



FEMA

April 18, 2018

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Region II Individual and Community Preparedness Bulletin

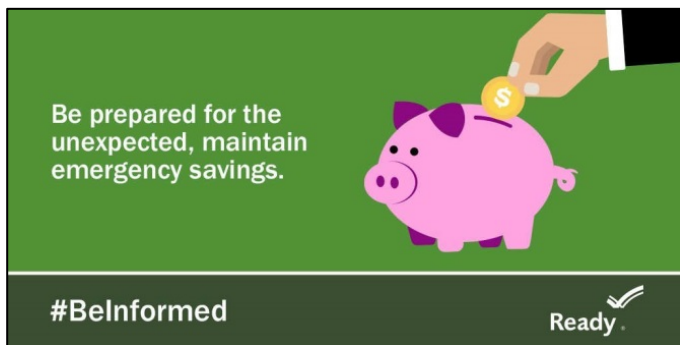


April is Financial Capability Month

April is Financial Capability Month. In the event of an emergency, it is always best to have your finances prepared. Life is unpredictable, but everyone is capable of planning ahead.

The *Economic Well-Being of U.S. Households in 2016* report states that

- 30% of adults reported they are finding it difficult to get by or are just getting by financially,
- 44% of adults say they either could not cover an emergency expense costing \$400 or would cover it by selling something or borrowing money,
- Just under one-fourth of adults are not able to pay all of their current month's bills in full,
- One-fourth report forgoing one or more type of health care in the prior year due to affordability.



For these reasons, we must do our part to learn about finances in general, and in particular, finances after a disaster. A key aspect of emergency preparedness is being familiar with protecting important financial documents and being financially ready for a disaster. Taking the time now to collect and secure these critical records will give you peace of mind and, in the event of an emergency, will ensure that you have the documentation needed to start the recovery process without delay.

1. Gather financial and critical personal, household, and medical information.
2. Consider saving money in an emergency savings account that could be used in any crisis. Keep a small amount of cash at home in a safe place. It is important to have small bills on hand because ATM's and credit cards may not work during a disaster.
3. Obtain property, health, and life insurance or review existing policies for the amount and extent of coverage to ensure that what you have in place is what is needed for all possible hazards. Homeowners insurance does not typically cover flooding, so you may need to purchase flood insurance from the [National Flood Insurance Program](#).



There are many resources to help you plan your financial future. You can find guidance on what measures to take in the event of a disaster by clicking on the following links:

- ✓ [Learn How to Save for Emergencies and the Future](#)
- ✓ [Learn How to Prepare your Finances for Emergencies](#)

- ✓ [Unlock Your Financial Future](#)
- ✓ [Read the FEMA Emergency Financial First Aid Kit \(EFFAK\)](#)
- ✓ [Visit MyMoney.Gov for more resources!](#)

Watch the [FEMA PrepTalk on Financial Literacy and Overcoming Liquid Asset Poverty](#).

Then and Now

<p>FEMA Region II and the FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness held a webinar on Monday, April 9th, 2018 featuring best practices on responding to individuals with access and functional needs during disasters. It also provided resources and information on Disability Awareness Training, the Americans with Disabilities Act (specific to Emergency Management), Inclusive Planning, and the importance of ensuring an inclusive approach to community preparedness.</p> <p>Edited recording is now available at: https://icpd.adobeconnect.com/pur805ppscity/</p>	<p>Attendee Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ “Very informative and presenters were knowledgeable.” ❖ “The webinar was informative and made me think about all the people not served in group homes and how they would need support and be prepared.” ❖ “Useful information across the board for disability preparedness.” ❖ “Opened our collective eyes to the importance of including this in our planning.”
<p>On April 10th, 2018 FEMA Region II attended the New York State Collaborative Coalition conference in Latham, NY. Individual and Community Preparedness provided information and answered questions about disaster preparedness. The goal of the conference was to further enhance response and recovery capabilities throughout New York State amongst nonprofit, government, faith-based, and county agencies to create a more secure and resilient state.</p>	
<p>On April 12th, 2018, FEMA Region II's Individual and Community Preparedness participated in the NJVOAD (New Jersey Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) Conference held in East Windsor, NJ. Region II's Deborah Costa provided resilience resources and information about disaster preparedness.</p>	

