



Pennsylvania State Fire Academy

1150 Riverside Drive
Lewistown, PA 17044-1979

Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency

2605 Interstate Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Minimum Standard for Accreditation (MSA)

Original program: 1/2011

Revised: 8/2014

Course Title: G-317 Community Emergency Response Team Basic Training

Course Code: G-317

Length of Course: 20.5 **Lecture/Lab Breakdown:** 10 hrs / 10.5 hrs

Target Audience The target audience for this course is individuals who desire the skills and knowledge required to prepare for and respond to a disaster.

Prerequisites: None

Referenced Texts: CERT Basic Training Participant Manual

Course Goal: The purpose of the *Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Basic Training* is to provide the individuals who complete this course with the basic skills that they will need to respond to their community's immediate needs in the aftermath of a disaster, when emergency services are not immediately available. By working together, CERT members can assist in saving lives and protecting property using the basic techniques in this course. The target audience for this course is individuals who desire the skills and knowledge required to prepare for and respond to a disaster.

Description of Course: CERT Basic Training is designed to prepare you to help yourself and to help others in the event of a catastrophic disaster. Because emergency services personnel will not be able to help everyone immediately, you can make a difference by using your CERT training to save lives and protect property.

Description of Methodology to be used: (Brief): Lecture, PowerPoint presentations, and activities.

Student Equipment/Supply Needs: Note taking materials (Pen/Pencil, paper). PEMA will provide a basic training participant manual, medical supplies, and corresponding CERT backpack to be kept by participants upon successful completion of the class.

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Equipment/Audiovisual/Supply requirements: Classroom setting with chairs and tables; computer, LCD projector, and screen; additional handouts per instructor choice. Materials to be utilized for cribbing during light rescue unit. A sturdy chair and heavy blanket for patient carries and evacuation exercises.

Special Notes & Conditions: Minimum of 10 students, Maximum of 30 students in class. Two (2) Instructors are required for delivery of this course. If live-fire is utilized for fire extinguisher skill, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Bureau of Air Quality Program Office for the county in which the training is scheduled to take place shall be notified by phone **at least (10) ten business days before the planned training.** DEP Air Quality Program Offices phone numbers are listed in the Instructions for Completing, Submitting, and Processing the Application for Open Burning Exception for Fire Fighting Instruction, which is available from DEP or the Office of the State Fire Commissioner website.

COURSE OUTLINE

<u>Content</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Unit 1: Disaster Preparedness	2 hr. 30 min.	
Unit 2: Fire Safety and Utility Controls	2 hr. 30 min.	
Unit 3: Disaster Medical Operations I	2 hr. 30 min.	
Unit 4: Disaster Medical Operations II	3 hr.	
Unit 5: Light Search and Rescue Operations	2 hr. 30min.	
Unit 6: CERT Organization	1 hr. 45min.	
Unit 7: Disaster Psychology	45 min.	
Unit 8: Terrorism and CERT	2 hr. 30 min.	
Unit 9: Course Review, Final Exam, and Disaster Simulation	2 hr. 30 min.	

Note: Times are flexible due to class size, student backgrounds, etc.

Competency Evaluation Mechanism (Brief description-attach copy): 18-Question Pre-Course Exam, Periodic questioning by instructor throughout presentation, and a 75% score on an 18-Question Post-Course Exam.

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Course Objectives (specific): Upon completing this course, the participants should be able to:

- Describe the types of hazards that are most likely to affect their homes, workplaces, and neighborhoods.
- Take steps to prepare themselves and their families for a disaster.
- Describe the functions of CERTs and their role in immediate response.
- Identify and reduce potential fire hazards in their homes, workplaces, and neighborhoods.
- Work as a team to apply basic fire suppression strategies, resources, and safety measures to extinguish a pan fire.
- Apply techniques for opening airways, controlling excessive bleeding, and treating for shock.
- Conduct triage under simulated disaster conditions.
- Perform head-to-toe patient assessments.
- Select and set up a treatment area.
- Employ basic treatments for various injuries and apply splints to suspected fractures and sprains.
- Identify planning and assess requirements for potential search and rescue situations.
- Describe the most common techniques for searching a structure.
- Work as a team to apply safe techniques for debris removal and victim extrication.
- Describe ways to protect rescuers during search and rescue operations.
- Describe the post-disaster emotional environment and the steps that rescuers can take to relieve their own stressors and those of disaster survivors.
- Describe CERT organization and documentation requirements.

Questions/Comments: Contact the State Fire Academy Assistant Administrator