

Training Recommendations for Amateurs Radio Operators

Agencies that receive funds from FEMA or Homeland Security are required to be "NIMS Compliant" or grant funds may be withheld until the unit is in compliance. The courses below are on the list for staff personnel and volunteers. As volunteer radio operators we need to know how the system works so we can do our job more efficiently. MEMA has said it can't require these of volunteers, but they are recommended. You need to be aware that you may be "locked out" of some sites if you don't have these.

The courses are free on line. It does require some time investment to complete the course work, but it is not hard. Upon completion of the course you will receive a certificate. Make a copy of these and keep them in your Ready Kit, along with a copy of your Amateur Radio License.

To get started, go to the FEMA Emergency Management Course List

<http://training.FEMA.gov/emiwebis/crslist.asp>

Click on these courses.

[IS-100 Introduction to Incident Command System, I-100](#)

[IS-200 ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents](#)

[IS-700 National Incident Management System \(NIMS\), An Introduction](#)

[IS-800.A National Response Plan \(NRP\), An Introduction](#)

Another good source of information can be found at the NIMS Information Center

<http://www.nimsdownloads.com>

All emergency communication responders are urged to complete at least Level 1 AREC (EC-001) of the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Course. Information and registration details can be found on the ARRL Web page at:

<http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html>

There is a charge of \$45.00 and it must be completed in 8 weeks. Scholarship money may be available for ARRL members.