

Office of EMS Trauma Systems  
Texas Department of State Health Services  
[dshs.texas.gov/dshs-ems-trauma-systems](https://dshs.texas.gov/dshs-ems-trauma-systems)



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

### National Registry 2022 Texas Pass Rates

#### From this Side

EMS/Trauma Systems leadership team and staff share their experiences and perspectives to spark conversation on issues important to the EMS and trauma system in Texas.

#### Updates

The Office of EMS/Trauma Systems provides the latest regulatory changes, important programmatic data, and relevant funding information to keep you informed.

#### News and Links

Access current news, initiatives, and publications from national EMS and public health organizations, as well as links to GETAC, rules, and enforcement actions.

#### NEMSIS Version 3.5 Update

EMS Providers are encouraged to begin now to develop an implementation plan for V3.5 data standard.

#### May Awareness Celebrations

Help bring awareness to stroke and trauma education and recognize Texas EMS and nursing personnel for their unfailing commitment to meet the needs of those placed in their care.

#### EMS Trauma Systems Program Data

View data from our EMS certification and Designation programs.

# FROM THIS SIDE

Insight • Inspiration • Ideas



START A  
CAREER  
THAT LETS  
YOU CARE.

## EMS Scholarship Program Takes Off

The Texas Legislature set aside funds to educate and train EMS personnel, paving the way for the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) to offer education scholarships and increase the EMS workforce in Texas. The Regional Advisory Councils (RACs) are partnering with DSHS to distribute scholarships to licensed EMS providers or licensed EMS education programs.

**To date, over \$6 million in scholarships have been processed. This equates to over 1,100 new or upgraded EMS personnel!**

### What's Happening Now

The Regional Advisory Councils (RACs) have been instrumental in the success of this initiative. They have tailored their programs to fit their regional needs and continue to be an integral piece of the EMS recruitment and retention effort in our state.

- To date, over \$6 million in EMS education scholarships have been processed. **This equates to over 1,100 new or upgraded EMS personnel** – and it's just the beginning!
- From February 13 to March 31, 2023, the Department ran a digital ad campaign designed to increase EMS career awareness in urban & rural areas of Texas. The ads had 39.6 million impressions, reached over 5.5 million unique email addresses, and more than 306,236 people clicked on the ads to be redirected to the EMS Scholarships and Careers [website](#).

For information on available Texas EMS education scholarships and the application process, visit the [website](#) or [contact your state RAC](#).

# Texas EMS System Move to Version 3.5



The Texas EMS system is moving to V3.5 National Emergency Medical Services Information System (NEMESIS) later in 2023, and the whole nation will move to V3.5 by January 1, 2024.

EMS Providers are encouraged to begin now to develop an implementation plan for V3.5 data standard. EMS software vendors continue to develop products to support the V3.5 standard.

Please review the monthly activity report document and watch for more information in the future.



## Texas Shines

Texas Shines through the commitment and hard work of its EMS workforce. We want to recognize the outstanding EMS personnel and providers whose dedication to EMS makes the Lone Star State shine bright. To share the stories of individuals, crews, or agencies who provided outstanding EMS care for an ill or injured Texan, [email us](#).

Each quarter, we will select a story to be featured in the Texas Shines section of the EMS/Trauma Systems newsletter.



