



NEMA in Action for Member Support

NEMA is committed to keeping our members in the forefront of emergency management, homeland security and public safety issues. The information below represents your membership dues in action.

National Policy and Program Development

- NEMA works to ensure state emergency management directors and associate members have the opportunity to provide input into national policy and program development to ensure the needs, concerns and viewpoints of the states and EM community are considered. Recent examples include implementation of the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act (SRIA), state management costs, hazard mitigation planning cycles, presidential disaster declarations and tribal governments, and guidance on Functional Needs for Shelter Support Services.
- NEMA regularly provides input into the development of grant guidance at FEMA/DHS to ensure maximum flexibility for states in the use of federal funds in order to meet state-specific priorities.

Information Sharing and Support Network

- NEMA facilitates information sharing and networking among its members, particularly the sharing of best practices and lessons learned.
- NEMA regularly provides national reports on state emergency management and homeland security organizational structures, budgets, staffing levels, disaster assistance funding and more. This information is used by state directors to build support for organizations and budgets with governors' offices and state legislatures. The information is used by NEMA associate members to better understand their state partners.
- There is no better source than NEMA for real-time information. NEMA conducts national surveys, research and analysis upon request by its state members when they need to address a specific issue. NEMA publications that are free to all members include the weekly State Director Update, Legislative Alerts, and the monthly Ready Nation newsletters; People, Partners, Prepared and EMAC.

National Legislation

- In 2019, NEMA state directors testified and participated in roundtables with Representatives on issues related to Disaster Recovery Reform Act (DRRA) implementation, response and recovery to ongoing events, and FEMA's readiness for future disasters. **Testifying before Congress on emergency management and homeland security** related issues gives states the opportunity to weigh in on legislation that will impact their agencies and programs.
- Secured an **additional \$100 million for the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)** as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to support state and local governments in their response efforts.
- Secured an **additional \$5 million for EMPG in the FY20 federal budget**, ensuring that the program remains a source of dependable funding. The annual *EMPG Return on Investment Report* provided to Congress has become a critical document in justifying this program before lawmakers and ensuring continued funding.
- Strengthened the emergency management system through the **passage of the Disaster Recovery and Reform Act (DRRA) of 2018** which included priorities such as increases in management costs, an improved funding mechanism for predisaster mitigation, and streamlining disaster response programs.
- **Ensured sustained funding for the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC)** which is the only state mutual aid agreement adopted by the 50 states, District of Columbia, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.
- Worked to ensure states have the resources necessary to **build capabilities through programs** such as EMPG; Homeland Security Grant Program; Urban Area Security Initiative; and critical training and education programs at FEMA.
- NEMA has provided **technical assistance to Congress** on the reauthorization of vital programs such as the National Flood Insurance Program, Predisaster Mitigation Grant Program, the Severe Repetitive Loss Program, and the National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program; and provided input to Congress on other issues such as use of social media in disasters, tornado shelters, tsunami preparedness, public health preparedness, and grant reform and intelligence reform.

Training and Professional Development

- NEMA sponsors two national policy forums each year where members hear the latest information available on national policies and programs that will impact their agencies. They have access to Washington decision-makers through NEMA at national meetings. Training and workshops are offered to assist members in being knowledgeable and prepared to address current and emerging issues.
- NEMA provides webinars throughout the year for emergency management personnel on specific issues impacting the states. Webinars are provided to members at no additional charge.
- NEMA provides forums for state staff to network with their peers across the nation and discuss common problems, solutions and to share best practices. NEMA has subcommittees for state deputy directors, individual and public assistance personnel, public information officers, and state hazard mitigation officers. NEMA also has a Legal Counsel Committee composed of state attorneys who have emergency management and homeland security in their portfolio. NEMA also recently established a group for state private sector leads. These groups are offered as part of the state's annual membership dues to NEMA – no additional fees are charged.

Coalition-Building

- NEMA is a convener and collaborator on behalf of the states, building relationships that help expand the awareness and understanding of EM issues. Partnerships include the National Homeland Security Consortium, NEMA-ASTHO-GHSAC Joint Policy Work Group, Stafford Act Coalition, First Responders Coalition, National Hazard Mitigation Alliance, Congressional Hazards Caucus, EMAP Commission, CSG Executive Committee, and more. NEMA also works closely with the National Governors' Association on a regular basis.

Emergency Management Assistant Compact

- NEMA administers EMAC and provides governance and support for the compact at no additional charge to compact members. This includes the EMAC Operations System (EOS) and the Mutual Aid Support System (MASS).
- NEMA provides EMAC training to state emergency management personnel as well as local first responders at no cost. Training allows for the efficient and effective implementation of mutual aid during governor declared emergencies.

