



Mission:  
Lifeline®

# Mission: Lifeline® (STEMI) Heart Attack Receiving / Referring Center

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## Accreditation Eligibility Guide

Accreditation provided by  
American Heart Association®

## Table of Contents

Introduction.....	3
Benefits .....	3
Accreditation Tracks.....	4
Accreditation Term.....	4
Accreditation Standards.....	4
Fees.....	4
Eligibility.....	5
Accreditation Criteria .....	5
Accreditation Process .....	7
Standards and Application Request Form.....	8

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## Introduction

The American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline (STEMI) Heart Attack Accreditation program recognizes hospitals for their ability to quickly and appropriately treat heart attack patients through collaboration with and among EMS agencies as Heart Attack Receiving Centers and Heart Attack Referring Centers. This accreditation was developed in conjunction with Mission: Lifeline®, an American Heart Association program that helps establish and improve coordinated systems of care for STEMI treatment. Accreditation recognizes hospitals that meet specific standards as Heart Attack Receiving or Referring Centers. Accreditation denotes the highest level of commitment to consistent and optimal STEMI care at the system level.

As part of a STEMI System of Care, the facility will be assessed according to the required documentation and the review process. This manual will serve as a guide for the applicant facility throughout the accreditation process.

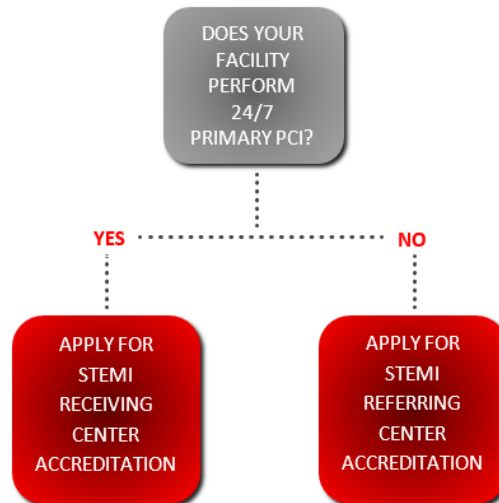
## Benefits

Accreditation offers:

- An opportunity to further improve processes and build upon Mission: Lifeline STEMI participation or recognition
- An opportunity to improve cardiac care by providing a standardized, system approach to the treatment of STEMI patients
- A means of forwarding the AHA's goal of improving the systems collaboration in the quality and safety of care, treatment, and services
- The use of the AHA's Heart-Check mark, a symbol millions of Americans recognize and trust, to promote accreditation and exceptional STEMI care

## Accreditation Tracks

- **Track 1: (STEMI) Heart Attack Receiving Center:** Facility must **provide** onsite 24/7 primary PCI coverage for STEMI patients.
- **Track 2: (STEMI) Heart Attack Referring Center:** Facility treats the STEMI patient with fibrinolytic therapy and/or **transfers** STEMI patients to a primary PCI-capable STEMI Receiving Center. This track is also available for those facilities whose primary PCI coverage is not available 24/7.



## Accreditation Term

The Mission: Lifeline® STEMI Accreditation will expire **three (3) years** from the date the accreditation is granted.

## Accreditation Standards

Contact [accreditation@heart.org](mailto:accreditation@heart.org) or complete the information form on our [website](#) to request a copy of the detailed accreditation standards.

## Fees

An accreditation fee of **\$20,000** applies to new facilities applying for Mission: Lifeline Heart Attack accreditation for the first time or for facilities that did not previously bundle their accreditation with Chest Pain Center accreditation.

An accreditation fee of **\$7,000** applies to facilities applying for renewal of Mission: Lifeline Heart Attack accreditation that previously bundled their accreditation with Chest Pain Center accreditation. AHA will continue to honor the previous accreditation fee structure and will grandfather in accredited hospitals at their existing rate beginning June 5, 2018.

## Eligibility

To be eligible for Mission: Lifeline (STEMI) Heart Attack Accreditation, the applying hospital must participate in the American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline STEMI (Heart Attack) Program.

