



American Heart Association.  
Mission:Lifeline®  
STEMI

# Mission: Lifeline® (STEMI) Heart Attack Accreditation Overview

## Background:

The goal of Mission: Lifeline (STEMI) Heart Attack Accreditation is to improve outcomes for ST-elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) patients by advancing treatment standards. Developed in conjunction with Mission: Lifeline®, an American Heart Association program that helps establish and improve coordinated systems of care for STEMI treatment, the accreditations recognize hospitals that meet specific standards as (STEMI) Heart Attack Receiving or Referring Centers. Accreditation denotes the highest level of commitment to consistent and optimal STEMI care at the system level.

## STEMI Accreditation Types:

There are two types of Mission: Lifeline Accreditation hospitals can earn:

- **(STEMI) Heart Attack Receiving Center Accreditation**  
Identifies STEMI Receiving Centers that provide 24/7 Primary PCI coverage for STEMI patients
- **(STEMI) Heart Attack Referring Center Accreditation**  
Identifies STEMI Referring Centers without 24/7 Primary PCI coverage that transfer STEMI patients to a primary PCI-capable STEMI Receiving Centers.

## Eligibility:

To be eligible for accreditation as a **Receiving Center**, the applying hospital must participate in the American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline STEMI Program. Evidence of participation is having an active GWTG-CAD contract with at least one quarter of data analyzed against the Mission: Lifeline STEMI Measures OR have a legacy Mission: Lifeline STEMI Report containing data from one of the most recent 4 quarters.

- Receipt of Mission: Lifeline STEMI reports containing facility level data
- Minimum of at least 36 Primary PCI procedures performed in any consecutive rolling 4 quarters of the previous 6 quarters.
- Smoke free campus

To be eligible for accreditation as a **Referring Hospital**, the applying hospital must participate in the American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline STEMI Program. Evidence of participation is having an active GWTG-CAD contract with at least one quarter of data analyzed against the Mission: Lifeline STEMI measures OR have a legacy Mission: Lifeline STEMI Report containing data from one of the most recent 4 quarters.

- Receipt of Mission: Lifeline STEMI reports containing facility level data
- Enter a minimum of at least 10 STEMI patients over the previous 18 months
- Smoke free campus

## Additional Information

To learn more, visit the American Heart Association hospital accreditation program website at [www.heart.org/accreditation](http://www.heart.org/accreditation). For answers to your questions, contact [accreditation@heart.org](mailto:accreditation@heart.org)

## Mission: Lifeline Accreditation Requirements:

Details of the Mission: Lifeline (STEMI) Heart Attack Accreditation requirements and further information about eligibility is available at [www.heart.org/accreditation](http://www.heart.org/accreditation). Complete the web form or contact [accreditation@heart.org](mailto:accreditation@heart.org) to request a current accreditation standards manual.

AHA will continue to honor the previous Mission: Lifeline (STEMI) Heart Attack Accreditation fee structure and will grandfather in accredited hospitals at their existing rate.

- The accreditation fee of \$20,000 applies to facilities applying for 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 accreditation who previously bundled their accreditation with Chest Pain Center accreditation.

## Benefits:

Accreditation offers:

- An opportunity to further improve processes and build upon Mission: Lifeline 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 to promote accreditation and exceptional STEMI care

REQUIREMENT NUMBER	MISSION: LIFELINE REQUIREMENT OVERVIEW	STEMI RECEIVING CENTER	STEMI REFERRING HOSPITAL
1	Protocols for triage, diagnosis and treatment of STEMI patients	√	√
2	On Call Cardiac Cath Lab Coverage 24/4 regardless of ER diversion status	√	
3	Cardiac Cath Lab and Cardiologist Arrival within 30 minutes of STEMI activation	√	
4	Universal Acceptance of STEMI Patients with triage plan for multiple simultaneous patients	√	
5	Interventional Cardiologists meet ACC/AHA Criteria for competency	√	
6	Facility meets ACC/AHA Guidelines for PCI/Primary PCI Institutional Volume for most recent 12 months	√	
7	Engaged in the AHA's Mission: Lifeline Program	√	√
8	Designated STEMI Coordinator and a recognized medical director/physician champion	√	√
9	Quality Improvement Program and Multidisciplinary Team in place to track and improve the STEMI patient throughout hospitalization	√	√
10	Standardized Reperfusion Strategy designating Primary PCI as the standard reperfusion strategy		√
11	Fibrinolytic Therapy Reperfusion Pathway for lytic eligible patients when the system cannot achieve transfer for PCI reperfusion times		√
12	Protocol/Process for Facilitating Rapid Transfer to the most appropriate STEMI Receiving Center		√

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