Security and Emergency Response Training Center

DHS/FEMA Cooperative Agreement Funding for SERTC Courses
2014 - 2015

SERTC is a department of the Transportation Technology Center, Inc.,
a subsidiary of the Association of American Railroads
55500 DOT Road | Pueblo, CO 81001 | 719-584-0584 | www.sertc.org | sertc@aar.com
How to Apply for DHS/FEMA Cooperative Agreement Funding

1. DHS/FEMA funding covers travel expenses door-to-door (no backfill). Qualifying Participants must be from state, local, or tribal organizations. Federal employees are not eligible to apply; however, Federal employees may attend training using their own funding through Open Enrollment. Availability of cooperative agreement funding is contingent upon completing the application and SAA’s authorization. Please fill out one application per course per applicant, online. Applications do not guarantee seating. SERTC Admin registers a Participant based on authorization and seating availability.

2. Participants will apply online at www.sertc.org, click on “Register,” and “DHS/FEMA Application”

3. Participants will need to attain SID and SAA information (links below and on SERTC’s website).

4. After completing the application online, Participants will receive an email with the application form, and step-by-step directions as to how to continue application process

5. A Participant will need to mark (“X”) their Discipline and Level of Government on the application

6. A Participant and their supervisor will sign/date, then fax/email the application to their SAA

7. The SAA will approve, sign, date, and fax/email the application back to SERTC

8. It is the Participant’s responsibility to follow up with SAA to confirm receipt of their application

9. When the application is received at SERTC, a SERTC Admin will register the Participant, and will notify both the Participant and the SAA by email with a confirmation.

Information about Student Identification (SID)¹:

PURPOSE: The FEMA SID number is used as the unique individual identifier for all applicants requesting training at FEMA training facilities. The FEMA SID number is used as the applicant’s unique student identifier for the following areas: training records and continuing education credit through the International Association for Continuing Education and Training. Some facilities may still require the social security number for training medical records, travel authorizations, and travel reimbursement.

ROUTINE USES: The FEMA SID number is stored for a minimum of 40 years. This information is used by FEMA staff and its training partners on a need to know basis for Official Administrative purposes only. Release of an individual’s FEMA SID number or other personally identifiable information will not be granted to any person or agency outside of FEMA or its training partners without a written request for the information and written permission from the applicant, staff or faculty member.

DISCLOSURE IS VOLUNTARY: Disclosure is voluntary. Although without disclosure of your personal information we cannot create a unique FEMA SID number to use as a unique identifier in place of your social security number. Without a FEMA SID you may not be eligible for training at FEMA training facilities.

SID Links: To attain a NEW SID click https://cdp.dhs.gov/femasid/register. If you have forgotten your SID, click https://cdp.dhs.gov/femasid/helpdesk/Authentication/RetrieveFEMASID.


Information about State Administrative Agency (SAA):

What is the SAA: The State Administrative Agency (SAA) point of contact is assigned to each state, coordinating with federal and state training and exercise providers.

SAA Links: Click here https://cdp.dhs.gov/register/state-coordinators to attain your SAA information necessary for the online application. Please have ready the SAA’s: name | phone | fax | email.
Crude By Rail (Funding Coming in 2015), 24-hr course

Prerequisite: Firefighter I, or equivalent level of training (including Hazardous Materials Operations)

This program will provide the first responder basic knowledge, skills, and abilities to respond to incidents involving Crude By Rail (CBR). The program is delivered over 3 days (24 hours) with over 60% field exercise. The program covers: the history of crude oil, chemical and physical properties of the different crude oil transported, basic site and damage assessment, tank car design and construction. Additional subjects include: tactical product control methods including the application of firefighting foam agents, water and spill control procedures, planning for crude oil incidents, and the environmental impacts. The practical evolutions will include a demonstration of Crude Oil fires, boil overs, and foam applications as applied to Crude Oil incidents by rail and advanced firefighting techniques. The practical evolutions will culminate in a full-scale derailment exercise.

Dates: COMING SOON IN 2015!

Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Technician for Surface Transportation (HWMDTST), 10-day, 80-hr course

NTED Course Catalog #PER-293

Recommended Training: Operations Level as defined under OSHA 29CFR 1910 120 (q), NIMS/ICS IS-100b, IS-200b, IS-700a.

This FEMA certified 80-hour course will provide state of the art Hazardous Materials Technician training that complies with OSHA 29 CFR 1910.120 (q) and NFPA Standard 472 requirements. Course modules include Laws and Regulations, Chemical Properties, NIMS, Emergency Response Planning, HazMat/WMD Monitoring Equipment, Personal Protective Equipment, Respiratory Systems, Decontamination, and modules relating to rail, freight, intermodal, and highway transportation systems. Participants will respond to a number of scenario-based Hazardous Materials of Weapon of Mass Destruction (HazMat/WMD) incidents and perform risk/hazard analysis, site assessment, operate, with competency, in the prescribed level of protection, use and interpret monitoring equipment, perform offensive corrective actions, perform decontamination procedures, write and/or have input into the development of reports, identify safety devices, valves, and container types for rail, intermodal, pipeline, fixed facilities, highway, and water vessels used to carry HazMat/WMD. The course provides technical information and includes extensive hands-on practice of planning response actions in dealing with full-scale simulations of HazMat/WMD surface transportation incidents.

This course is academically and performance challenging. Designed to prepare participants for the offensive measures necessary to mitigate a HazMat/WMD emergency, participants respond and demonstrate proficiency with non-bulk and bulk packaging, rail cars, cargo tanks, intermodal and portable tanks, and techniques necessary to perform containment and confinement procedures. Participants develop and assist in the development of plans while functioning in an incident command structure with the LMSTI course Participants. Balanced classroom and field-work time maximize the learning experience.
Highway Emergency Response Specialist (HERS), 5-day, 40-hr course

NTED Course Catalog #PER-291

Recommended Training: Technician Level, NIMS/ICS IS-100b, IS-200b, IS-700a.

This FEMA certified 40-hour course focuses on specific fundamentals and skills associated with an emergency response to a highway incident involving (HazMat/WMD) Highway Emergencies. Participants are provided with detailed technical information on cargo tanks (all types), intermodal (IM) portable tanks, freight vans, design and construction, non-bulk packaging, and compressed gas cylinders. Participants are trained to be proficient in hazard mitigation techniques for highway transportation incidents, transfer procedures, grounding and bonding, and safety considerations, including extensive hands-on practice of actions and responses to simulated HazMat/WMD incidents.

Developed to challenge the seasoned emergency responder, participants respond throughout the week and function within a designated emergency response team. Situations involve a variety of highway related incidents/accidents involving cargo tanks, intermodal tanks, van trailers, nonbulk packaging, and compressed gas cylinders.

Dates (subject to change):

- HERS(DHS)-11-17-2014 PER-291 Nov 17 - 21 2014
- HERS(DHS)-02-02-2015 PER-291 Feb 2 - 6 2015
- HERS(DHS)-03-02-2015 PER-291 Mar 2 -6 2015
- HERS(DHS)-03-16-2015 PER-291 Mar 16 - 20 2015
- HERS(DHS)-04-06-2015 PER-291 Apr 6 -10 2015
- HERS(DHS)-06-08-2015 PER-291 Jun 8 - 12 2015
- HERS(DHS)-08-17-2015 PER-291 Aug 17 - 21 2015
Leadership and Management of Surface Transportation Incidents (LMSTI),
5-day, 40-hr course
NTED Course Catalog #PER-292
Prerequisite Training: NIMS/ICS IS-100b, IS-200b, IS-700a, ICS-300.

This FEMA certified 40-hour course utilizes NIMS/ICS guidelines and is designed to prepare participants in leadership and management of HazMat/WMD incidents involving surface transportation. The course requires participants to lead and manage incidents involving actual HazMat technicians responding to scenario based emergencies while following NIMS/ICS guidelines and structures. Participants will be expected to complete proficiency requirements, all necessary NIMS/ICS documentation, and produce Incident Action Plans (IAPs) incorporating hands-on scenario-based activities. Challenging, in depth planning and decision-making processes are involved that will prepare participants in managing and documenting responses to real world emergencies involving surface transportation incidents in their communities.

