



Welcome to the Spring 2022 National
Exercise Program (NEP) Exercise Support
Overview Webinar!

National Exercise Program Spring 2022 Support Round Overview

National Exercise Division

February 2022



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A collage of four images illustrating emergency response activities: 1) Top-left: Two workers in green hard hats and safety vests attend to a person on a stretcher outdoors. 2) Top-right: Three individuals in full white hazmat suits and respirators are working together. 3) Bottom-left: A group of people are seated around a large conference table in a meeting room. 4) Bottom-right: A control room with multiple computer monitors and a person wearing a face mask. The text "NATIONAL EXERCISE PROGRAM" is overlaid in large white letters on a blue background in the bottom right corner of the collage.

NATIONAL
EXERCISE
PROGRAM

Resources

Web Links

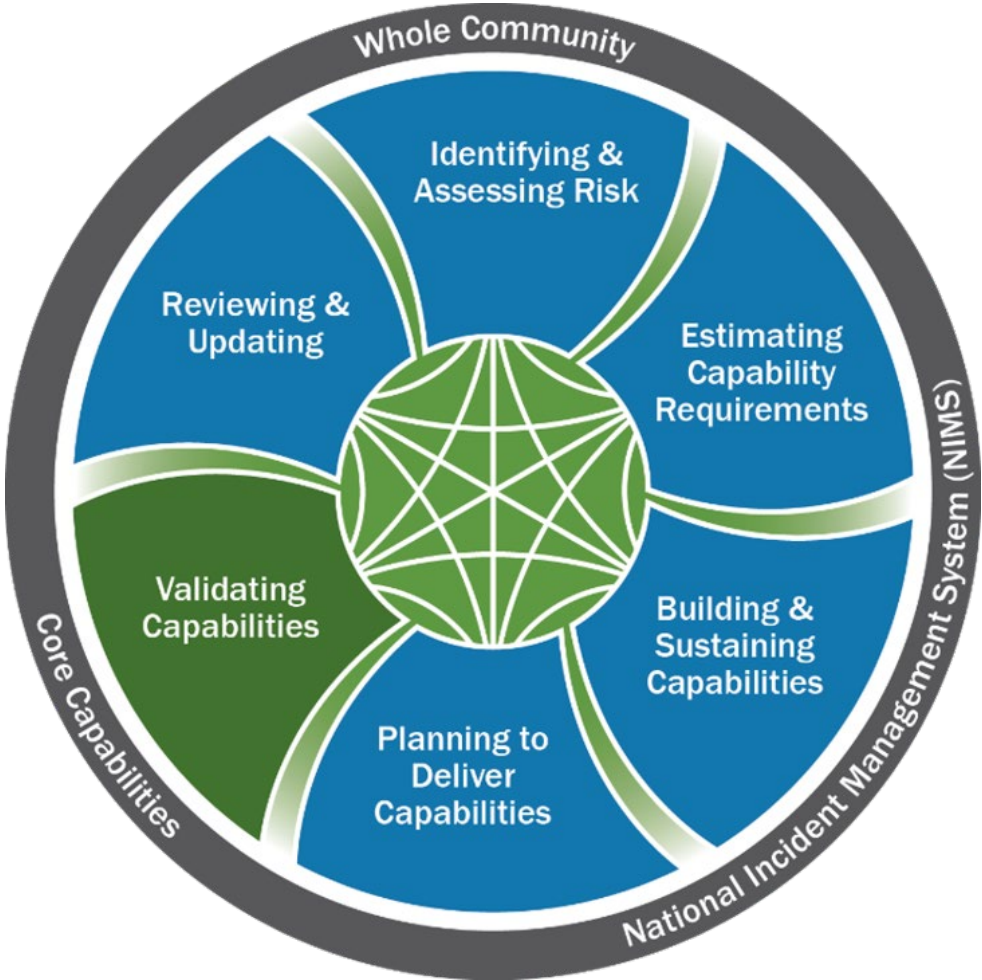
- FEMA National Exercise Program website: www.fema.gov/nep
- FEMA Preparedness Toolkit: <https://preptoolkit.fema.gov/>
- Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program: www.fema.gov/hseep

File Share

- Spring 2022 Exercise Support Round Deck
- National Exercise Program Overview Booklet
- FEMA Virtual Exercise Best Practices



