



OHIO EMA



ALL-HAZARDS HERALD

JULY 2021

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Ohio

Department of Public Safety

FY2017 AND FY2018 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT EXTENSIONS

FEMA has granted Period of Performance extensions for the FY2017 and FY2018 State Homeland Security Grants. Due to the impact of COVID-19 over the past 15 months, many grant recipients faced myriad challenges in completing projects. The challenges ranged from personnel focused on PPE and vaccination distribution to supply chain disruptions and restrictions on in-person training. All SHSP and SHSP-LE sub-recipients should reach out to their assigned Ohio EMA grants specialists to secure an eligible extension to expend any remaining funds.

There are still some supply-chain and training issues that may affect your timeline over the next year, so please be diligent in completing your projects as Ohio will be required to expend three fiscal years (FY17,



FY18, and FY19) by the summer of 2022. If any sub-recipient feels that they are still unable to complete their projects on time (even with the granted extension), please contact the Grants Branch to de-obligate any remaining funds so that they can be reallocated for another project.

TRAINING UPDATE

The Ohio EMA training application submittal period is now open, available July 1-21, 2021. The [Training Application Policy](#), complete with all details, is available in the left-side menu bar of the Ohio EMA [Training & Exercises webpage](#). Counties are encouraged to work within their EMA regions to jointly submit trainings that will help with identified training gaps.

The option of in-person classroom settings is once again available to counties and partners. The virtual option is also available, and can be selected on the application.

Over the last nine months since Ohio went to a virtual classroom in June of 2020, Ohio EMA supported 65 trainings with more than 1,200 students from Ohio and other states. One major change for trainings supported by Ohio EMA is that hard copies of student manuals will no longer be provided. Students will be given a link, where they can download the student manual and bring it to class on an electronic device. This is projected to cut down on wasted paper, and will also cut training budget expenses by nearly half.

Additional details about the Ohio EMA training program can be found in the [2021-2022 Training Policy and Catalog](#). All students, course hosts, and instructors are strongly encouraged to review the revised policy.

Ohio EMA has also updated the Instructor Certification Policy. Those interested are encouraged to read this policy and submit the included application with required certificates and supporting documents. Ohio EMA currently has 144 instructors for 48 different trainings. A complete list of instructors can be found [HERE](#).

Please direct questions to David Nunley, Training & Exercise Supervisor, at dbnunley@dps.ohio.gov



JOINT HAZARDOUS MATERIAL EXERCISE

The Tuscarawas County Local Emergency Planning Committee and Emergency Management Agency (LEPC/EMA), in conjunction with Ohio EMA, conducted a joint exercise to test the county's Hazardous Material Response Plans on June 15, near the RJ Corman Railroad Company facility in Dover, Ohio.

The exercise scenario involved a train car leaking chlorine, a highly toxic gas that is fatal if inhaled or absorbed through the skin. The exercise began with a call to the Tuscarawas County 911 center by a concerned citizen who witnessed a substance leaking from a tank car as the train passed. On-scene crews diligently worked together to protect lives and the environment while mitigating the situation. Crews also simulated the transport of patients to Trinity Hospital Twin City for medical evaluation during the exercise.

On-scene participants included firefighters from Dover and New Philadelphia Fire Departments, the Tuscarawas County HazMat Team, Smith Ambulance, Tuscarawas County Sheriff's Office, and the Ohio State Highway Patrol. Other supporting agencies on scene were RJ Corman Railroad Company, Ohio Department of Transportation, Tuscarawas County Coroner's Office, Tuscarawas County EMA, and Ohio EMA.



