froman, Dennis Russell, Leah Mitchell, AJ Gagon, Thomas, "TW" Williamson,

Members Absent: Steve Smith, Joanne LeBrun, Mike Drinkwater

MEMS Staff: John DeArmond, Jason Oko, Melissa Adams, Soliana Goldrich

Stakeholders:

- 1) Introductions/Call to Order
 - a. Quorum present, Koplovsky calls meeting to order at 0900
- 2) Maine EMS Mission Statement is read by Koplovsky

"The mission of Maine EMS is to promote and provide for a comprehensive and effective Emergency Medical Services system to ensure optimum patient care with standards for all clinicians. All members of this board should strive to promote the core values of excellence, support, collaboration, and integrity. In serving on this board, we commit to serve the respective clinicians, communities, and residents of the jurisdictions that we represent."
- 3) Public Comment
 - a. None
- 4) Approval of previous minutes
 - a. **Motion to approve May 2025 minutes made by L. Mitchel to approve with the correction of her name, seconded by AJ Gagon. No changes. Passes unanimously.**
- 5) Changes to agenda
 - a. None
- 6) State Update
 - a. John
- 7) Old Business
 - a. IC Survey Results and Training Challenges

Aiden led a discussion on the IC survey results, highlighting the need for changes in continuing education hours for IC licensure. The committee identified issues such as a lack of offerings, geographic barriers, high costs, and timing issues. They proposed reducing the number of hours, granting more hours for actual teaching, and providing clarity on what counts for IC hours. The committee also discussed the challenges faced by training centers, including scheduling issues, equipment issues, and curriculum

issues. Aiden suggested distributing the survey results to training centers for their knowledge.

Clarifying Credit for Teaching and Continuing Education

The team discussed the current system of granting credit for teaching and the possibility of increasing the number of hours that can be utilized towards continuing education. They also considered the idea of tying the credit to outcomes, such as the completion and passing rate of students. The team agreed that the current system is not well communicated and suggested the need for a clearer and well-defined section on their website to provide information on how the process works. They also discussed the possibility of allowing more continuing education hours to be applied if someone is actively teaching in an initial licensure class.

The team agreed that the current system of granting credit for teaching should be clarified by the state and that the credit should be given to those who are actually doing the teaching in the course. They also discussed the possibility of using online platforms for instructor development courses. The team also discussed the value of the IC license and the possibility of removing the CH requirement to it.

IC License Elimination Discussion

The committee discussed the possibility of eliminating the IC license for lead instructors. While some members expressed support for this idea, others raised concerns about accountability and the potential impact on training centers. The committee decided to request data from the main EMS office on the number of IC licenses issued over the past three years. They also agreed to further discuss the issue in the next meeting, with a focus on eliminating the continuing education hours requirement for IC licenses. The committee aims to present a formal proposal with suggested changes and a detailed plan for the next meeting.

IC Relationship Toolbox and Chapter 27

Andrew proposed the idea of creating an IC relationship toolbox to address confusion around Category 7 CHS and relicensure. Aiden agreed and suggested a dedicated website area for ICs to access materials. Melissa raised a concern about the scope of practice expansion and suggested considering an active/inactive status model for ICs. John discussed the review process for Chapter 27 applications and encouraged training centers to apply. Aiden clarified that Chapter 27 is a sustainability grant funding for training centers, and applications are due on the 17th. The group also discussed the operational bulletin regarding out-of-state education programs and clinicals, acknowledging potential disruption and the need for clarification.

b. CEH Process Challenges and Solutions

Aiden led a discussion on the current challenges with the Continuing Education Hours (CEH) process. Jason highlighted the issues of timeliness and the lack of quality in the submitted content. Melissa suggested that the office should work with the requester to meet the requirements and provide guidance. The team agreed that there is a need for clearer guidance on what constitutes a complete application for CEH. They also discussed the possibility of providing a template for the outline and a sample filled-out template for reference. The next

steps include following up with John and the regional managers to provide some help and connections with other training centers that are approving CEH.

c. Training Center Standards and Community Paramedicine

In the meeting, Aiden raised the question of what training centers can and cannot perform in terms of continuing community paramedic education. The group discussed whether all training centers can offer that education or only ALS training centers can. Dennis suggested that a paramedic can take and do the affiliate course, but the affiliate, technician, and clinician levels should be done by an ALS training center. The group agreed to recommend to the Community Paramedicine Committee that the training centers allowed to participate in community paramedic licensure education at the highest level of clinician has to be a paramedic level training center, and at the mid and lowest levels, the training centers have to be an advanced EMT or higher license level. The group also discussed the need to revisit the training center standards and consider whether someone can only be a community paramedicine training center.

d. The committee also discussed the appointment of Aj Gagnon to the Transport and Transport Committee.

8) New Business

a.

9) **Next meeting to do**

- a. The Education Committee will dedicate the majority of the next meeting to discussing IC continuing education hours.

10) **Motion to adjourn by D. Russell , second by , L. Mitchell, no objections. Meeting adjourned at 11:04.**

11) Next Meeting June 11, 2025 at 0900.

Minutes by .