National Preparedness System Overview



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The National Exercise Program (NEP)



- The NEP is a national-level mechanism to validate core capabilities across all mission areas; its two-year cycle of exercises culminates in a National-Level Exercise (NLE)
- Each cycle is guided by **Principals' Strategic Priorities (PSP)** set by the Principals Committee of the National Security Council
- Priorities are **driven by data** through the **National Preparedness System**, including
 - The National Preparedness Report (NPR)
 - Stakeholder Preparedness Review (SPR)
 - Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA)
 - After-action reports (AARs)
 - Other preparedness data

Benefits of Participating in the NEP



Receive technical assistance and support throughout design, development, conduct and evaluation of your exercises from experienced exercise specialists



Access exercise templates, tools and other resources to help you design, conduct and evaluate your exercises



Pursue new exercise ideas and broaden the impact of your exercises to a wider group of stakeholders



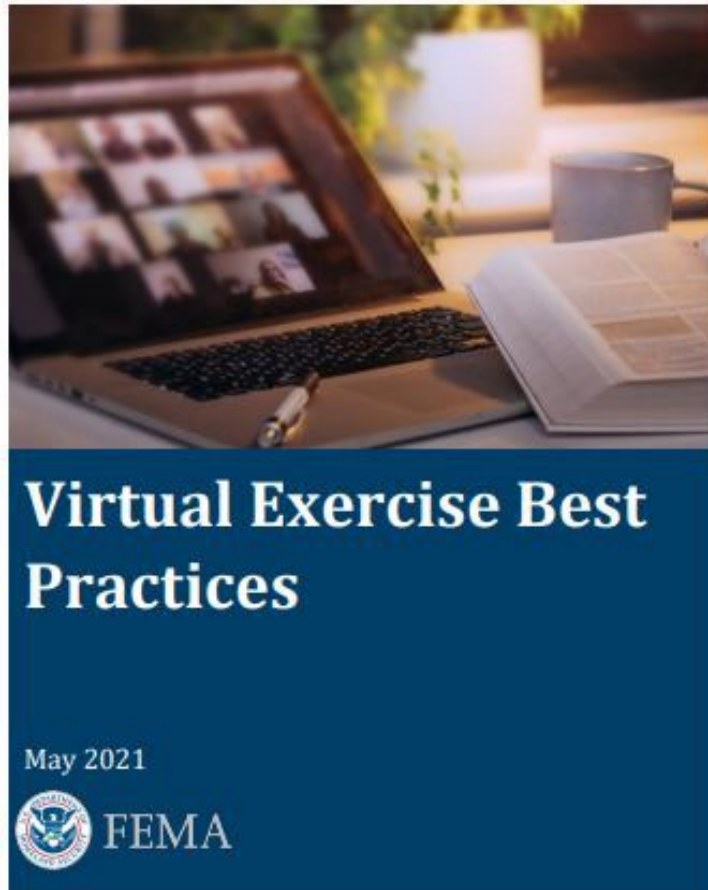
Influence national preparedness policy and resource allocation decisions at all levels by contributing exercise findings

For more information on FEMA exercise tools and resources, please visit <https://preptoolkit.fema.gov/web/hseep-resources>



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Delivering Virtual Exercises



- Discussion-based exercise deliveries can use **virtual platforms** and **interactive technology**
- Planning for virtual, discussion-based exercise deliveries follows current HSEEP methodology and provides a safe alternative when in-person gatherings are not feasible
- Virtual exercises and planning meetings can help you:



