WHO MAY SPONSOR THE CERT PROGRAM?

Any group or organization may sponsor and present the CERT program under the direction of their city or county emergency program manager, and following the program guidelines provided by Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Division of Emergency Services and Homeland Security.

Private-sector businesses and organizations may sponsor the CERT program for their employees, and may arrange for such training through their local emergency program manager, or arrange for it directly with certified instructors who have completed the CERT program.

WHAT IS THE STATE'S ROLE?

The Community Emergency Response Team program is sponsored throughout Utah by the Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Services and Homeland Security (DES).

DES encourages local jurisdictions and organizations to sponsor and present the CERT training programs as part of their disaster preparedness activities. DES trains individuals in how to manage the program and conduct the training through its "CERT Trainer" courses.

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

Recruit 25-30 interested people from your community, neighborhood, school or business. Some natural groups include:

- Community Groups— Homeowners associations, neighborhood watch groups, religious groups and similar organizations geographically distributed within the local area
- Business and Industry— Possible locations include high-rise office buildings, large hotels, and industrial complexes
- Schools— Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) organizations and faculty groups
- Local Government— Local government employees who are trained in CERT procedures can help local government agencies continue to provide needed services to citizens during an emergency

CERT
COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

State of Utah
Department of Public Safety

Community Emergency Response Teams

Division of Emergency Services and Homeland Security

Cache County CERT Council
1225 West Valley View
Suite 200
Logan, Utah 84321
435-716-9352

What is CERT?

Each year a number of communities fall victim to disaster. This may be in the form of an earthquake, severe weather, wildfire, blizzard, flood, or human-caused emergencies. The damage caused by disasters such as these can affect all of us.

Catastrophic events:

- Severely restrict and overwhelm emergency response resources, communications, transportation and utilities.
- Leave many individuals and neighborhoods cut off from outside support.

When we hear about this or see it on the news, it always seems to be happening to someone else but...

What if this happened to you?

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) are trained to help communities during the first 72-hours following a disaster when damaged roads, disrupted communications, high telephone call volume, etc. may restrict access by professional emergency response teams.

CERT training provides citizens the basic skills to handle virtually all of their own needs, and then to respond to their communities' needs in the aftermath of a disaster.

What does this course involve?

The course consists of seven, 3-hour classes. Classes are taught by trained emergency personnel, including firefighters and paramedics.

Course Agenda

The Basic CERT course lasts just 7 weeks and takes 2 1/2 to 3 hours per week of class and practical time.

MODULE 1: Students will become aware of various types of major emergencies that could affect Utah, the Emergency Management system, and the process of disaster recovery.

MODULE 2: Basic fire suppression, team and personal safety considerations, an introduction to the problems associated with hazardous materials incidents.

MODULE 3: Disaster medical operations, recognizing and treating life-threatening injuries.

MODULE 4: Triage and sorting patients, splinting, bandaging, and basic patient care.

MODULE 5: Light search and rescue operations, size-up, search methods, patterns, and safety precautions.

MODULE 6: Focus on C.E.R.T. operations before a disaster or emergency incident: long term planning, how to organize a neighborhood, evaluate available resources and identify people with special needs.

MODULE 7: Post-disaster operations, counseling, stress management.

MODULE 8: Introduction to terrorism, response to a terrorist event, how to prevent terrorism in the community, United States threat levels.

Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the participants will be able to:

- Describe the types of hazards that affect their homes and communities.
- Describe the function of CERT and its role in immediate response.
- Enhance personal and family preparedness
- Identify and reduce potential fire hazards in their home and workplace.
- As a team, apply basic fire suppression strategies, resources, and safety measures to extinguish a burning liquid.
- Apply techniques for opening airways, controlling bleeding and treating shock.
- Conduct triage under simulated disaster conditions.
- Perform head-to-toe assessments.
- Select and set up a treatment area.
- Employ basic treatments for various wounds, and apply splints to suspected fractures and sprains.
- Identify planning and size up requirements for potential search and rescue situations.
- Describe the most common techniques for searching a structure.
- As a team, use safe techniques for debris removal and victim extrication.
- Describe ways to protect rescuers during search and rescue.

The target audience for this course is private citizens, businesses and schools who desire the skills and knowledge required to prepare for and respond to a disaster.