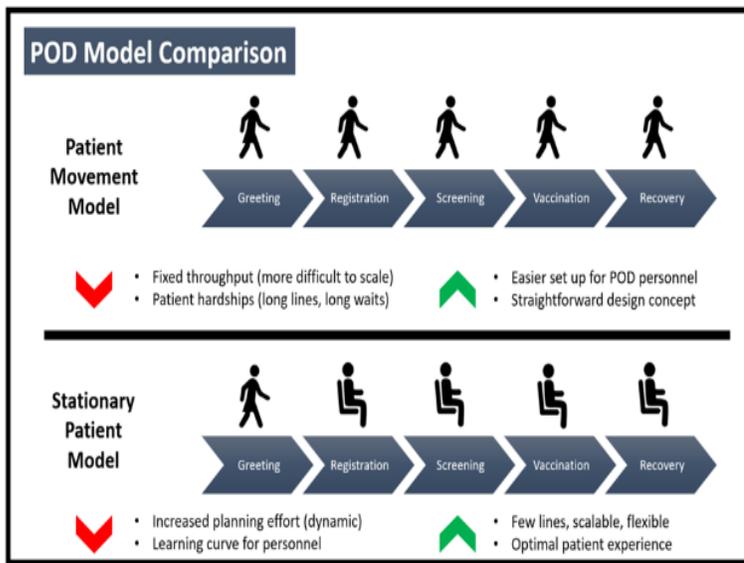
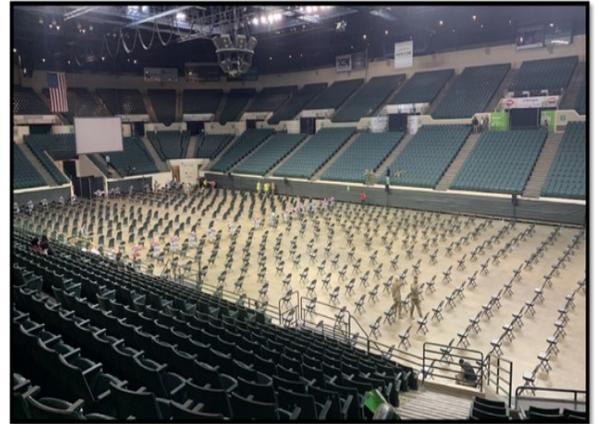
In addition to responders at the scene, multiple agencies staffed the Tuscarawas County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) which worked closely with Ohio EMA's Watch Office to coordinate information and resources when requested. Agencies operating within the EOC included the Dover Fire Department, Tuscarawas County Sheriff's Office, Tuscarawas County Health Department, American Red Cross, Tuscarawas County Mobility Manager, Tuscarawas County EMA, Ohio EMA, and volunteers.

This exercise was developed over multiple months by an interagency group of first responders, local support partners, industry representatives, and the Tuscarawas County EMA and State of Ohio Emergency Response Commission representatives.

Completion of this exercise met the annual exercise requirement set forth by Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3750.04 (C) for the State of Ohio Emergency Support Function 10 and the Tuscarawas County LEPC Hazardous Material Annex. In addition to meeting the ORC requirements, the exercise provided an excellent training opportunity for local and state partners to work together in a non-emergency environment.

WOLSTEIN COMMUNITY VACCINATION CENTER (CVC) SUMMARY

Ohio EMA coordinated the development, launch, and successful culmination of the federally supported mass vaccination site in Cleveland from February through June of this year. In the 12 weeks of operations, more than 258,000 vaccines were administered. With the support of the Ohio National Guard, Ohio Department of Health, northeast Ohio hospital systems, FEMA, and medical personnel from the 101st Airborne Division, the Wolstein Center at Cleveland State University was transformed into a Type 1 Community Vaccination Center (CVC) that established a new model for mass vaccinations with improved efficiency.



The Stationary Patient model, as implemented, was developed by Ohio EMA's very own Planning Section Supervisor, Dr. Daniel Baker. The model allows for vaccine recipients to move one time while the various stages of the vaccine process mobilize to the patient.

While the site was considered a FEMA Type 1 CVC with the ability to provide more than 6,000 vaccines daily, the Wolstein Center averaged more than 6,200 vaccinations daily, over the first eight weeks of operations, and was projected to have a maximum daily surge capacity (if needed) of more than 9,000 vaccines in a 12-hour day.

One of the hallmarks of the CVC established at Wolstein was the focus on customer experience. On average, recipients of vaccine at the state-run CVC spent five minutes from entering into the clinic to receiving their vaccination. Including the recommended wait time post-vaccine, customers averaged only 23 minutes on-site!

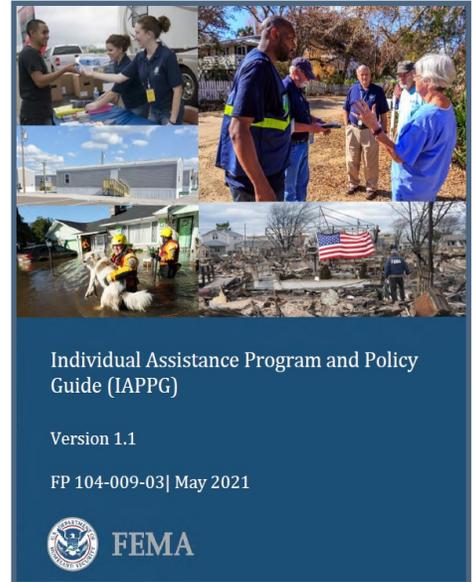
The Wolstein Center CVC's success was the culmination of excellent partnerships and collaboration between local, state, and federal partners. From development of wrap-around services, to include on-site language interpretation, to the thorough planning and protocol development around traffic and customer safety, partners from all levels of the emergency management enterprise were involved in the site's success. Ohio EMA is proud of its accomplishment and wants to acknowledge that the site would not have been possible without the great support from the county, city, and local hospital partners.