Coming Soon to Region II

FEMA Continuity of Operations: Hurricane Maria

April 24, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. AST

FEMA Region II will hold an After-Action Panel Discussion in Puerto Rico to identify areas to improve continuity capabilities, determine how essential functions performed before the disaster, and discuss strengths and weaknesses during the hurricane response. [Register](#) by **April 23** and contact [David Fortino](#) for questions.

Ready Senior Workshop

FEMA Region II is pleased to announce that it has partners with the Administration for Community Living, Center for Medicaid/Medicare Services, and the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration to develop a readiness workshop for those organizations that provide critical services to the senior citizen population. This one day workshop will share information on business continuity, staff preparedness, and becoming a conduit for preparedness in the senior citizen communities.

May 18, 2018 9am – 3:30pm	Holy Name Medical Center Marion Hall Conference Center 718 Teaneck Rd, Teaneck, NJ	https://fema.connectsolutions.com/readysenior0518/event/registration.html <i>Note: Adobe Connect is only being used for registration, this is an in-person course.</i>
July 10, 2018 9am – 3:30pm	26 Federal Plaza, 6th Floor Conference Room A/B, New York, NY 10278	https://fema.connectsolutions.com/readyseniorsjuly2018/event/registration.html <i>Note: Adobe Connect is only being used for registration, this is an in-person course.</i>

Exercise Design Course

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region II will be conducting training for emergency exercise design and evaluation (a combination of FEMA Courses I-120 and L-146). The course is a 4 day program which focuses on the design phase of the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP).

Course details:

Emergency managers, emergency services personnel, and other individuals who are part of the emergency preparedness and response or continuity of operations need to be able to use the fundamentals of exercise simulation and design as an integrated system of resources and capabilities. Skills learned during this program will enable jurisdictions to conduct NIMS required exercises.

The course will develop emergency response and continuity exercise skills in the following areas:

- Exercise programs
- Exercise process

- Exercise design steps
- Tabletop, functional and full-scale exercises
- Exercise evaluation
- Exercise enhancements
- Designing a functional exercise

The course will conclude with students conducting and evaluating actual tabletop and functional exercises in a group/team environment.

Target Audience:

The target audience is any official having direct responsibility for developing and conducting emergency response or continuity exercises.

May 28-June 1, 2018	Center for Simulation Learning, Holy Name Hospital 718 Teaneck Rd, Teaneck, NJ	https://fema.connectsolutions.com/r2hsepteaneck/event/registration.html <i>Note: Adobe Connect is only being used for registration, this is an in-person course.</i>
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City of Newark

Hosts
For the 10th Year



The Metro USAR Strike Team Exercise

 Public Safety Director **Anthony F. Ambrose**
 Assistant Public Safety Director **Raul Malave III**
 Division of Fire **Fire Chief Rufus Jackson**
 Division of Police **Police Chief Darnell Henry**
 Division of OEM/Homeland Security **Dorian Herrell**



2018 Exercise April 23rd - April 26th

Monday –Thursday **09:00 START 12:30 END**



UASI BOMB Teams



UASI DeCon Teams



Northern UASI Region



YOU'RE INVITED



UASI SWAT Teams



Location: 191 Orange St. Newark NJ
 Information: OEM Deputy Coordinator Frank Bellina
 Cell: 201.207.7783 Email: BellinaF@ci.Newark.NJ.US

Important Deadlines

Applications Now Being Accepted for SAFER Grants

The application period for the Fiscal Year 2017 [Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response \(SAFER\) Grants](#) has opened, with \$345 million in funding available to enhance the ability of recipients to attain and maintain 24-hour fire department staffing and to assure that their communities have adequate protection from fire and fire-related hazards. Applications are being accepted through 5 p.m. EDT on Friday, **April 27, 2018**.