2023  
Call for  
Nominations

Deadline  
September 15

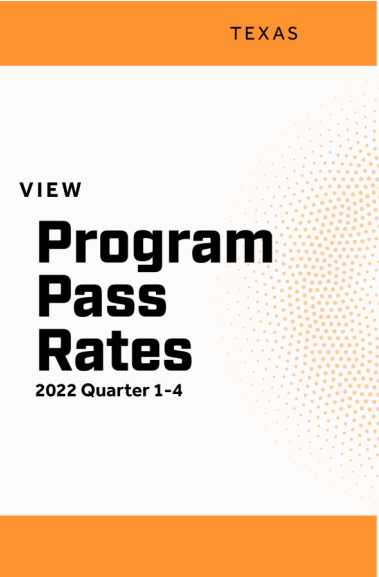
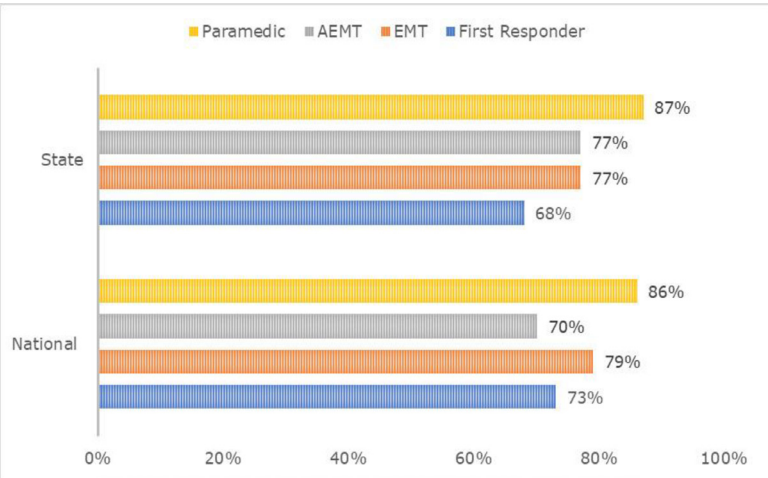


# 2022 National Registry Pass Rates for Texas

## PASS PERCENTAGES

The chart represents the Texas overall passing score rate in comparison to the national average.

The scores are based on data from January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022.



## PROGRAM STATISTICS

We provide a [complete list](#) of Texas education program pass rates.

The National Registry-Texas Pass Percentage report includes:

- Program name
- First attempt pass rates
- Cumulative pass rates within 3 attempts
- Cumulative pass rates within 6 attempts

## GET IN TOUCH

We're available to discuss improvement strategies for Texas EMS education programs.

State EMS Director, [Joseph Schmider](#)  
 EMS Manager North, [Valerie Tumlinson](#)  
 EMS Education Coordinator, [Mattie Mendoza](#)

EMS Manager East, [Joey Ancelet](#)  
 EMS Manager South, [Jaime Vallejo](#)  
 National Registry [Website](#)



# AWARENESS Celebrations

# May 2023

The month of May is dedicated to our healthcare professionals who dedicate themselves to the health and wellness of the people in their community. Please join us in thanking our Texas EMS and nursing personnel as we recognize them for their unflinching commitment to meet the needs of those placed in their care. Click on the event logos to stay up to date on changing guidelines that may affect this year’s celebrations and awareness events.

## Nurses Month

The 2023 theme for Nurses Month is “You Make a Difference.” Nurses advocate for high-quality patient care, educate community members, and offer compassion and care to help ease pain and discomfort. They truly do make a difference and positively impact the health and wellbeing of our communities.



Along with recognizing our hometown heroes, May is also dedicated to bringing awareness to the importance of preventing stroke and traumatic injury in our communities, as well as educating about the importance of being prepared when traumatic bleeding occurs.

## Trauma Awareness Month

In response to the rise in vehicle-related injuries and fatalities, the National Trauma Awareness Month (NTAM) campaign theme for 2023 is “Roadway Safety Is No Accident.” To drive home the message “Prevention Is Key: Safety Is A Choice,” the focus will be on passenger advocacy, distracted driving, experience, impairment, and traffic safety.



## Stroke Awareness Month

Every 40 seconds, someone in the U.S. has a stroke. This May, the American Heart Association® and American Stroke Association® have assembled toolkits and webinars to bring additional stroke-focused learning to health care professionals and to make it easier than ever for your organization to participate.



## National EMS Week - May 21 - 27, 2023

“911 – What’s your emergency?” When the call for help comes in, our Texas EMS workforce drops everything to respond to ill or injured Texans. The ability to provide prehospital emergency care in the field and en route can make all the difference in patient outcomes at the hospital, so the 2023 theme “EMS: Where Emergency Care Begins” for National EMS Week is aptly fitting.