FEMA's INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND POLICY GUIDE

At the end of May, FEMA released Version 1.1 of the Individual Assistance Program and Policy Guide (IAPPG). The purpose of the IAPPG is to consolidate information on Individual Assistance (IA) programs offered by FEMA. These changes will be applicable to all IA declarations issued on or after the publication date.

In alignment with President Biden's Executive Order, [Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government](#), several updates in IAPPG Version 1.1 improve equity in the implementation of Individual Assistance. A summary of changes are below:



- The definition of non-traditional housing is updated, so that homes previously considered ineligible for Home Repair Assistance may now be eligible.
- Eligibility criteria for Critical Needs Assistance was made available to applicants who have stated a need for shelter but have not been able to leave their damaged dwelling.
- Service animal guidance for shelter operators was added to permit service animals to accompany their owners in the shelter.
- Real property verified loss threshold for direct housing referrals was updated from a total of \$17,000 FEMA verified real property losses to \$12 per square foot, which allows a wider range of survivor circumstances regardless of event type, location, or size of their dwelling.
- Moving & Storage Assistance was updated to a non-SBA-dependent category of Other Needs Assistance (ONA).
- Expanded eligibility for chainsaw reimbursement.
- Established a standard award of \$550 for Clean & Removal Assistance.
- Updated documentation required to receive Transportation Assistance for a destroyed vehicle.
- Included a timeframe of “within 60 days of receipt of packet” for FEMA to respond to a non-federal entity’s Disaster Case Management (DCM) application.

In addition to the changes listed above, Version 1.1 incorporates the *Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018* which:

- Provides separate financial assistance maximum awards for Housing Assistance (HA) and Other Needs Assistance (ONA);
- Provides financial assistance for disaster-damaged accessibility real property items and personal property items that can be paid in addition to the maximum award amount for HA and ONA;
- Updates Multi-Family Lease and Repair property eligibility requirements to include those located in an undeclared county in the event MLR properties are not available within areas designated for IA; and
- Increases the Group Flood Insurance Policy premium to \$2,400.

If you have any questions, please contact the [Disaster Recovery Branch](#).

COVID-19 AFTER-ACTION REVIEW PROJECT

On April 1, 2021, Ohio EMA contracted with Tetra Tech to develop a COVID-19 After Action Report (AAR), reviewing actions from the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Activation on March 9, 2020. The primary project goal is to capture lessons learned from the response efforts and allow Ohio EMA and partner agencies at the state and local levels to leverage strengths and resolve any necessary corrective actions to improve response to future pandemics.



In accordance with the contract specifications, Tetra Tech will develop two separate AARs in order to evaluate the coordination between the state and local county EMAs and to better understand the operations coordinated with state and local partners in and at the State EOC.



As of June 22, all tasks associated with Phase I (Project Initiation) of the project were 100 percent completed, to include kickoff meeting/introductions, project site coordination via MS Teams and feedback and discussions with Ohio EMA staff to finalize the survey questions. Phase II (After Action Interviews and Documentation Review) of the project is ongoing and includes survey distribution, survey completion and conducting interviews. The project is scheduled to be complete by September 2021.

Ohio EMA appreciates all who have participated and provided feedback on the project, and look forward to partners' ongoing participation.

FEMA | FCC TO CONDUCT A NATIONAL IPAWS TEST

FEMA and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will conduct a nationwide test of the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) test handling code and of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) on August 11, 2021, with a secondary date of August 25. Testing of both portions of the WEA and EAS will start at 2:20 pm, Eastern Time.



The test will assess the operational readiness of the infrastructure for distribution of a national message and determine whether technological improvements are needed. The EAS test will be conducted in conjunction with radio, television, and cable operators in all states, territories, and tribal lands.



The WEA portion of the test will be conducted by wireless providers that have elected to participate in WEA via IPAWS. For WEA, the national test message will only be displayed on wireless handsets where the subscriber has opted-in to receive WEA test messages.