Volunteer, career, and combination fire departments are eligible to apply under the Hiring of Firefighters. Municipalities and fire districts may submit applications on behalf of fire departments when the fire department lacks the legal status to do so, e.g., when the fire department falls within the auspices of the municipality or district. Eligibility for Recruitment and Retention of Firefighters funding is limited to volunteer and combination fire departments. National, state, local, or tribal organizations representing the interests of volunteer firefighters and individual fire departments (volunteer or combination) may apply for assistance for regional projects

NIMS Resource Management Supplemental Guidance and Tools

FEMA's National Integration Center is seeking public feedback on a number of National Incident Management System (NIMS) Resource Management component documents that enhance interoperability and the effectiveness of mutual aid. This National Engagement Period will conclude at **5:00 p.m. EDT on May 9, 2018**. The National Engagement Period provides an opportunity for interested parties to comment on newly development supplemental guidance.

Release includes:

- **NIMS Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Skillsets User Guide and 17 EOC Skillsets** to help create a national vocabulary for EOC personnel qualifications, while remaining flexible for the diversity of EOC organization structures
- **NQS EOC Director and Division/Group Supervisor (DIVS) Job Titles/Position Qualifications** that define minimum qualifications criteria for personnel serving in these positions;
- **NQS EOC Director and Division/Group Supervisor (DIVS) Position Task Books (PTB)** that identify the competencies, behaviors, and tasks that personnel should demonstrate to become qualified for a these positions.

To support partner and stakeholder adoption, FEMA is hosting a series of 60-minute webinars to discuss the NQS supporting documents and answer questions related to the foundational guide and supporting tools. All webinars are open to the whole community, including individuals and communities, the private and nonprofit sectors, faith-based organizations, and all governments. The schedule is below. All times are Eastern Daylight Time (EDT).

Webinar #1: Thursday April 12, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Webinar #2: Tuesday April 17, 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Webinar #3: Thursday April 19, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Webinar #4: Tuesday April 24, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

To review the documents and for additional webinar information, visit:

<https://www.fema.gov/national-incident-management-system/national-engagement>.

To provide comments on the draft, complete the feedback form on the webpage listed above and submit the form to FEMA-NIMS@fema.dhs.gov.

FEMA News



Visit the [Hazard Mitigation Assistance](#) Web page to learn about more mitigation success stories, ideas and available programs.

EM Higher Education Community Conference Call

The next Emergency Management (EM) Higher Education Community Conference Call is Friday, **April 20th, from 2:00-3:00 p.m. ET**. Call 800-320-4330, and use PIN: 376368 to join. Learn from the emergency management academic community what is new and exciting in their world. Find out about ongoing projects and discuss higher education community needs that we can address. [Contact Wendy Walsh](#) with your discussion topics.

2018 National Level Exercise

FEMA is conducting the [2018 National Level Exercise](#) for the whole community, inviting government agencies, private sector and non-profit organizations, and individuals to participate in the biennial exercise. The exercise, taking place **April 30 – May 11, 2018**, represents a key step towards implementing FEMA's recently released [2018-2022 Strategic Plan](#). The National Level Exercise will test lessons learned from the unprecedented 2017 hurricane season across all levels of government and the private sector. The exercise is based on a mid-Atlantic hurricane scenario, where a major hurricane makes landfall near Hampton Roads, Virginia, causing severe damage to homes and businesses. By congressional mandate, the National Level Exercise represents the culmination of the two-year [National Exercise Program](#) cycle, and is designed to educate and prepare participants for potential catastrophic events. Click [here](#) for more information.