## STOP THE BLEED® Day – May 25, 2023

Uncontrolled bleeding is responsible for approximately 40% of deaths from traumatic injury. Seconds count. The STOP THE BLEED® Texas Coalition aims to increase awareness about the seriousness of traumatic bleeding and get Texans trained and equipped to “stand in the gap” with a traumatic injury until EMS arrives. May 25th is National STOP THE BLEED® Day, so join us in spreading awareness on the importance of having the knowledge and skills to stop the bleeding when traumatic injury occurs.





## Welcome our new staff members

We are pleased to announce that our OEMSTS team has grown.

Join us in welcoming our new staff members.

**Sunita Raj** is the newest manager within the EMS/Trauma Systems section. With 26 years of work with the state, she brings budget, grant, contract, and CAPPs SME – level I experience and is excited to work with the team and learn something new about EMS and trauma. Sunita is passionate about her work and cares about providing excellent customer service.

**Maude Adjarian** is a Program Specialist on the EMS/Trauma Systems team. During her years of state service, she has worked for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) as a Grant Specialist, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) as a Cares Grant Coordinator, and the Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) as a Curriculum/Public Information Specialist. Maude is a pet mom to a naughty cat and one curious betta fish and enjoys reading, yoga, hiking, and cooking gourmet vegetarian meals.

**Bryan Gann** is an EMS Specialist in the Arlington area. He is a Licensed Paramedic with over 21 years in EMS and worked for Cooke County EMS as a Captain. Bryan served in the US Army, followed by six years in the Texas National Guard. He and his wife have three children each and nine grandchildren. They live on a few acres just outside Sanger, TX, where they raise some livestock.

**Lisa Hogue** is an EMS Specialist in the Lubbock area. She is a Licensed Paramedic who has been in the EMS field for over 22 years. Lisa graduated from Texas Tech University in 2019 with a Master's in Healthcare Administration and resides in Lubbock with her two teenage daughters. Lisa enjoys spending time with her girls and attending local sporting events when not at work.

**John Jones** is an EMS Specialist and will cover parts of San Antonio down to Eagle Pass and Laredo. He is a Licensed Paramedic with more than 25 years as a first responder serving in various roles, including a firefighter, flight paramedic, program director, and law enforcement. John calls San Antonio home, where he lives with his wife, three children, and three dogs.

**Daniel Grady** is an EMS Specialist covering the Austin area and surrounding counties. He served in the United States Navy and has worked in prehospital medicine since 1997, with the last 24 years providing care as a flight paramedic. Dan lives in San Antonio and has seven children and a grandson. When he's not serving "the greatest EMS services in the country," he enjoys exploring the outdoors.

# DATA

Analysis ■ Communication ■ Information



## EMS PROVIDER

### EMS Application Processing

Turnaround times on applications for the second quarter (Dec, Jan, Feb) of Fiscal Year 2023.

Type	Applications	Median processing time
EMS personnel	7,131	20 days
EMS educators	508	97 days
EMS providers	97	68 days
First responder organizations	60	75 days

A look back at turnaround times for all Fiscal Year 2022:

Type	Applications	Median processing time
EMS personnel	28,271	15 days
EMS educators	1,847	79 days
EMS providers	353	74 days
First responder organizations	306	70 days

A few things to remember when renewing your EMS certification or license:

#### EMS personnel

- Don't wait for your name to appear on the fingerprint list.
- Don't wait until the last day of the month to submit your application.

#### EMS providers

- Don't wait until the last minute to update or obtain your letter of credit from your banking institution. You should obtain your letter 90 days before your expiration date.
- The certificate, license, or approval expires at midnight of the expiration date if the department doesn't receive a renewal application and the correct amount of renewal fee, or it only receives the application but not the full amount of the renewal fee prior to midnight of the expiration date.
- An untimely filed EMS provider renewal application will require the applicant to file an initial application and meet EMS provider license requirements in effect for an initial applicant at that time.