IPAWS is FEMA's national system for local alerting that provides authenticated emergency and lifesaving information to the public through mobile phones using Wireless Emergency Alerts; to radio and television stations via the Emergency Alert System; and on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio.

REGIONAL OFFICES SUPPORT BUCKEYE BOYS & GIRLS STATE PROGRAMS

During the week of June 14, Ohio EMA Regional Operations personnel supported the Buckeye Boys State and Buckeye Girls State by introducing principles of emergency management, public safety, and government. The Buckeye Girls/Boys State programs were week-long programs designed to educate Ohio's youth in the duties, privileges, rights, and responsibilities of good citizenship. By being involved in the Boys and Girls State programs, delegates entering their senior year of high school learned more about city, county, and state government in one week than they would have in an entire semester of class. The Southwest Regional Office supported Buckeye Boys State, which was held at Miami University, while the Northwest Regional Office supported Buckeye Girls State, held at the University of Mount Union.

Buckeye Boys State

Emergency Management Specialist Sam Reed, of the SW Regional Office, provided direct program assistance to the delegation on June 16 to kickoff State Government Day by leading morning and afternoon sessions introducing emergency management. Prior to the commencement of the program, Supervisor Phil Clayton provided annual EOP review and update with local and county agencies to include the university, Oxford Police Department, Oxford Fire Department and Butler County EMA.

Reed provided an overview on the particulars of ORC 5502 and the duties and mission of the Ohio EMA. Examples were given of the processes of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery of a comprehensive emergency management program, as well as walking through the disaster cycle. The participants took an active interest in the understanding, and conduction of a Threat and Hazard Identification Risk Assessment. After this concept was introduced they saw the value of this action, and how it could impact local legislation.



Providing the Buckeye Boys State participants the *Elected Officials Guide to Emergency Management* allowed the delegates to walkthrough emergency management in Ohio, read through the emergency management phases, and see how they could impact legislation from their assigned roles throughout the week. They actively worked with other stakeholders and participants of Buckeye Boys State to make a positive impact to public safety.

The participants took active engagement in wanting to establish local codes, plan basics, and had a “Severe Weather Awareness Day” recognized by the Buckeye Boys State legislation, for the upcoming severe weather that would end up taking place on June 18.

Buckeye Girls State



Emergency Management Specialist Anita Stechschulte, of the NW Regional Office, supported the 75th session of Buckeye Girls State. This session also celebrated 40 years of the State Highway Patrol's support of the women's program. Gov. DeWine addressed the delegation, praising the young women for being selected and stressed the importance of the three-pronged democratic system our nation was founded upon.

During her week-long assignment, Stechschulte was engaged in staff training; taught workshops to the delegates regarding legislative processes and Parliamentary Procedure; supported the voting process, including assisting in the appointment of House and Senate aid positions; and acted as a senate advisor, guiding the senate in daily functions, bill writing, and debate. Additionally, she kept the Board of Directors apprised of impending weather slated for June 18, and shared information on the functions and duties of Ohio EMA.

RADIOLOGICAL BRANCH UPDATE



Last month, the Radiological Branch, Ottawa County EMA staff, and the utility Energy Harbor worked on the annual Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) equipment exchange. This exchange begins with the Radiological Instrumentation, Maintenance & Calibration Section (RIMC), where they calibrate the equipment to be exchanged, then the Ohio EMA radiological analyst requests the required amount of equipment to be exchanged. In the photos, the RIMC team is building dosimeter kits which consist of Potassium Iodide (KI) tablets, Direct Reading Dosimeters (DRD's), Thermoluminescent Dosimeters (TLDs) and Emergency Worker

Exposure Record forms. In roughly two days, the team built thousands of these kits for all participating agencies from Ottawa, Lucas, Sandusky, and Erie counties.

An exchange similar to this occurs in all three of the 10-mile Emergency Planning Zones (EPZs) in Ohio from the nuclear power plants that impact the state.

