

## VOLUNTEER TRAINING

**Overviews of the Incident Command System**, including principles and procedures that are basic for response to all emergencies, provided by [FEMA](#):

- **Incident Command System, [IS-100](#)**  
Provides training on and resources for personnel who require a basic understanding of the Incident Command System (ICS). It provides the foundation for higher level ICS training, including the history, features and principles, and organizational structure of the Incident Command System. It also explains the relationship between ICS and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- **Fundamentals of Emergency Management, [IS-230](#)**  
Provides training on the fundamentals of emergency management. This course presents emergency management as an integrated system with resources and capabilities networked together to address all hazards. This is the first course in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Emergency Management Institute's independent study Professional Development Series level.
- **Introduction to the National Incident Management System (NIMS), [IS-700](#)**  
Provides training on and resources for the National Incident Management System (NIMS). NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template to enable all government, private sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work together during domestic incidents.
- **Introduction to National Response Framework (NRF), [IS-800](#)**  
Provides training on and resources for the National Response Plan (NRP). The NRP specifies how the resources of the federal government will work in concert with state, local, and tribal governments and the private sector to respond to incidents of national significance. The NRP is predicated on the National Incident Management System, or NIMS. Together the NRP and the NIMS provide a nationwide framework for working cooperatively to prevent or respond to threats and incidents regardless of cause, size, or complexity.

Other Independent Study (IS) courses that are offered by FEMA and that may be of particular interest to those involved in **emergency animal care and shelter management**:

- **Animals in Disaster, Module A: Awareness and Preparedness, [IS-10](#)**  
The purpose of this course is two-fold. Module A is intended to increase awareness and preparedness among animal owners and care providers. It includes sections on typical hazards, how these affect animals and what can be done by responsible owners to reduce the impact of disasters. It is also intended to help animal owners, care providers and industries to better understand emergency management. Module A will heighten awareness of the special issues that emergency managers need to consider when incorporating animal-care annexes into their emergency operations plans.
- **Animals in Disaster, Module B: Community Planning, [IS-11](#)**  
Module B is intended to guide emergency management officials and animal owners, care providers, and industries in preparing community disaster plans. The goal of Module B is to provide sufficient information for both groups to meet and develop meaningful and effective plans that improve the care of animals, their owners, and the animal-care industries in disasters. This course provides the basic background knowledge needed to develop a coordinated response to a disaster in which animals and their owners are affected. Further training with local or State emergency management programs is essential.

- **Livestock in Disasters, [IS-111](#)**  
This independent study course is for farmers, extension agents, emergency managers and others who have interests in the livestock industry. It describes the various hazards that animals can face and how to mitigate them, as well as how to respond to an actual disaster. The livestock industry is a multi-billion dollar business that provides food for the American people as well as those overseas. It is important to insure our livestock are safe from hazards and will not suffer from the effects of hazards. This course can be downloaded from the Independent Study website and the test can be completed and submitted online.
- **Emergency Manager: An Orientation to the Position, [IS-1](#)**  
This independent study course provides an introduction to Comprehensive Emergency Management (CEM) and the Integrated Emergency Management System (IEMS). Included is an in-depth look at the 4 phases of comprehensive emergency management: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. The text is accompanied by illustrations, diagrams, and figures. In most units, there are worksheets, exercises, and tasks to complete.
- **Developing and Managing Volunteers, [IS-244](#)**  
This course is for emergency managers and related professionals working with all types of volunteers and coordinating with voluntary agencies. The course provides procedures and tools for building and working with voluntary organizations. Topics include:
  - Benefits and challenges of using volunteers
  - Building a volunteer program
  - Writing job descriptions
  - Developing volunteers through recruitment, placement, training, supervision and evaluation
  - Coordinating with voluntary agencies and community-based organizations
  - Spontaneous volunteers, liability, and stress

**Note:** Minimum requirements for volunteer as well as professional emergency responders normally include two particular courses that FEMA provides: IS-100 and IS-700. For a more complete listing, see [ICS Training Courses](http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/ICSResource/TrainingMaterials.htm) at <<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/ICSResource/TrainingMaterials.htm>> and links to on-line instruction itself at the [FEMA Independent Study Program Course List](http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/crslist.asp) <<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/crslist.asp>>.

Training normally required for membership in a local [Citizen Emergency Response Team](#) (CERT):

- [Introduction to CERT](#) (IS-317, 6-8 hrs. on-line)
- [CERT Basic Training](#) (CERT, 20 hrs., class-room based)

And recommended to volunteers who are involved with animal care:

- [Animal Response Module 1](#) (CERT, 2-4 hrs., class-room based)
- [Animal Response Module 2](#) (CERT, 2-4 hrs., class-room based)

Animal care and sheltering training offered by the [American Red Cross](#):

- [Pet First Aid](#) (ARC, 2-4 hrs., class-room based)
- Shelter Fundamentals (ARC, 2-4 hrs., class-room based)
- Psychological First-Aid (ARC, 2-4 hrs., class-room based)