Other News

National Volunteer Week

April 15-21 is [National Volunteer Week](#). Get involved with a local volunteer group or start your own project. Volunteer to improve your community. [Serve.gov](#) offers ways to help by helping you:

- Find a Volunteer Opportunity
- Start a Project
- Become a Mentor
- Discover the Benefits of Volunteering



National Volunteer Fire Council Spring Meeting

On **April 19-21, 2018**, hear about today's hottest topic – opioids – to find tactical information for your state association, and engage in open discussions at the 2018 National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) Spring Meeting. This enable NVFC to as an organization and to supporting the volunteer participation is essential in connecting with the organization you represent. Come away re-energized on a personal level and with knowledge and ideas to share with your states and local departments. The event will take place at Crowne Plaza Old Town, 901 North Fairfax St, Alexandria VA 22314. [Learn more](#) about the NVFC 2018 meeting, or [register now](#).



critical time together will strategically move forward achieve their mission of “Boots on the Ground.” Your setting priorities and

The NJEPA 2018 Conference

Tropicana Casino @ Atlantic City, NJ on **April 30 - May 4, 2018**

Celebrating 20 years, the New Jersey Emergency Preparedness Association (NJEPA) Conference will feature a full breakout and training schedule plus luncheons, receptions, and awards. Don't miss the four sequential sessions pertaining to the 2017 hurricane deployments. Likewise, two other critically important sessions will discuss the *Crisis Response to the Las Vegas Shooting* and *Parent and Student Reunification After a School Crisis: How Prepared is Your Town?* The full list can be found [here](#). Check out the new initiatives at NJEPA.Org. Conference fees are \$135 now and \$150 at the door.

Sound the Alarm by Installing Smoke Detectors

Join the [American Red Cross Home Fire Campaign](#) by volunteering for its Sound the Alarm events. From **April 28 through May 13, 2018**, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and its [National Community Emergency Response Team](#) (CERT) Program Office, along with local fire departments across the country, will install smoke alarms for local Sound the Alarm events. These fire safety events will occur in every state. Consider volunteering yourself or mobilizing your team for a local Sound the Alarm event. The Red Cross handles the training, logistics, communications, and liability. CERT programs can use this as a simple and easy way to engage their communities, make a real difference, and promote their efforts! Joining is simple! Follow these steps to sign up as a Sound the Alarm volunteer:



1. Go to www.redcross.org/sound-the-alarm.
2. Scroll to the bottom of the page. Enter your zip code to find a nearby event.
3. Scroll down again. Click the region nearest you.
4. Scroll down again to "Volunteer Opportunities." Click the event that works for you. Then, fill out the short application.
5. Be sure to type "CERT team/program name" in the Group/Organization field so FEMA can recognize your team.

VOICES Center of Excellence for Community Resilience

North Avenue Academic Building, Kean University | 1000 Morris Avenue, Union, NJ

This [New Jersey Symposium](#) about *Promoting Resiliency in Communities Impacted by Trauma* will take place Friday, **May 18, 2018** at Kean University from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET. The day-long event includes presentations, workshops and panel discussions by subject matter experts in the World Trade Center Health Program, Post Traumatic Growth, Building Resiliency, Peer to Peer Roundtable Discussions, and Breakout Sessions. Continental breakfast, lunch and free Wi-Fi is included with the registration fee for all attendees and registration is free to 9/11 families, responders, and survivors. [Register here](#).



Emergency Preparedness Tips



FEMA Region II Preparedness Tips

Are You Tech Ready?

Sign up for Direct Deposit and electronic banking with your financial institution so you can access your money wherever you are.

Store important documents on a secure, password protected external drive or in the cloud.

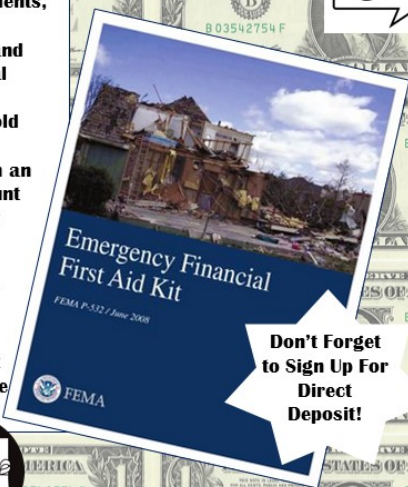
Have an emergency charging option for your phone, computer and other mobile devices.