Those plants are:

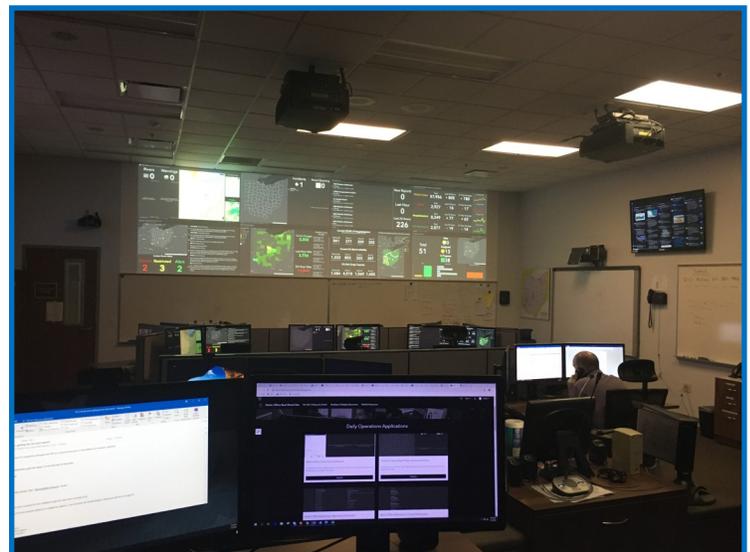
- Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station (DBNPS) - Counties in the 10-mile EPZ are Ottawa and Lucas
- Perry Nuclear Power Plant (PNPP) - Counties in the 10-mile EPZ are Lake, Ashtabula, and Geauga
- Beaver Valley Power Station (BVPS) - County in the 10-mile EPZ is Columbiana



Over the next several weeks the Radiological Branch, with the help of Pam Hintz from the Department of Health, began the process of creating the KI Emergency Worker packets for the PNPP 10-mile EPZ. The Perry plant has the largest population inside a 10-mile EPZ in all of FEMA Region 5.

OHIO EMA WELCOMES NEW WATCH OFFICER

Ohio EMA's has added Sarah Rhodes to the Watch Office, bringing her on board in late May. Sarah expands the Watch Office's already diverse background with her experience in social work and the armed forces. Formerly of Licking County Job and Family Services, Sarah also draws on her six years and deployment with the U.S. Air Force within the Security Forces specialty. Ms. Rhodes has a bachelor and master's degree in Criminal Justice with minors in psychology and sociology. We welcome Sarah to the team and look forward to the positive impact we are sure she will have at Ohio EMA.

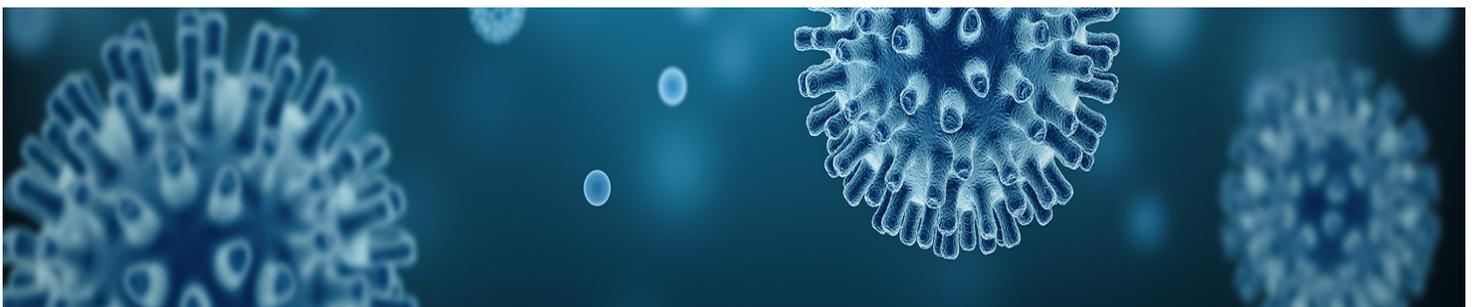


STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER COVID UPDATE

The State EOC is transitioning to Assessment and Monitoring for the COVID-19 response on July 2, 2021. The State EOC will remain engaged in coordinating missions in that status. Here are some statistics on the State EOC's COVID-19 response to date.

Covid-19 response stats as of June 23, 2021

State EOC Activation dates	March 9, 2020 – July 2, 2021
Duration of State EOC Activation	480 days
COVID-19 State EOC Missions completed	2,325
For comparison 2019 Memorial Day Severe Weather Missions conducted	42
Longest duration mission	ESF-6 /Ohio National Guard support to Franklin County Food Bank - 472 days.
Number of ESFs assigned missions	14 of 15
Maximum number of warehouses used during the COVID response	7
Number of statewide PPE pushes conducted	43
Number of agencies that have completed ESF-1 Transportation missions	9
ESF with the most missions completed	ESF-8 with 1400
Test kits distributed by ODH	3,872,821
Masks provided to K-12 schools	10,000,000
Vaccine doses distributed by ODH's RSS warehouse	1,686,320
Vaccine doses administered by Ohio National Guard Mobile Vaccine Teams	15,055 (as of June 15, 2021)
Vaccine doses administered by the Type 1 Mass Vaccination Clinic at the Wolstein Center	Approximately 258,000
Pieces of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) distributed (as of June 10, 2021)	179,917,107



SUMMERTIME SEVERE WEATHER



With National Lightning Safety Awareness Week concluding recently, it is important to encourage severe weather preparedness practices for all summer weather hazards. Summertime weather hazards that could impact Ohio include severe thunderstorms, damaging winds, tornadoes, hailstorms, flooding and flash flooding, and excessive heat.