Public-Private Partnerships

- NEMA has a Private Sector Committee that is open to all corporate and non-governmental members of the association. The committee addresses issues of importance to emergency management and homeland security industry professionals and serves as a technical resource to other NEMA standing policy committees.
- The Private Sector Committee chair has a nonvoting seat on the NEMA Board of Directors. This provides an invaluable opportunity for members to bring their views, needs, issues and recommendations directly to the NEMA leadership.
- NEMA regularly shares information on model approaches to public-private partnerships, information sharing and situational awareness. In 2019, NEMA established the Private Sector Lead Coordination Group to facilitate the expansion of Public-Private Partnership at the state and community level.
- NEMA private sector and organizational members have the opportunity to participate as moderators, speakers, and subject matter experts during NEMA Forums, training, webinars and more.

COVID-19 Response

NEMA's members are playing a critical role in the response to COVID-19 and we couldn't be more proud. From state emergency management agencies coordinating government response; to private sector partners contributing support, expertise, resources, and equipment; non-profits and volunteer groups stepping in to fill gaps; and individuals doing their part to slow the spread.

NEMA is also doing its part to support our members throughout the COVID-19 response. Our dedicated staff is focused, committed, and working at maximum capacity to contribute to the team effort we see happening every day in the emergency management community. Here's a snapshot of NEMA's current activities.

STATE MEMBER SUPPORT

- Secured **\$100 million in EMPG** supplemental funding through the CARES Act and worked with FEMA on the expedited award process, in partnership with IAEM.
- Hosted **State EM Director call with FEMA Administrator** for response update.
- Partnered with 10 other associations in **joint letter** asking DHS and FEMA leaders to **delay**

implementation of the new homeland security grant requirements until FY21.

- Sent **letter asking President to use all available means to increase production of test kits and PPE**, in partnership with ASTHO, NACCHO and Association of Public Health Laboratories.
- Daily tracking of **State Emergency Measures** for COVID-19. Developed Tracker, with Pacific Disaster Center, and share updates with states twice weekly. PDC provided free access to [DisasterAware](#) for all directors. This tracker is also used by federal, state, and local stakeholders.
- Hosted **COVID response webinar with Washington Emergency Management and all states** to share early lessons and model practices.
- Hosting **Legal Counsel Committee** calls and regular information sharing.
- Hosting weekly calls with **State Private Sector Coordination Leads** for information sharing.
- Hosting **Public Assistance Officers** call with FEMA PA to share and clarify information.
- Regular support and information sharing with **Deputy Directors** and **Public Information Officers**.
- Developed through the Past Presidents Committee **State COVID-19 Recovery Planning Recommendations**.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER SUPPORT

- Hosted **webinar with CHDS focused on federal authorities under NEA, DPA and Section 1135 Waiver of Social Securities Act**. Over 200 people participated.
- Twice weekly sharing of **State Emergency Measures Tracker**.
- Weekly **information sharing on federal advisories and guidance documents**, including CISA recommendations on essential workers.

EMAC

- Facilitating mutual aid including **sharing of incident management teams, ventilators, fatality management expertise and resources, and generators** to power Battelle equipment.
- Serving as EMAC liaison to the **FEMA National Response Coordination Center**.
- Serving as EMAC liaison to **National Guard Bureau** and **USNORTHCOM**.
- Participated with **White House Intergovernmental Affairs group** focused on telehealth.
- Developed **Governor's Executive Order Template for EMAC Telehealth**, in partnership with American Telemedicine Association and others.
- Providing **EMAC education to telemedicine groups and providers**.

CONGRESSIONAL PARTNERSHIP

- Regular **data and information sharing on EM response activities** and answering inquiries.
- Sustaining open dialogue with all **Congressional authorizing and appropriations committees** to address EM issues through legislation.
- Reconciling misinformation and **clarifying policy and programmatic needs of the states** to key Congressional committees.

WHITE HOUSE AND PARTNER ASSOCIATIONS COOPERATION

- Participating in **weekly or bi-weekly calls** between:
 - The White House and State and Local leadership;
 - The White House and leadership of key associations;
 - The "Big 7" state and local organizations with DHS Intergovernmental Affairs; and
 - The CDC State Task Force.
 - National Business Emergency Operations Center (NBEOC)
 - DHS/CISA/NBEOC
- Conducting information sharing and coordination with **National Homeland Security Consortium, EMAC Advisory Group, and NEMA-ASTHO-GHSAC Workgroup**.
- Providing EM related information to **The Council of State Governments (CSG)** to share with state executive, legislative and judicial branch leaders.