

Why NEMSIS Compliance Testing?

The NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center (TAC), funded by NHTSA, is responsible for providing assistance to state and local EMS entities transitioning to a NEMSIS-compliant electronic Patient Care Reporting (ePCR) system. Ensuring the accurate application of the NEMSIS standard across the EMS software market has been accomplished through the use of a compliance testing process maintained by the NEMSIS TAC. The compliance process is offered to all entities wishing to develop a field- or state-level software solution for collecting, aggregating and transmitting ePCR information. The compliance process is offered free of charge and can be accomplished in a relatively short period of time.

A primary objective of the NEMSIS project is to maintain a national repository of ePCR data for reporting and research purposes. To date, 46 states and territories submit 25 million EMS activations (ePCRs) annually. Importantly, only software solutions that have tested compliant with the NEMSIS TAC are permitted to contribute to the national EMS repository. This rule is enforced for the following reasons.

The NEMSIS project relies on forms of data transmission that require strict adherence to standards to ensure success. In addition, a strict structured XML standard for ePCR data must be maintained to ensure local EMS agency software and state and national repositories remain harmonized. Allowing untested software to participate in the NEMSIS program introduces the likelihood of variability that could quickly degrade the integrity of this working and successful project.

The NEMSIS TAC is committed to providing all resources necessary to make compliance testing available to any and all software implementations interested in participating in the National EMS Information System Standards. For more information regarding NEMSIS compliance testing, contact Laurel Baeder at: Laurel.Baeder@hsc.utah.edu.

Sincerely,

N. Clay Mann, PhD, MS
Professor, NEMSIS Principal Investigator
University of Utah School of Medicine
clay.mann@hsc.utah.edu
www.nemsis.org