

# STEPHENSON COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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As most of you already know, the Federal Government has begun tying grants to NIMS compliance. When an agency applies for a Homeland Security Grant or any other Federal Emergency Preparedness funding it will be required that the agency be NIMS Compliant. When this office recently applied for an Emergency Preparedness Grant it was required that we meet the established NIMS criteria. In the process of meeting the NIMS criteria our compliance was reviewed by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency.

In an effort to clarify how and why we need to accomplish NIMS Compliance I have prepared a brief description of the responsibility we each will have. In that the Federal Government is requiring NIMS compliance by all states and territories. The Feds are requiring the individual States to be responsible that individual State's compliance. The State of Illinois is requiring the County Emergency Management Director to be responsible for that particular County's agencies. Individual Cities, Villages, Townships, Fire Protection Districts, college(s), Public or Contracted Emergency Medical Response Agencies are responsible for their own compliance.

The State is also advising the County Emergency Management Director that he/she is responsible for determining the level of NIMS training required. I have determined that for Stephenson County to be NIMS compliant all of the County Offices, elected officials, need to take NIMS IS 700 and ICS 100.

To facilitate this training I am working to set up a training class(s) for IS 700 and ICS 100. The class(s) will be for the elected county government officials and other elected officials who would like to use this resource to comply with the NIMS requirement. The course would be offered in two blocks of training, during a one day session (morning and afternoon). Following the course each student will still need to take the on-line test, required by the IS or ICS course. Following the completion of each test, the student will receive an email confirmation of successfully passing that test. A FEMA certificate is sent to the student, usually within 4-8 weeks, for each test successfully completed. My office will need a copy of that certificate for the NIMS compliance file I am required to maintain.

The other NIMS related courses will have to be taken on-line by those individuals having responsibilities requiring the ICS 800, IC 200, 300, and 400 courses. Individuals'

employed by the County will need to provide copies of their FEMA certificates to my Office as the county Emergency Management Office has been designated as a central repository for this type of information.

Other agencies within the County will be responsible for maintain their own individual member's compliance records. It is up to the agency head/chief to determine who needs to take each level of NIMS training. My office will need a letter from those agencies explaining that they are NIMS compliant and the level of training for the supervisors.

A governmental unit or emergency response agency that would elect to receive state or federal emergency preparedness funding (i.e. equipment, training, etc.), and is less than in full compliance to NIMS, may contact the Emergency Management Office of Stephenson County for assistance in applying. Each application of this type will be considered on a case by case basis and compensation may be required to the County EMA office.

**Please note that NIMS compliance does not affect disaster relief compensation. NIMS compliance only effects emergency preparedness funding.**

My Office has compiled the following explanation of NIMS courses and training requirements to help explain the different levels of training and who need to take each level of training.

### **NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS) TRAINING COURSES**

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
IS 700	INTRODUCTION TO NIMS
IS 800	NATIONAL RESPONSE PLAN
ICS 100	INTRODUCTION TO INCIDENT COMMAND
ICS 200	BASIC INCIDENT COMMAND
ICS 300	INTERMEDIATE INCIDENT COMMAND (FY 2007 REQUIREMENT)
ICS 400	ADVANCED INCIDENT COMMAND (FY 2007 REQUIREMENT)
INDEPENDENT STUDY (IS)	
INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM (ICS)	

The courses are available on-line thru the Federal Emergency Management Agency's web site located at <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/crslist.asp>

<b>Personnel</b>	<b>Required Training</b>
1. Elected Officials	IS 700 & ICS 100
2. First line responders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fire</li> <li>• Police</li> <li>• EMS</li> <li>• Hospital Staff</li> <li>• Public Health</li> <li>• Public Works</li> <li>• Skilled Support Personnel</li> <li>• Other emergency management response,</li> <li>• Support, volunteer personnel at all levels</li> </ul>	IS 700 & ICS 100
3. First line supervisors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single resource leaders, field supervisors, and other emergency management/response personnel that require a higher level of ICS/NIMS training (Span of control requires a supervisor be responsible for no more than 7 subordinates)</li> </ul>	IS 700, ICS 100 & 200
4. Middle management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supervisors who are responsible for other supervisors such as strike team leaders, task force leaders unit commanders, group supervisors, and multi-agency coordination systems/emergency operations center staff</li> </ul>	IS 700 & IS 800 ICS 100, 200, 300
5. Command and general staff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selected department heads with responsibility for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Multi-agency coordination</li> <li>○ Area commanders</li> <li>○ Emergency Managers</li> <li>○ Multi-agency coordination system/ Emergency operations center managers</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	IS 700 & IS 800 ICS 100, 200 ICS 300, 400

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