For more information visit:
<https://www.ready.gov/get-tech-ready>

FEMA REGION II FINANCIAL PREPAREDNESS TIPS

IS YOUR EMERGENCY FINANCIAL FIRST AID KIT READY?

- **Safeguard Critical Documents, including Household Identification, Financial and Legal Documents, Medical Information, Insurance Information and Household Contact Info.**
- **Consider saving money in an emergency savings account that could be used in any crisis.**
- **If you depend on Social Security or other regular benefits, switching to electronic payments is a significant way to protect yourself financially before disaster strikes!**



Don't Forget to Sign Up For Direct Deposit!

Checklists for the EFFAK can be found at <https://www.ready.gov/financial-preparedness>

Educational/Training Opportunities

Emergency Management Institute Emmitsburg, MD



COOP Program Manager's Course

April 17-18, 2018	Taylor, MI	Rivero
April 24-25, 2018	Columbus, OH	Rivero

Purpose: This course describes the requirements for developing a continuity program as prescribed in Federal Continuity Directive (FCD) 1, Federal Executive Branch National Continuity Program and Requirements. The course covers program and support requirements and describes the roles and responsibilities of the Continuity Program Manager and other key players in developing a viable continuity program. Although this course directly addresses continuity requirements for Federal Executive branch organizations, the course also useful to State, local, territorial, and tribal governments.

Integrating Emergency Management Education into Your Institution

April 23-24, 2018	Emmitsburg, MD	EMI Admissions
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Purpose: To teach participants how to integrate emergency management education and practices into their institutions and organizations.

Advanced Public Information Officers (PIO)

National Emergency Training Center

Purpose: To provide participants the knowledge to establish and work within a joint information center through multimedia lectures and activities. The training allows participants the opportunity to apply public information skills during a functional exercise designed to test the participants' abilities to analyze, coordinate, process and create information in a realistic environment. The course will take place from **April 15 – April 20, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** Learn more and register [here](#).

Active Shooter Workshop

Bergen Community College @ the Meadowlands on **April 19, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

Purpose: To provide public and private sector business and security managers, security personnel and law enforcement officers with the tools needed to develop active shooter plans for their businesses and facilities. The workshop is based on the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) training course: [Active Shooter: What You Can Do](#). It is recommended that participants take the ~45-minute course prior to attending the training. To register for this workshop, [click here](#).

Emergency Management Institute Virtual TTX

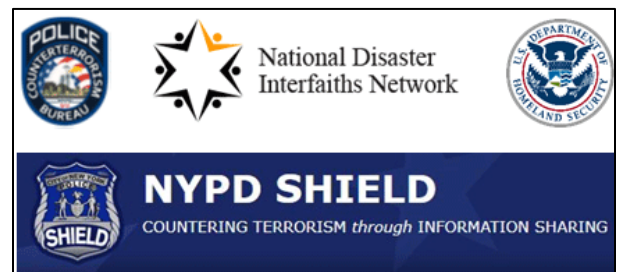
April 24, 25 and 26 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. ET

FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI) Virtual Tabletop Exercise (VTTX) program will offer three sessions of a hurricane scenario. To participate, send an email to Doug Kahn at douglas.kahn@fema.dhs.gov or call [301-447-7645](tel:301-447-7645) and send a courtesy copy email to the Integrated Emergency Management Branch at fema-emi-iemb@fema.dhs.gov or call [301-447-1381](tel:301-447-1381). The application deadline is **April 6, 2018**. Content is the same each day, and participants would attend only one session. Additional information is available at <https://training.fema.gov/programs/emivttx.aspx>.

Active Shooter in a House of Worship

The Salvation Army HQ in Manhattan on **May 21, 2018 from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. EST**

Join this training for clergy, staff, and volunteers from congregations & faith-based organizations. Active shooter situations are unpredictable, evolve quickly and vary greatly from one attack to another. In some recent attacks in NYC and elsewhere, these workplace violence events spill beyond the intended victim. Learn more about the [New York Disaster Interfaith Services trainings](#). Registration is FREE and opens **April 9, 2018**.



