

About the National Center for Disaster Preparedness (NCDP)

The National Center for Disaster Preparedness (NCDP), Columbia Climate School, at Columbia University has been awarded U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants since 2016. These programs have focused on post-disaster economic and housing recovery, mass care community sheltering and relocation assistance, pandemic preparedness and response, and climate resilience and equitable disaster response and have highlighted best practices and lessons learned for emergency managers, community groups, and the general public.

Mass Care and Community Sheltering Trainings

These courses look at the roles and responsibilities of preparedness and response partners in carrying out sheltering, evacuation, and relocation operations.



[PER-402-W: Pandemic Planning for Mass Sheltering](#)

This 90-minute, web-based, performance-level course is designed to help the learner plan for mass sheltering operations during multiple disasters and/or during a pandemic. The course will begin with a review of basic mass sheltering principles. The course will then focus on how to accomplish sheltering when simultaneous disasters are occurring, including a pandemic. Planning considerations will be presented, including planning for social distancing and quarantine and isolation issues. The course will conclude with a look at planning considerations for socially vulnerable populations who may need shelter.

At the end of this training, learners will be able to:

- Identify how housing and shelter needs are impacted when dealing with both a major disaster and an ongoing pandemic.
- Identify challenges for congregate sheltering during a pandemic.
- Identify planning best practices for housing socially vulnerable populations, including children, the elderly, and those with special needs during a pandemic.
- Identify how common disaster housing tasks such as registration, damage inspection, and verification are handled in the context of a pandemic and how the delivery and timeline of disaster housing programs can be affected.
- Describe three best practices for transitioning clients to other interim sites or permanent housing during a pandemic.

[PER-403-W: Addressing the Needs of Disaster Victims through State, Tribal, and Territorial \(STT\) Housing Programs](#)

This 90-minute web-based course will assist in preparing state, tribal, and territorial leaders to plan for administering disaster housing programs after a disaster. The course will review the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Individuals and Housing Programs that are under the Stafford Act. Information will also be presented on the Disaster Recovery Reform Act (DRRA) of 2018 and the FEMA State-Managed Direct Housing Grant guidance. This information will provide the learner with the base information needed to develop their state, tribal, or territorial housing strategy. Other considerations, such as code enforcement, permitting, and the handling of personally identifiable information, will also be presented.

At the end of this training, learners will be able to:

- Identify best practices for developing a housing strategy and implementation plan that meets the requirements of the DRRA and FEMA's State-Managed Direct Housing Grant Guidance.
- Summarize the new types of FEMA Individuals and Households Program (IHP) assistance that an STT government may request to administer under the Stafford Act.
- Identify best practices for coordinating the collection, sharing, and handling of sensitive, personally identifiable information from federal and non-federal sources.
- Identify code enforcement, permitting, and utility restoration best practices.

[AWR-423-W: Mass Care Shelter and Relocation Communication](#)

This web-based course will provide participants with an understanding of messaging for shelter and evacuation operations. The course will review at-risk populations and messaging for the whole community. Case studies of past disasters will also be presented.

At the end of this training, learners will be able to:

- Identify multiple effective communication strategies for individuals and households about where to find information on evacuation and shelters.
- Identify the ways in which age- and culturally-appropriate warning and notification systems, evacuation protocols, and coordinating services for at-risk individuals are developed and disseminated in multiple platforms and multilingual, multicultural formats.
- Compare messaging approaches that can differ between jurisdictions and subpopulations.

Mass Care and Community Sheltering Trainings

[PER-406: Mass Care Shelter and Relocation Capacity Building](#)

This performance-level, virtual, instructor-led training will provide participants with an understanding of how to build shelter and relocation capacity. The course will review the requirements of sheltering and evacuation, including the equipment and staffing needs for these operations. In addition, planning for sheltering, evacuation, and relocation will also be covered. The course will review case studies of previous disasters and look at best practices from these events.

At the end of this training, learners will be able to:

- Identify available resources for constructing, retrofitting, equipping staffing shelters and community safe rooms.
- Analyze the current structure of ESF-6 leadership roles and responsibilities for coordinating mass care to ensure more accurate mass care capability assessments.
- Evaluate best practices of jurisdictions in capacity building and the delivery of evacuee support, sheltering, and relocation.
- Assess how pandemics can affect ESF-6 approaches.

[MGT-487: Mass Care Shelter and Relocation Coordination](#)

This instructor-led, management-level training will provide an overview of the sheltering, evacuation, and relocation processes. This course looks at the roles and responsibilities of preparedness and response partners in carrying out sheltering, evacuation, and relocation operations. Recent disasters have highlighted the need for solid sheltering and evacuation planning. What happens when a disaster lasts for an extended period, and disaster survivors need to be relocated or need disaster housing? This course will review those areas and provide information on how to plan for these operations within your community.

At the end of this training, learners will be able to:

- Describe the roles and responsibilities of government in relation to evacuation, sheltering, and relocation.
- Analyze the ways in which Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) are established and administered at shelters for mass care activities with partners.
- Appraise how shelter support services, such as social case workers and human services, can help disaster survivors relocate to an interim housing solution.

For More Information:

Subscribe To Our NCDP Training Newsletter
<https://ncdptraining.org/NCDP-Training-Newsletter>

Sign Up For Courses Available
<https://ncdptraining.org/LMS>



FEMA

This project is supported by Cooperative Agreements 00069, EMW-2019CA-00049, EMW-2020-CA-00064, EMW-2021-CA-00092, and EMW-2021CA-00093 administered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Points of view or opinions expressed in this document are those of the author and do not represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.