Expand
Participation



Enhance
Collaboration



Reduce Costs



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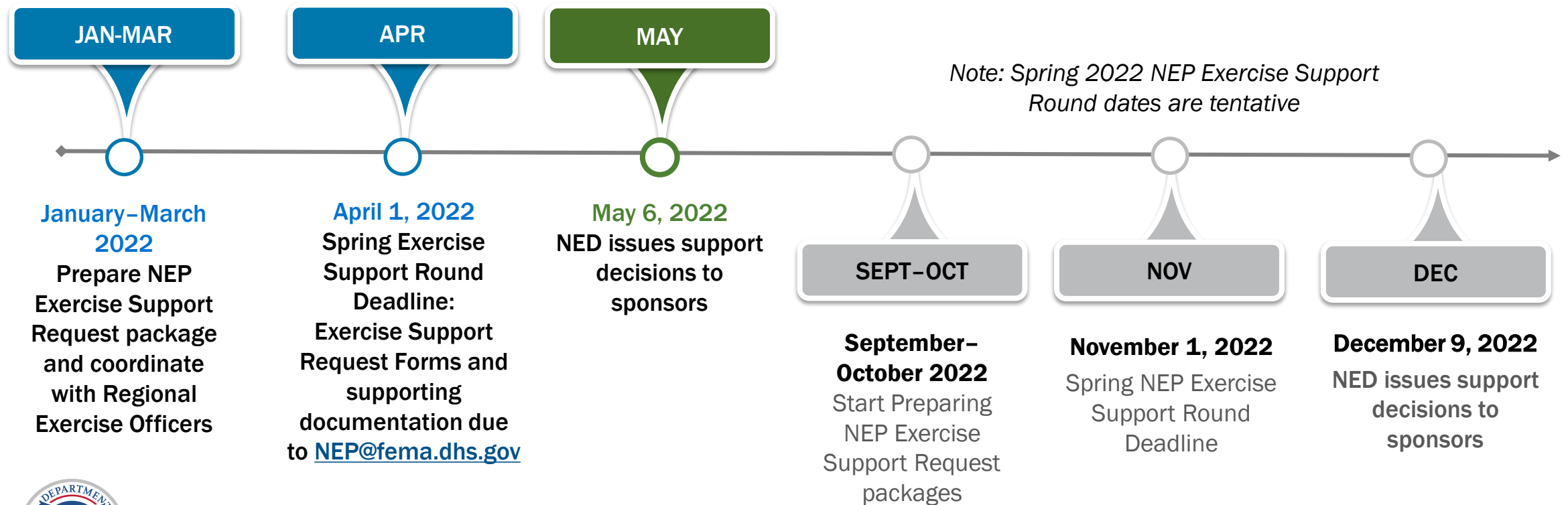
National Exercise Program

Exercise Support Process



2021–2022 Exercise Support Round Timeline

- The National Exercise Division accepts exercise support packages through the NEP twice a year:



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Eligibility Requirements

- ✓ **State, local, tribal or territorial (SLTT) jurisdiction** as sponsor; nonprofit/private sector/federal entities must have their request co-sponsored by an SLTT government organization
- ✓ Align exercise to at least one of the **Principals' Strategic Priorities** in the current NEP cycle
- ✓ Submit all **required supporting documentation** with the Spring 2022 Support Request Form:
 - ✓ All sponsors: documentation of plans or corrective actions that the exercise will validate (e.g., completed plans, draft plans, after-action report/improvement plan, integrated preparedness plan)
 - ✓ Sponsors that have previously received support from the National Exercise Division: Improvement plans or other documentation of progress made on improvements since the previous exercise(s)
- ✓ Reach out to the appropriate **FEMA Regional Exercise Officer**



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How to Submit a Request for Support

1. Download and Complete the Exercise Support Request Form at www.fema.gov/nep
2. Contact the Regional Exercise Officer from the appropriate FEMA region and express intent to submit an exercise to the NEP
3. Submit the Exercise Support Request Form and required supporting documentation to nep@fema.dhs.gov by the submission deadline



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FEMA's Regional Exercise Officers

Important: please coordinate exercise support request submissions with your REO to ensure the request form is complete

| Regional Exercise Officers | States / Territories | Regional Exercise Officers | States / Territories |
|---|---|--|---|
| Region 1: Kerri-Ann Tirrell Kerri-Ann.Tirrell@fema.dhs.gov | Connecticut Maine Massachusetts New Hampshire Rhode Island Vermont | Region 6: Justin Breeding JustinF.Breeding@fema.dhs.gov | Arkansas Louisiana New Mexico Oklahoma Texas |
| Region 2: Chris Cammarata Christopher.Cammarata@fema.dhs.gov | New Jersey New York Puerto Rico Virgin Islands | Region 7: John Bissen john.bissen@fema.dhs.gov | Iowa Kansas Missouri Nebraska |
| Region 3: Patricia Gardner Patricia.Gardner2@fema.dhs.gov | Delaware Maryland Pennsylvania Virginia District of Columbia West Virginia | Region 8: Andrew Batten Andrew.Batten@fema.dhs.gov | Colorado Montana North Dakota South Dakota Utah Wyoming |
| Region 4: Neil Anderson neil.anderson@fema.dhs.gov | Alabama Florida Georgia Kentucky Mississippi North Carolina South Carolina Tennessee | Region 9: Geoffrey Krueger Geoffrey.Krueger@fema.dhs.gov | Arizona California Hawaii Nevada Guam American Samoa Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands Republic of Marshall Islands Federated States of Micronesia |
| Region 5: Marc Chmielewski marc.chmielewski@fema.dhs.gov | Illinois Indiana Michigan Minnesota Ohio Wisconsin | Region 10: Casey Broom casey.broom@fema.dhs.gov | Alaska Idaho Oregon Washington |



