



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

**Texas Department of State
Health Services**

AGENDA
Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC)
Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Education Committee Meeting
Department of State Health Services (DSHS)

Thursday, August 27, 2026
9:00 AM- 10:30 AM

DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton Austin
6505 N Interstate 35
Austin, Texas 78752

This meeting will be conducted live and virtually through Teams. Virtual meeting links are posted to the GETAC webpage at www.dshs.texas.gov/dshs-ems-trauma-systems/governors-ems-trauma-advisory-council.

Meeting Notice: The use of artificial intelligence (AI) bots is prohibited in this meeting. In accordance with HHS policy, the use of Artificial Intelligence, also known as "AI" Notetakers, is expressly prohibited. Producers will not admit a 'bot' or other autonomous agent into the meeting. If a 'bot' should inadvertently gain entrance, it will be removed from the meeting by one of our producers.

Committee Chair: Macara Trusty, LP

Committee Vice Chair: Christopher Nations, LP

Council Liaisons: Taylor Ratcliff, MD; Rodney Tidwell, EMT-P

DSHS: Jorie Klein, EMS/Trauma Systems Director; Joe Schmider, Texas State EMS Director; Sabrina Lee Richardson, EMT-P

1. Opening

- A. Call to order
- B. Roll call
- C. Reading of the GETAC vision and mission statements

GETAC Vision: A unified, comprehensive, and effective Emergency Healthcare System.

GETAC Mission: To promote, develop, and advance an accountable, patient-centered Trauma and Emergency Healthcare System.

- D. Reading of the GETAC EMS Education Committee statement of purpose

The purpose of the GETAC EMS Education Committee is to advise GETAC on EMS education and practices.

- E. Review and approval of minutes – June 4, 2026
- F. GETAC chair announcements – Alan Tyroch, MD
- G. Update: EMS/Trauma Systems – Jorie Klein, MSN, MHA, BSN, RN,
EMS/Trauma Systems Director; Joe Schmider, Texas State EMS Director

2. Discussion and possible action

- A. 2026 committee priorities outcomes
 - i. Evaluate the needs of EMS providers throughout Texas and provide input to DSHS on opportunities to address these identified needs.
 - ii. Refine the educational requirements for certification and maintenance of certification as emergency medical services personnel.
- B. 2027 committee priorities
- C. Updates
 - i. Stroke Committee – Amanda Jagolino-Cole, MD, Stroke Committee
 - ii. Open Enrollment Paramedic Program
 - iii. Open Enrollment Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT) Program
 - iv. High School Guidance Document Workgroup
 - v. Mentor Program Development Workgroup
 - vi. Initiatives, programs, and potential research that might improve EMS education in Texas.
 - a. Antibiotics in initial education
 - b. Whole Blood (WB) in initial education
 - vii. Field Training Officer Development
 - viii. Clinical Education Programs for EMS Providers and First Responder Organizations (FROs)

3. Closing

- A. General public comment – *Comment time may be limited at the Chair's discretion.*
- B. Summary
 - i. Action items to present at Regional Advisory Council (RAC) meeting
 - ii. Action items to present at GETAC meeting
 - iii. Agenda items for next committee meeting
- C. Next meeting date – November 22, 2026
- D. Adjournment

Public Comment

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) welcomes public comments on Emergency Health Care. Members of the public are encouraged to participate in this process by submitting written comments to DSHS via email at deidra.lee@dshs.texas.gov

no later than 5:00 PM, August 21, 2026. Please include your name and either the organization you are representing or that you are speaking as a private citizen. Written comments are limited to three minutes and will be read during the meeting for consideration by the Council. The request must contain your name, your direct phone number, and the name of the organization you represent or indicate that you are speaking as a private citizen.

Public comments are limited to three minutes. Speakers must state their name, affiliation, and on whose behalf they are speaking. Public members who are using handouts are asked to provide an electronic copy in accessible PDF format that will be distributed by DSHS staff to Council members, state staff, and the public. Handouts are limited to two pages of documentation (paper size: 8.5" by 11", one side only). Handouts must be emailed to DSHS by 5:00 PM, August 21, 2026, and include the name of the person commenting. Contact: Questions regarding agenda items, content, or meeting arrangements should be directed to Jorie Klein, DSHS, at 512-535-8538 or Jorie.Klein@dshs.texas.gov.

People with disabilities who wish to attend the meeting and require auxiliary aids or services should contact Jorie Klein at 512-535-8538 or Jorie.Klein@dshs.texas.gov at least 72 hours before the meeting so appropriate arrangements can be made.