Evidence of participation may be one or more of the following:

- Have an active GWTG-CAD Agreement
- Receiving Centers must have a minimum of at least 36 Primary PCI procedures performed in any consecutive rolling 4 quarters of the previous 6 quarters
- Referring Centers must enter a minimum of at least 10 STEMI patients over the previous 18 months
- Smoke free campus

If your hospital is not participating in GWTG-CAD or Mission: Lifeline or is unable to submit data, please review the guidance section in the standards manual for additional options of data submission to meet eligibility requirements.

## Accreditation Criteria

REQUIREMENT NUMBER	REQUIREMENT OVERVIEW	STEMI RECEIVING CENTER	STEMI REFERRING HOSPITAL
1	<b>Protocols</b> for triage, diagnosis and treatment of STEMI patients	√	√
2	<b>On Call Cardiac Cath Lab Coverage</b> 24/4 regardless of ER diversion status	√	
3	<b>Cardiac Cath Lab and Cardiologist Arrival</b> within 30 minutes of STEMI activation	√	
4	<b>Universal Acceptance of STEMI Patients</b> with triage plan for multiple simultaneous patients	√	
5	<b>Interventional Cardiologists meet ACC/AHA Criteria</b> for competency	√	
6	<b>Facility meets ACC/AHA Guidelines for PCI/Primary PCI Institutional Volume</b> for most recent 12 months	√	
7	<b>Engaged in the AHA's Mission: Lifeline Program</b>	√	√
8	<b>Designated STEMI Coordinator</b> and a recognized medical director/physician champion	√	√

**Mission: Lifeline® (STEMI) Heart Attack Accreditation**

9	<b>Quality Improvement Program and Multidisciplinary Team</b> in place to track and improve the STEMI patient throughout hospitalization	√	√
10	<b>Standardized Reperfusion Strategy</b> designating Primary PCI as the standard reperfusion strategy		√
11	<b>Fibrinolytic Therapy Reperfusion Pathway</b> for lytic eligible patients when the system cannot achieve transfer for PCI reperfusion times		√
12	<b>Protocol/Process for Facilitating Rapid Transfer</b> to the most appropriate STEMI Receiving Center		√

See step 2 in application process below to review the detailed criteria for accreditation.

## Accreditation Process

1. **Eligibility Information and Requirements:** Review the eligibility information and requirements contained in this document.
2. **Request Standards:** From the AHA webpage at [www.heart.org/accreditation](http://www.heart.org/accreditation), select the Hospital Portal link and complete the requested information. Then click submit. You will receive an email from the web administrator notifying you that we received your request. **If the hospital portal is unavailable, please use the standards and application request form at the end of this document.** After your request is received, an AHA representative will provide an electronic copy of the accreditation standards.
3. **Application:** The hospital completes and submits the application currently located in the standards manual and submits via email to [accreditation@heart.org](mailto:accreditation@heart.org). *Applications will expire one year from the date received.*
4. **Participating Hospital Agreement:** The hospital reviews, signs, and submits their completed agreement.
5. **Payment:** Once payment is received, the hospital will be contacted by an AHA Representative to begin the certification review.
6. **Desk Review:** The AHA Reviewer evaluates the hospital's application and supporting documentation for adherence to the Requirements. If there are any questions, the AHA Reviewer schedules calls with the hospital to resolve documentation questions. Supporting documentation may be sent via email to [docsubmission@heart.org](mailto:docsubmission@heart.org).  
*NOTE: Hospitals seeking **reaccreditation** will undergo a desk review only.*
7. **On-Site Review (New Applicants Only):** The AHA Reviewer contacts the hospital's primary contact to schedule a mutually agreed upon review date.



## Standards and Application Request Form

If the AHA portal is unavailable, please complete the following form and submit via e-mail to [accreditation@heart.org](mailto:accreditation@heart.org). This form is required to access the accreditation standards manual and to begin the accreditation process. **Items marked with an asterisk are required.**

The subject line of your email submission should be **ML STEMI Accred Standards Request - XHospital**.

### Primary Contact

Full Name*	
Position Title*	
Email Address*	
Primary Contact Number*	

### Secondary Contact

Full Name*	
Position Title*	
Email Address*	
Primary Contact Number*	

### Hospital Information

Hospital Name*	
American Hospital Association ID Number*	
Physical Address*	
City, State & Zip*	