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Spring 2022 NEP Exercise Support Request Form Walkthrough

The screenshot shows the National Exercise Program Spring 2022 Exercise Support Request Form. The form is divided into two main sections: 1. Sponsor Information and 2. Scope.

1. Sponsor Information

Exercise Sponsor Name: [Text Field] Sponsor Type: [Select] [v]

| Lead Sponsor Information | Secondary Sponsor Information |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| POC Full Name | POC Full Name |
| POC Phone Number | POC Phone Number |
| POC Email Address | POC Email Address |

2. Scope

Exercise Name: [Text Field]

Exercise Type: [Select] [v] Exercise Level: [Select] [v] Classification: [Select] [v]

Check all characteristics that apply to this exercise: *If selected, required to submit with Support Request Form

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Will examine completed plans* | <input type="checkbox"/> Supports your THIRA/SPR or Organizational Risk Assessment | <input type="checkbox"/> Required by senior official directive, law, or an executive order |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Will validate draft plans* | <input type="checkbox"/> Federally funded <small>List all federal grants and funding sources for this exercise:</small> | <input type="checkbox"/> Planned as part of an exercise series <small>Provide the full exercise series name:</small> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Will examine corrective actions from past real-world events or exercises | <input type="checkbox"/> Included in your Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP) * | <input type="checkbox"/> Support Request Form(s) submitted this round for other exercises in this series |

Exercise Synopsis: Provide a brief, high-level description of the exercise, including any known objectives to be addressed.

Exercise Purpose: At minimum, explain the plans, policies, doctrine, and/or corrective actions from past exercises or real-world events to be examined. Documents explained here should be submitted with your completed Exercise Support Request Form.

Threat/Hazard: [Select] [v] [Select] [v] [Select] [v]

FEMA Form 008-027 OMB Collection Number 1660-0118 Rev. 01/2022 3

To access the 2022 Form, visit www.fema.gov/NEP



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What Makes a Strong Support Request Package

Do :

- ✓ Align the exercise to an existing or draft plan
- ✓ Build upon corrective actions previously identified in exercise or real-world events
- ✓ Engage a broad spectrum of participants
- ✓ Address high-priority capabilities from the Stakeholder Preparedness Review (SPR), if applicable
- ✓ Explain how support from NED will make the exercise more successful

Don't :

- × Submit an exercise series or multiple exercise support requests on one Support Request Form
- × Select more than 10 core capabilities for your exercise on the Support Request Form
- × Use an old version of the Support Request Form
- × Submit a Support Request Form after April 1



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Review Panel Considerations

- The review panel will consider:
 - The type of jurisdiction and amount of support requested (e.g., local, territorial and tribal jurisdictions often have fewer resources already available than state jurisdictions)
 - Social Vulnerability Index data for exercise locations
 - Whether the sponsor previously received support from the National Exercise Division
 - Whether the exercise examines climate adaptation
 - Whether the exercise is part of a sponsor's Integrated Preparedness Plan



Most Common Reasons Forms Require Follow-Up

1. Sponsors do not submit all requested paperwork
2. Sponsors submit multiple exercises within a series on one form
3. Sponsors do not notify their Regional Exercise Officers before submission
4. Sponsors use an old version of the form
5. Sponsors do not complete the form
6. Sponsors request support for exercises with short timelines

Sponsors can request one-on-one meetings with NED staff to answer questions about the Exercise Support Request process. The deadline for one-on-one meeting requests is **March 18**. Email nep@fema.dhs.gov for more information.