#### Factors that contribute to processing time

- Renewal applications for EMS personnel and educators are opened six months before the expiration date; the open time contributes to the processing time.
- Initial provider and first responder applicants undergo surveys and inspection before a license is issued.
- Renewal applications for EMS providers and first responders are opened three months before the expiration date; the open time contributes to the processing time.

# DATA

Analysis ■ Communication ■ Information



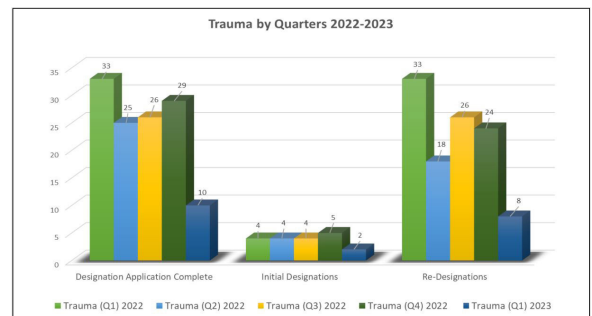
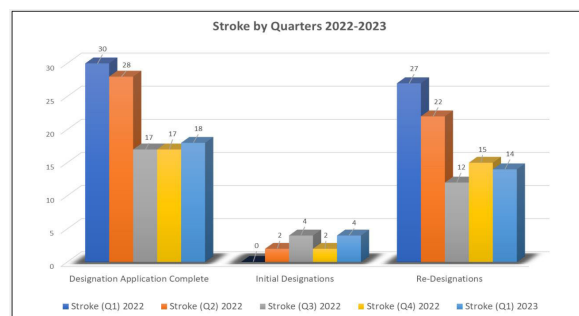
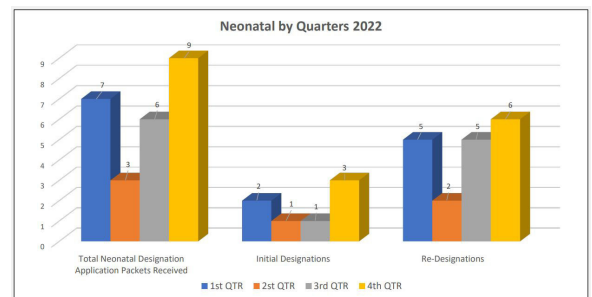
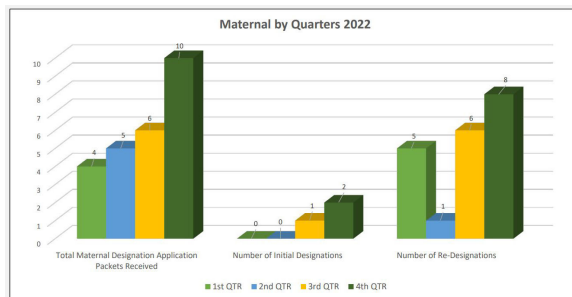
## Facility Designations

The Trauma and Stroke facility designations data represents the total completed designation applications per quarter in 2022 and Q1 of 2023. For Neonatal and Maternal facilities, quarterly data is shown for 2022 only.

The graphs further characterize application types by the number of facilities applying for initial designation and the currently designated facilities seeking re-designation.

[View in PDF format](#)

DESIGNATION





# Updates

Regulations • Programs • Funding



## RULES

### 88 Regular Legislative Session

As we head toward the end of the 88th legislative session, this has proven to be a very interesting post-COVID session in Texas. Legislators drafted and introduced thousands of bills that could benefit or impact the Texas EMS system. Special thanks to the Texas EMS Trauma & Acute Care Foundation (TETAF), Texas Ambulance Association, and Texas EMS Alliance, as these dedicated groups continue educating our legislators on Texas's emergency healthcare system.