Emergency Management Higher Education Symposium

June 4-7, 2018

Purpose: To encourage and support inter-school dialogue on a variety of issues and topics related to hazard, disaster, and emergency management higher education, as well as to facilitate direct dialogue between the Emergency Management Higher Education Program and representatives of colleges and universities with emergency management programs to improve program quality. A secondary purpose of the symposium is to provide information to the faculty and administrators of emergency management collegiate programs that could be used in the development of new emergency management college courses and programs. To learn more [click here](#).

Urgent Threats Forum

New York University, **June 5 and 6, 2018**

Senior government leaders, senior executives, and world-renowned experts from the public and private sectors will convene to share their insights and strategies on the latest topics. Indicate your interest in participating now by filling out [this form](#). For questions and more information, contact Carol Shields at carol.shields@nyu.edu.

Webinars



FEMA Emergency Management Institute - Weekly EMI e-Forums Wednesdays in April from 3:00–4:00 p.m. ET

EMI e-Forums are 1-hour, moderated, webinar discussion forums that provide an opportunity for EMI and the emergency management community to discuss matters of interest on national preparedness training and exercise. EMI e-Forums facilitate a discussion of whole community-presented best practices. The panel members are whole community, with topics relevant to whole community. These exchanges of ideas are free of charge and available to anyone who wishes to participate.

Date	Topic
April 18	Master Exercise Practitioner Program (MEPP): How the Application Process Works
April 25	Engaging Faith-Based and Community Organizations: Preparedness Considerations for Emergency Managers

Login link: <https://fema.connectsolutions.com/emieforums>
Conference call-in: 800-320-4330, PIN 107622

The Latest Information on Public Safety Drones Webinar

April 19, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. EDT

[The National Information Sharing Consortium \(NISC\)](#) will host its ninth webinar of its Mission-Focused Job Aids Webinar Series with the National Council on Public Safety UAS to:



- Provide an overview on unmanned aircraft systems-from concept to reality.
- Learn about case studies on how UAS has transformed public safety operations.
- Provide information on the first Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI) Public Safety UAS Forum in May.

The series reviews tools, techniques, and standard operating procedures that NISC partners in the homeland security, emergency management, public safety, first responder, and healthcare preparedness communities use to facilitate and manage information sharing. To register, click [here](#).

FEMA-National Continuity Branch

April 19, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EDT

Please join us on Thursday, April 19, 2018 for a webinar that will highlight the February 2018 updates to the Continuity Guidance Circular, as well as the importance of having a continuity plan. In addition, the webinar, “The Continuity Guidance Circular: Continuity Planning Guidance for the Whole Community” will have two continuity planners discussing their continuity plans and how they are integrating continuity principles from the CGC into their continuity programs. To join:

- 1) Go to <https://share.dhs.gov/ncwapril2018/> and enter as a guest, type your FIRST and LAST name, and then click “Enter Room.”
- 2) For the Audio Conference (Can be used if having trouble hearing the webinar through computer speakers. Please call in at the **Dial-In Number: 1-800-320-4330 PIN: 810953#** prior to the meeting start time.) While participating in the teleconference, please mute your phone.

Federal Emergency Management Agency Jobs and Internships

April 19, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. ET

Designed for students and recent graduates interested in beginning a career with FEMA, this virtual event features an overview of FEMA’s application and hiring process, highlights exciting entry-level program opportunities, and, a panel of FEMA experts will answer live questions from webinar participants. The event is free. [Register early for the event as space is limited](#). For questions, send an email to AcademicEngagement@hq.dhs.gov.

FEMA National Engagement Period Webinars

To support partner and stakeholder adoption, FEMA is hosting a series of 60-minute webinars to discuss the NQS supporting documents and answer related questions. All webinars are open to the whole community. The schedule is below. All webinars will cover the same information.