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National Exercise Program

2021–2022 Principals' Strategic Priorities





Continuity of Essential Functions

Cybersecurity

Economic Recovery and Resilience

National Security Emergencies and Catastrophic Incidents

Operational Coordination and Communications

Public Health and Healthcare Emergencies

Sheltering and Housing Solutions

Stabilization and Restoration of Communities



Continuity of Essential Functions

Examine the capabilities of all levels of government and the private sector to operationalize plans that ensure continuity of essential functions and the resilience of critical services during an incident where key personnel, facilities or systems are directly or indirectly impacted.

Exercises aligned to this priority should:

- Evaluate continuity plans for any whole community sponsor
- Focus on continuing essential functions and services
- Include private sector participation, including owners and operators of critical infrastructure
- Examine federal and SLTT coordination
- Include SLTT participation

Aligned FEMA Core Capabilities

- Cybersecurity
- Community Resilience
- Economic Recovery
- Operational Coordination
- Planning
- Risk Management for Protection Programs and Activities



Cybersecurity

Strengthen coordination on cybersecurity prevention, protection, response, mitigation and recovery roles and responsibilities across all levels of government and the private sector – and between cyber/information technology professionals and those in leadership, emergency management, continuity, operations and other functions – to improve the cybersecurity capabilities of the whole community.

Exercises aligned to this priority should:

- Focus on a cyberattack or incident as the main scenario
- Involve coordination among all levels of government and the private sector
- Validate that SLTT jurisdictions know what resources are available in the event of a significant cyber attack
- Examine the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework

Aligned FEMA Core Capabilities

- Cybersecurity
- Planning, Intelligence and Information Sharing
- Operational Coordination
- Public Information and Warning
- Risk Management for Protection Programs and Activities

Economic Recovery and Resilience

Examine the capabilities of public, private and nonprofit partners to identify critical economic recovery issues and strategies that support outcome-driven recovery, such as identifying interdependencies between the public and private sectors to build short-term economic relief and establishing long-term economic resilience for communities and jurisdictions.

Exercises aligned to this priority should:

- Integrate economic development and recovery partners, such as private sector industries and nongovernmental organizations, to sustain and restore businesses while bolstering long-term, sustainable communities
- Identify critical economic recovery issues at all levels of government and strategize outcome-driven economic recovery
- Include participation of Business Emergency Operation Centers (BEOCs)
- Include exercise objectives addressing issues of steady-state resource allocation for economic recovery

Aligned FEMA Core Capabilities

- Economic Recovery
- Health and Social Services
- Operational Coordination
- Planning
- Natural and Cultural Resources

National Security Emergencies and Catastrophic Incidents

Examine the nation’s capabilities to prevent, protect against, respond to, mitigate and/or recover from the threat or impact of a catastrophic incident that seriously degrades or threatens the national security of the United States, such as conducting intelligence and information sharing activities; identifying and deconflicting roles, responsibilities and authorities, including within the White House process of governance; coordinating decision-making; and prioritizing and mobilizing scarce resources.

Exercises aligned to this priority should:

- Examine the five mission areas through scenarios that stress national critical resources
- Identify appropriate roles and required authorities across whole community partners
- Integrate SLTT-level emergency operations center (EOC) play
- Include an exercise objective focused on supply chain resilience, resource allocation and/or resource prioritization
- Include an exercise objective focused on inoperable communication

Aligned FEMA Core Capabilities

- Intelligence and Information Sharing
- Operational Coordination
- Risk and Disaster Resilience Assessment
- Supply Chain Integrity and Security
- Threat and Hazard Identification

Operational Coordination and Communications

Examine the capabilities of public, private and nonprofit partners to implement appropriate coordination and communication structures for incident management, such as conducting intelligence and information sharing; assessing the situation; establishing an incident command structure and decision-making process; ensuring interoperable communications; adapting plans; maintaining a common operating picture; and conducting effective public messaging.