When we work together for the same goal, we gain benefits similar to Senate Bill 8 from the last session, which provided \$21.7 million for scholarships to increase our EMS workforce. To review a bill or listen to a hearing, visit [capitol.texas.gov/](http://capitol.texas.gov/).

### Maternal Rules Adopted (H.B. 1164 and S.B. 749)

The [maternal rules](#) were published for adoption in the Texas Register on December 13, 2022. They became effective January 1, 2023. Surveys scheduled after April 1, 2023, will follow the new maternal rules. Facilities that have focused reviews after April 2, 2023, will be accountable to the new designation requirements.

The new rules and survey process are continuing to be discussed during the monthly perinatal calls with the department to provide clarification, guidance, and answer any questions.

### Neonatal Rule Amendments (S.B. 749)

The proposed neonatal rule was reviewed by the Executive Council on February 16, 2023. The formal public comment period was concluded. The department worked with the Perinatal Advisory Council (PAC) workgroup to review all public comments has for revisions to the proposed rule. The anticipated adoption of the proposed neonatal rules is May 15, 2023. The implementation date for the new rules is January 1, 2024. All neonatal surveys after January 1, 2024, will follow the new designation requirements. All focused surveys occurring after January 1, 2024, will follow the new rules.

### Trauma Rule Amendments

The proposed trauma rule amendments are scheduled for the Executive Council Meeting in August of 2023. The anticipated formal public comment period for the proposed trauma rule amendments is September through October, of 2023. All formal public comments will be reviewed by the department and the defined workgroup representing the Governor's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC) Trauma Systems Committee, and Regional Advisory Council (RAC) leaders. The anticipated adoption date is January of 2024. Trauma facilities will be held accountable to the new rules and designation requirements beginning July of 2024. All focus reviews scheduled after July 1, 2024, will follow the new designation requirements.

The Regional Advisory Council requirements and contract will align with the adopted rule and requirements beginning with the September 2024 contract.

It is important to note that the American College of Surgeons will implement their 2022 Verification Standards September 1, 2023.

# NEWS AND LINKS

Local • National • Resources

## NHTSA's EMS Update

Learn more about current projects and efforts in EMS from NHTSA and its Federal partners.

[Learn more](#)

## CDC Newsroom

View the latest CDC public health news and press releases.

[Learn more](#)

## The Bulletin

The Bulletin of the American College of Surgeons.

[Learn more](#)

## Washington Update

Bi-monthly newsletter of the National Association of State EMS Officials.

[Learn more](#)

## EMSC Pulse

A digest of information about the pediatric emergency medical care community.

[Learn more](#)

## Integrated Healthcare

Focuses on improving the patient experience of care through inter-professional collaborations.

[Learn more](#)

## EMS/Trauma Systems Links

### GETAC

Visit the Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council web page to view council, committee, and meeting information.

### Rules

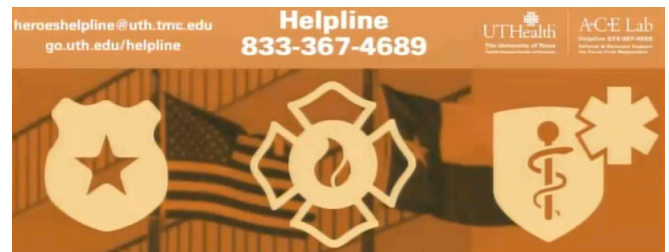
Links to the Texas Administrative Code rules pertaining to EMS/Trauma Systems.

### Disciplinary actions

Public notice of disciplinary action by the Department of State Health Services and the Consumer Protection Division, Consumer Safety Unit.

### Staff Contacts

Contact information for the Office of EMS/Trauma Systems staff and programs.



Texas Department of State Health Services



Questions, comments, or suggestions about *Texas EMS Trauma News*? Contact us at [EMSTraumaNews@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:EMSTraumaNews@dshs.state.tx.us).

External links to other sites are intended to be informational and do not have the endorsement of the Texas Department of State Health Services.