April 19, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. EDT Link for webinar #3 [here](#).

April 24, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EDT Link for webinar #4 [here](#).



If you require accommodations to participate in these events, please provide details in the Disability Related Accommodations field on the registration page or contact: FEMA-NIMS@fema.dhs.gov.

International Public Safety Association Webinar Week



The International Public Safety Association (IPSA) is again offering [Webinar Week](#), in April. This is a week of free training webinars for first responders nationwide. There are two webinars scheduled each day on a variety of topics, listed below. The times for each event is on their individual registration link, all of which are found [here](#).

Date

April 23

Topics

- Public safety training tips and lessons learned to keep your audience engaged
- What you need to know about UAS for public aircraft operations and Part 107 in public safety applications

April 24

- Burnout: Staying out of the red zone
- Violent intruder response in a healthcare or social service setting

April 25

- Fire suppression during an active shooter, violent incident
- Why public safety, citizens need Stop the Bleed training from a trauma surgeon's perspective

April 26

- Mental Health Crisis Intervention - the 911 Telecommunicator's Role
- TEMS 101

April 27

- What is Doxxing and why should public safety officials care about it?
- The disease that's silently killing us: Fighting addiction in EMS/Healthcare

Resources to be Ready Financially

April 26, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. EDT



In observance of National Financial Capability Month, the [Financial Literacy and Education Commission](#) (FLEC) invites you to the webinar [Be Ready Financially: Resources to Help Individuals and Families with Financial Preparedness](#). This webinar will provide financial tools and resources to use when working with families and individuals. The topics include steps to better prepare for and bounce back from unexpected events. This webinar will include various presenters from FEMA and other FLEC agencies. This webinar will offer captioning.

To join:

- Please register for the event using the [Adobe Connect registration](#) web link.
- Be sure to [test your Adobe Connect connection](#) prior to the meeting.

Must Reads

[Radiation Emergencies: Information for Clinicians](#)

Emergency services physicians and nurses will be among the first clinicians to see and treat victims of radiation emergencies. Clinicians of all specialties will be responsible for providing care and information to those involved. Visit this webpage to access information on patient management, guidelines and recommendations, and trainings that CDC provides for radiation emergencies.



[Research offers clues for improved influenza vaccine design](#)

Influenza vaccines that better target the influenza surface protein called neuraminidase (NA) could offer broad protection against various influenza virus strains and lessen the severity of illness, according to new research published in *Cell*. Current seasonal influenza vaccines mainly target a different, more abundant influenza surface protein called hemagglutinin (HA). The findings suggest that influenza vaccines should be optimized to better target NA for broad protection against diverse influenza strains.

[A Look Back at 30 Years of Mitigation](#)

This year marks the 30-year anniversary since the Robert T. Stafford Act was amended to include funding for hazard mitigation grants as a way to help communities recover and rebuild after a Presidentially-declared disaster. In the last three decades, FEMA's [Hazard Mitigation Assistance](#) programs have expanded to three mitigation grant programs for pre-and post-disaster events and recently surpassed \$15 billion in funding provided for state, local, tribal and territorial mitigation projects. Communities across the nation are now more resilient, and that growth continues.

[Countering False Info on Social Media in Disasters & Emergencies](#)

This 20-page document examines motivations people may have for sharing false information before, during, and after disasters and emergencies; discusses underlying issues that cause false information; and offers case studies from recent disasters to illustrate the problem. Best practices for agencies to counter misinformation, rumors, and false information are detailed and categorized in this white paper, and challenges and additional considerations are presented for review.

[Natural Disasters Expose Women's Emergency Preparedness Gap](#)

Since tornado warnings began in 1950 and tornado watches started in 1952, 57 students and staff members have died in severe storm events at schools. Fifteen deaths occurred in the last two incidents; eight died in Enterprise High School in Enterprise, Alabama, in 2007, and seven died in Plaza Towers Elementary School in Moore, Oklahoma in 2013. Tornadoes are deadly and unpredictable. Preparing for them requires research and work.