Exercises aligned to this priority should:

- Examine multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional coordination (e.g., state, local, tribal, territorial) of personnel and resources
- Emphasize integrating different disciplines such as law enforcement, fire, emergency medical services, public health, public works and elected officials
- Include participation from different FEMA regions
- Examine the Public Information and Warning core capability

Aligned FEMA Core Capabilities

- Public Information and Warning
- Intelligence and Information Sharing
- Operational Communications
- Operational Coordination

Public Health and Healthcare Emergencies

Examine the capabilities of all levels of government and the private sector to detect and manage naturally occurring or intentional infectious disease events or other emergencies with public health and healthcare implications, such as leveraging community education; applying medical and nonmedical countermeasures; coordinating among public health, healthcare, emergency management and other governmental and nongovernmental organizations to integrate effective surveillance measures; rapidly communicating with external partners and the public; sustaining economic and business operations; establishing border controls; and sustaining healthcare and social services.

Exercises aligned to this priority should:

- Examine a community's public health capabilities by including participation from the public health and medical community
- Validate corrective actions based on COVID-19 lessons learned
- Emphasize partnerships, engagement and collaboration between whole community partners
- Consider scenarios that require risk analysis, evaluating the decision-making processes and communicating guidance with a variety of stakeholders
- Develop an exercise objective focused on dispensing medical countermeasures

Aligned FEMA Core Capabilities

- Fatality Management Services
- Health and Social Services
- Interdiction and Disruption
- Operational Coordination
- Planning,
- Public Health
- Healthcare and Emergency Medical Services
- Public Information and Warning

Sheltering and Housing Solutions

Examine the capabilities of the whole community to effectively implement locally executed, state-managed and federally supported outcome-driven sheltering and housing solutions that streamline survivors' progress through all recovery phases, including populations with disabilities and other access and functional needs.

Exercises aligned to this priority should:

- Align to both the Mass Care Services and Housing core capabilities
- Include private sector or nonprofit organization participation
- Develop an exercise objective on how response and recovery partners transition survivors through the different phases of housing efficiently
- Include participation from at least two of the following organizations:
 - The Small Business Association (SBA),
 - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
 - Department of Agriculture (USDA)
 - Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
 - School safety practitioners or their local equivalents

Aligned FEMA Core Capabilities

- Community Resilience
- Housing
- Long-Term Vulnerability Reduction
- Operational Coordination
- Planning

Stabilization and Restoration of Communities

Examine the capabilities of public, private and nonprofit partners to stabilize and restore community lifelines, such as determining severity of incident impact, particularly on critical infrastructure and supply chains; identifying limiting factors to addressing impacts; and quickly prioritizing and mobilizing resources that alleviate threats to life or property and facilitate recovery.

Exercises aligned to this priority should:

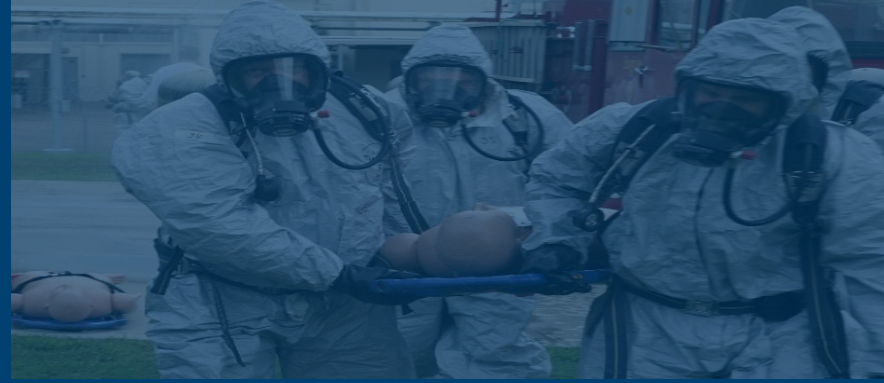
- Examine at least one of the Mitigation core capabilities
- Integrate public and private sector partners, such as utility owners and operations
- Validate Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and other agreements between governments and critical infrastructure owners
- Examine critical system stabilization and prioritization, interdependencies between lifelines, resource prioritization and restoration

Aligned FEMA Core Capabilities

- Critical Transportation
- Infrastructure Systems
- Logistics and Supply Chain Management
- Long-Term Vulnerability Reduction
- Mass Care Services
- Situational Assessment

An aerial photograph of a coastal town, likely in New England, featuring a harbor filled with numerous sailboats. The town is surrounded by dense green forest. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The word "QUESTIONS?" is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters on the left side of the image.

QUESTIONS?



www.fema.gov/nep
nep@fema.dhs.gov



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