



# Emergency Management Accreditation Program

NEMA 2018 Mid-Year Forum

EMAP provides a cost-effective approach to assess emergency management and homeland security programs based on national standards. Those standards have been written by emergency management professionals and create a strategic guide to ensure your emergency management program is fully prepared for any disaster. The process provides a method to measure the capabilities of your program beginning with the completion of a self-assessment. It provides the capability to reach out to your stakeholders and ensure everyone is prepared for any risk the program has identified. EMAP provides a network of emergency management professionals that fosters continued support. EMAP is a non-profit organization with a focus in accountability for emergency management and homeland security programs.

## Benefits of EMAP Accreditation

Many Directors have noted that programs become more comprehensive, in that EMAP provides an objective review that may reveal programmatic and procedural shortcomings, as well as model practices. In a time of budget concerns, the EMAP Accreditation process assists in identifying and justifying need-based positions as well as heightened succession-planning efforts. Accreditation gives programs a new credibility to their legislatures and executive administrations that assist in the promotion of the agency and Emergency Management Program.

## Baseline Program Overview

In accordance with the EMAP mission, the goal of the Baseline Program is to enhance State Emergency Management Programs and their capabilities by utilizing the EMAP Independent Peer-Review Process to apply the EMAP national standards and assessment methodology to state level government.

## The Process

**The DHS/FEMA cooperative agreement provides state and urban area programs the opportunity to undergo a Baseline Assessments with the on-site assessments costs being borne by EMAP. If you are interested in applying for a Baseline Assessment, please contact Mr. David Liebman, EMAP Assessment Coordinator, at (859) 940-5378 or [dliebman@emap.org](mailto:dliebman@emap.org) by May 18, 2018. There are a limited number of Baselines available for the remainder of 2018 so please call to take advantage of this opportunity.** The Program will follow the proven Peer-Review Process used by EMAP in assessing programs since 2003:

- Program participants will select an Accreditation Manager that is responsible for coordinating the organizations activities, documents, plans, and procedures in comparison with the *Emergency Management Standard*; gathering and organizing supporting documentation of compliance; and coordinating the on-site assessment.
- Once an Accreditation Manager is identified and attends EMAP training, the Program begins the self-assessment process within the online EMAP Program Assessment Tool. The self-assessment using the EMAP standards requires programs to note compliance with each element of each standard. Programs are required to provide “proof of compliance” documentation that supports compliance with a standard.
- After completion of the self-assessment, programs will begin preparation for an on-site assessment. An independent team of peer-review Assessors conducts an on-site assessment to determine compliance and identify areas needing improvement.
- Following the on-site assessment, the Assessment Team and EMAP personnel will prepare an Assessment Report for the Program and FEMA. The report will identify strengths and areas for improvement related to the sixty-four (64) EMAP standards, from hazard identification, risk assessment and consequence analysis, to resource management, planning and procedures, training and exercises, and communications.
- Subsequent to the receipt of the Preliminary Assessment Report, the Program will need to determine if it will seek EMAP Accreditation.

## EMAP Resources and Programs

The ***Emergency Management Standard by EMAP***, 2019 edition is under revision. The ANSI EMS will be released to the public for comments to the standards in the coming months. Please visit [www.emap.org](http://www.emap.org) to review and provide comments.

The EMAP **Program Assessment Tool** (for a subscription fee) allows jurisdictions to enter their self-assessment data, develop corrective action plans for non-compliant standards, link EMAP standards with DHS and FEMA policies and directives, view best practices and model plans for meeting standards and access other reporting features. This tool also allows jurisdictions to use the *Emergency Management Standard* to gauge their overall preparedness efforts against established national standards. Additionally, states can track local jurisdictions by rolling up local preparedness efforts against the findings.

EMAP's **Pre-Assessment Program** is designed to provide emergency management programs with an initial evaluation of their jurisdiction's preparedness and response capabilities. It is based upon the jurisdiction's completed self-assessment, concentrating on those corrective actions needed for a jurisdiction to work through prior to undergoing an actual full EMAP on-site assessment.

## **EMAP Strategic Partnerships**

Since 2003, EMAP, has been leading the effort to foster excellence and accountability in emergency management and homeland security programs, by establishing credible standards applied in a peer review accreditation process. During this time EMAP and a cadre of dedicated emergency management professionals have accredited over ninety-five (95) Programs spanning local, state, tribal, federal, Institutions of Higher Education, Private Sector and International agencies. EMAP has clearly become the accepted standard of emergency management excellence across the globe. EMAP will be engaging key stakeholder organizations in a comprehensive survey that will be used to help facilitate Strategic Planning for the EMAP Commission for the next five (5) years.

EMAP is encouraging everyone stakeholder organization to Champion the development of emergency management standard along with a corresponding Operational Standards. Also, to assist in telling the "preparedness story" that can aid in OMB and Congressional reporting to maintain and/or increase funding and support. Like many of you, EMAP maintains a five-year strategic plan that outlines the goals and objectives agreed upon by EMAP's leadership. The current plan which will end December 2018 contained the following goals:

The current goals of the plan are:

1. Ensure continued credibility and viability of EMAP;
2. Ensure *Emergency Management Standard* is current and relevant;
3. Maintain a well-trained Assessor Cadre;
4. Pursue local jurisdictions for assessment and accreditation;
5. Ensure EMAP is using the most current technology; and
6. Ensure Sustainability of EMAP.

Please feel free to contact us as we would be happy to answer any questions that you may have. We truly appreciate the continued support of NEMA and its members and thank you for supporting EMAP in the future.

## **EMAP Staff**

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