



# United States EMS Compact

*The Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice*

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<http://www.emscompact.gov/>  
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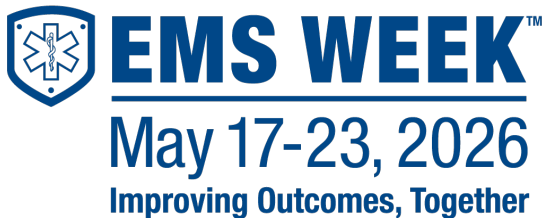
## PRESS RELEASE

### INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR EMS PERSONNEL PRACTICE ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS RECOGNIZING EMS WEEK AND EMS FOR CHILDREN DAY 2026

**30 APR 2026 Washington, DC** — The Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice, the governmental body that administers the United States EMS Compact across twenty-five member states and more than 450,000 licensed EMS clinicians, today adopted four resolutions at its 2026 Annual Meeting at the InterContinental Kansas City at the Plaza, held in conjunction with the National Association of State EMS Officials Annual Meeting.

Two of the resolutions formally recognize national observances of the EMS profession. Resolution 2026-01 recognizes the week of May 17 through 23, 2026, as Emergency Medical Services Week, commemorating the fifty-second anniversary of the observance. Resolution 2026-02 recognizes May 20, 2026, as Emergency Medical Services for Children Day.

Through Resolution 2026-01, the Commission affirmed that emergency medical services are a vital public service and that EMS practitioners are professional medical providers ready to deliver lifesaving care twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. The resolution recognizes the full breadth of the EMS workforce, including first responders, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, emergency medical dispatchers, firefighters, police officers, educators, administrators, prehospital and emergency nurses, emergency physicians, and trained members of the public. The resolution also recognizes State EMS Offices as the lead executive branch agencies responsible for the licensure of EMS personnel and the administration of state EMS systems.



Through Resolution 2026-02, the Commission recognized that thirty-five million children receive emergency medical care each year due to illness or injury, and that the medical needs of children differ materially from those of adults. The resolution affirms the work of the Emergency Medical Services for Children Program in helping states and communities prepare for pediatric emergencies, supporting research and improvement science across the prehospital and hospital continuum, and partnering with multidisciplinary teams of clinicians to reduce child and youth disability and death from severe illness or injury.

Both resolutions encourage the EMS community to observe these dates with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

"EMS Week and EMS for Children Day are moments for the entire profession to take stock of what its clinicians do every day, often without recognition. The Commission was created to protect the public by enabling those clinicians to serve across state lines, and these resolutions reaffirm that mission," said Kraig Kinney, Chair of the Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice.

#### RECOGNITION OF NREMT AND NASEMSO

The Commission also adopted two resolutions recognizing organizations whose contributions are essential to the operation of the EMS Compact.

Resolution 2026-03 formally recognizes the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) as an indispensable partner in the operation of the U.S. EMS Compact. The resolution acknowledges that NREMT certification is the foundation upon which the Recognition of Emergency Medical Services Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact rests, providing the uniform, nationally recognized standard of competence that makes interstate Privilege to Practice operationally and legally coherent. The resolution further recognizes NREMT's sustained financial, technical, and in-kind contributions, including the operation of the National EMS Coordinated Database through which member states verify licensure status and exchange adverse action information.

The EMS Compact is law in the following states:

Alabama • Arkansas • Colorado • Delaware • Georgia • Idaho • Indiana • Iowa • Kansas • Louisiana • Mississippi • Missouri • Nebraska • Nevada • North Dakota • Oklahoma • Pennsylvania • South Carolina • South Dakota • Tennessee • Texas • Utah • Virginia • West Virginia • Wyoming



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Resolution 2026-04 formally recognizes the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) as a peer organization and standing partner of the Commission. The resolution acknowledges NASEMSO's sustained advocacy for state enactment of the Compact since its formation, ongoing joint policy development on matters such as EMS representation in the federal Rural Health Transformation Program, and its hospitality in hosting the Commission's annual in-person meeting in conjunction with its own Annual Meeting each year.

"The Compact does not operate in isolation. NREMT's certification standard and its in-kind contribution of the technology that runs our coordinated database, together with NASEMSO's sustained advocacy and the convening that brings Commissioners together each year, are the reasons twenty-five states can administer interstate EMS licensure as a coherent system," said Donnie Woodyard, Jr., Executive Director of the Commission. "Formally putting that recognition on the record matters."

Formal copies of Resolutions 2026-03 and 2026-04 will be presented to the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians and the National Association of State EMS Officials, respectively.

For more information about the EMS Compact, member states, or to validate an EMS clinician's Privilege to Practice, please visit [www.emscompact.gov](http://www.emscompact.gov).

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## **About the Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice**

The Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice is the lead governmental authority in the United States responsible for regulating and overseeing the interstate practice of Emergency Medical Services (EMS). Established by the *Recognition of EMS Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact (REPLICA)*, the Commission is composed of appointed Commissioners from each Compact Member State and is vested with the authority to enforce compliance, administer national operations, resolve multistate regulatory and disciplinary issues, operate the National EMS Coordinated Database, and facilitate immediate license recognition and the Privilege to Practice across state lines. Operational 24/7, the EMS Compact enables more than 400,000 EMS clinicians in 25 member states to deliver care wherever and whenever needed—supporting routine operations, surge staffing, disaster response, recruitment and retention, and the demands of a modern, mobile workforce. The Commission safeguards public protection, enhances national preparedness, and stands as the definitive model for multistate licensure in healthcare.

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