Know the Weather Terms

The National Weather Service (NWS) is responsible for issuing severe weather watches, warnings and advisories to alert the public when dangerous weather conditions are expected or imminent.

- **Watch** – A weather watch means the potential or conditions exist for the development of a dangerous weather event. The NWS will issue a weather watch when the risk of a hazardous weather or hydrologic event has increased significantly, but its occurrence, location and/or timing is still uncertain. The public should pay attention to local news stations or listen to a NOAA Weather Radio for weather reports.
- **Warning** – A weather warning means that a dangerous weather event is occurring, imminent, or has a very high probability of occurring. Immediate action must be taken to protect life and property. Continue to pay attention to weather reports for changing weather conditions and safety information.
- **Advisory** – A weather advisory means weather conditions less serious than a storm warning are imminent. These events may cause a significant inconvenience, and if caution is not exercised, it could lead to a situation that could threaten life and property.

For a complete list of NWS Spring & Summer Hazardous Weather Terms, click [here](#).

The Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness (which includes the Emergency Management Association of Ohio and the NWS) encourages Ohioans to be safe this summer and to have an emergency plan for all hazards that could impact their home or business.

Severe Weather Safety Precautions

- [Build a Kit](#). Keep supplies in an easy-to-carry kit, backpack or tote that you can use at home or take with you, if you need to evacuate.
- [Make a Plan](#). Make listening or reading weather reports a part of planning your day. If the forecast calls for inclement weather, you may need to postpone your trip or outdoor activity. Plan accordingly.
- [Stay Informed](#). Sign up for your local emergency notification system or download a weather app to receive emergency alerts.

UPCOMING TRAININGS SUPPORTED BY OHIO EMA

All classes will be posted on the DPS training campus at least 60 days prior to the start of the course. Please read the [Training Policy & Catalog](#) for more information on Ohio EMA trainings.

Helpful Links:

- [Ohio EMA Training Calendar](#)
- [Login to the DPS Training Campus](#)
- [Create a new account on the DPS Training Campus](#)

Note:

- All listed courses will be conducted virtually using Microsoft Teams. If COVID-19 social distancing restrictions are lifted, these classes may be transitioned to in-person, and students will be notified.
- Seats available listed are as of the release of this update and will change quickly.
- All classes will be posted on the DPS training campus at least 60 days prior to the course.
- Please read the [Training Policy & Catalog](#) for more information on Ohio EMA trainings.

	COURSE	DATES	REGISTRATION OPEN	SEATS AVAILABLE
1	L-453 Academy III – Contemporary Issues in the EM Organization	July 12-16, 2021	YES	0
2	ICS-300 Intermediate Course	July 27-30, 2021	YES	0
3	G-191 ICS / EOC Interface	July 28, 2021	YES	0
4	G-251 Workshop in Emergency Management Amateur Radio Resources	August 4, 2021	YES	6
5	G-318 Local Mitigation Planning Workshop	August 10-12, 2021	YES	0
6	ICS-400 Advanced ICS	August 11-13, 2021	YES	0
7	K-105 Public Information Basics	August 17-19, 2021	YES	13
8	ICS-400 Advanced ICS Course	August 24–27, 2021	YES	0
9	G-191 ICS / EOC Interface	September 2, 2021	NO	24
10	L-454 Academy IV–Advanced Concepts and Policy in the EM Profession	September 13-17, 2021	YES	0
11	G-361 Flood Fight Operations - In-person Athens County	September 15-16 , 2021	YES	20
12	G-386 Mass Fatalities Incident - In-person Medina County	September 22–23, 2021	YES	15
13	G-271 Hazardous Weather and Flooding Preparedness	October 5-7, 2021	YES	16

**MANY MORE TRAININGS WILL BE LISTED IN THE
NEXT EDITION OF THE ALL-HAZARDS HERALD!**

