

Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management



Training Required for CERT Membership



Purpose

The Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) is a citizen volunteer program under the authority of the Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management (OEM). The program utilizes volunteers to supplement and support overall emergency response and special event participation.

This document outlines the Training Requirements for Membership in CERT.

The CERT training program will be facilitated, based on the national FEMA standard for Citizen Corps CERT training. All training standards will be conducted based on the most up-to-date material available. Instructors will be qualified based on national standards and instructional standards will be consistent with those same standards.

Additional training made available to CERT members by partner organizations is intended to increase their awareness, knowledge, and abilities, but does not authorize members to work outside their role as CERT member. Membership, training, or experience in other organizations does not allow the volunteer to work outside the CERT program as a CERT member.

OEM reserves the right to modify required training for official CERT members at any time.

Membership Levels

The CERT program consists of a multi-tiered membership system.

- **Recruit Level:**
 - A member of the public who wants to learn basic emergency response skills to care for themselves or their families in case of an emergency.
 - To obtain Recruit level, an individual must:
 - Complete of the CERT basic course.
 - A recruit level participant is not an active volunteer but is documented with the OEM as a trained member of the public with the ability to prepare and respond to emergencies and disasters as an individual and as a family unit.
- **Level 1: Team Member, Local Response**
 - This level is for people interested in becoming an active volunteer in their neighborhood.
 - To become a Level 1 member, an individual must:

Training Required for Membership

- Complete the CERT basic course.
 - Be 18 or older.
 - Submit a completed application form, media release, and hold harmless agreement to the OEM.
 - Complete the following online training courses:
 - IS-100, Intro to Incident Command System.
 - IS-200, Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response.
 - IS-700 NIMS, an Introduction.
 - IS-800 National Response Framework, An Introduction.
 - Pass a background check; and
 - Receive approval by the CERT Program Manager and the OEM Director.
- **Level 2: Team Member, Local and Regional Response**
 - A Level 2 Member is an individual who wants to be an active CERT member **both inside and outside their neighborhood or local community (such as other counties in the state of Missouri)**.
 - To become a Level 2 Member, an individual must:
 - Complete all Level 1 membership requirements.
 - Complete the following online courses:
 - IS-230: Principles of Emergency Management
 - IS-241: Decision Making and Problem Solving
 - IS-244: Developing and Managing Volunteers
 - IS-240: Leadership and Influence
 - Submit proof of online course completions to the CERT Program Manager
 - Submit a Level 2 Membership Application, and
 - Receive approval from the CERT Program Manager and OEM Director.
- **Level 3: Team Leader, Local and Regional Response**
 - A Level 3 member is an individual who has completed training to become a CERT Team Leader.
 - To become a Level 3 Member, an individual must:
 - Be an approved Level 2 Member
 - Complete the following online courses:
 - IS-288, The Role of Voluntary Organizations in Emergency Management
 - IS-317, Introduction to Community Emergency Response Team
 - IS-505, Religious and Cultural Literacy and Competency in Disaster
 - IS-703, National Incident Management System Resource Management
 - Submit a Level 3 Membership Application, and
 - Receive approval from the CERT Program Manager and OEM Director.
- **Level 4: Section Chief, Team Leader, Local and Regional Response**
 - A Level 4 member is an individual who has completed training to become a CERT Section Chief.

Training Required for Membership

- To become a Level 4 member, an individual must:
 - Be an approved Level 4 Member
 - Complete the following online courses:
 - IS-242, Effective Communication
 - IS-315, CERT and the Incident Command System
 - IS-1300, Introduction to Continuity of Operations
 - IS-2200, Basic Emergency Operations Center Functions
 - Submit a Level 4 Application, and
 - Receive Approval from the CERT Program Manager and OEM Director.

Special Teams

In addition to the Membership levels outlined above, CERT has special teams that require additional training for participants.

- **Teen CERT:**
 - Youth between the ages of 14 and 17 may become Teen CERT Members.
 - To become a Teen CERT member, an individual must:
 - Complete all CERT Level 1 membership requirements
 - Complete Teen CERT add-on training, and
 - Receive approval from the CERT Program Manager, OEM Director, and parent/guardian.
- **CART (CERT Animal Response Team):**
 - After Level 2 certification, an interested CERT Member may apply to join CART.
 - To become a CART Member, an individual must:
 - Complete CART training
 - Submit a CART application, and
 - Receive approval from the CERT Program Manager and the OEM Director.
- **MO CERT 1:**
 - The MOCERT1 System provides for the statewide coordination, development, and maintenance of the community effort with resources to assist a local government with a broad range of human services that fall into the CERT mission.
 - Greene County CERT Level 2 and higher members may apply to become a MOCERT1 member.
 - To become a MOCERT1 member, an individual must:
 - Be 18 or older.
 - Be an approved Level 2 Member.
 - Apply to, and receive approval from, the Greene County CERT Advisory board, and
 - Receive approval from the CERT Program Manager and OEM Director.
 - MOCERT1 may have additional requirements for their specialized teams, and that information can be found in the MOCERT1 bylaws.