Dates (subject to change):

- LMSTI(DHS)-11-10-2014 PER-292 Nov 10 - 14 2014
- LMSTI(DHS)-01-26-2015 PER-292 Jan 26 - 30 2015
- LMSTI(DHS)-03-09-2015 PER-292 Mar 9 -13 2015
- LMSTI(DHS)-05-11-2015 PER-292 May 11 - 15 2015
- LMSTI(DHS)-08-10-2015 PER-292 Aug 10 - 14 2015
- LMSTI(DHS)-12-14-2015 PER-292 Dec 14 - 18 2015

STEPS Freight (Surface Transportation Emergency Preparedness and Security for Freight by Rail or Highway) (Funding coming in 2015)
Remote Delivery, 2-Day, 16-hr Management and Planning with classroom lecture, facilitated group discussion and participant activities.

Prerequisites: Participants should have some responsibility for the management or security of either facilities or jurisdictions impacted by local, regional, or interstate trucking and/or rail freight traffic. There are no specific course prerequisites; however, participants are strongly encouraged to complete incident management courses IS100, IS200, and IS700 online at www.nimsonline.com before attending this course.

Course Objectives: This course will train management and planning personnel from within a jurisdiction or organization to prevent, manage, and assess the threat and vulnerabilities of freight transportation systems. The course will train participants to recognize and prioritize the importance of facility and
conveyance hardening in regards to the specific dangers associated with the transportation of freight. Participants will learn management/planning tools to counter IED operations and evacuations where freight transportation creates the potential for catastrophic events when combined with materials being shipped including hazardous materials. Participants will also be trained to utilize the NIMS/NRF to prioritize organizational immediate actions and response operations.

Blended learning strategy - Participants will be provided with a course manual and handouts for quick access to appropriate national guidance and resources including quick reference material to identify hazardous materials marking, labeling, and placarding.

Dates: COMING SOON IN 2015!

STEPS Mass Transit and Passenger (Surface Transportation Emergency Preparedness and Security for Mass Transit and Passenger Rail) (Funding coming in 2015)
Remote Delivery, 2-day, 16-hr Management & Planning with classroom lecture, facilitated group discussion and participant activities.

Prerequisites: Participants should have some responsibility for the management or security of either facilities or jurisdictions in which mass transit or passenger rail systems are present. There are no specific course prerequisites; however, participants are strongly encouraged to complete incident management courses IS100, IS200, and IS700 online at www.nimsonline.com before attending this course.

Course Objectives: This course will train the target audience to conduct threat assessments and identify vulnerabilities within state, local, and tribal jurisdictions as they relate to mass transit and passenger rail systems. The course will educate participants on how to recognize and prioritize passenger transportation facilities and conveyances hardening in order to prevent and protect them against identified threats, especially those involving IEDs. Security and response management plans will also be developed, including procedures on interagency communication, incident command, and evacuation planning. Roles and responsibilities of both public and private sector will be highlighted as protection resources and response partners.

Blended learning strategy - Participants will be provided with a course manual and several handouts for quick access to appropriate national guidance and resources.

Dates: COMING SOON IN 2015!
STEPS Senior (Surface Transportation Emergency Preparedness and Security for Senior Officials) (Funding coming in 2015)
Remote delivery, 1-day, 4-hr Management & Planning with classroom presentation & facilitated discussion.

Prerequisites: Participants should hold elected or executive official level positions in public or private agencies or organizations that would have involvement in emergency preparedness. There are no specific course prerequisites; however, it is strongly recommended that all participants be certified in FEMA's incident management courses NIMS IS100, IS200, and IS700 or become familiar with them at www.nimsonline.com before attending this course.

Course Objectives: This course offers an executive level introduction to the roles and responsibilities of preparedness, prevention, and response to emergencies involving surface transportation freight and passenger systems. This course will provide a clear overview of freight and passenger system threats facing jurisdictions/organizations of public and private officials and the organizational structure that must be implemented according to the National Response Framework (NRF) in an incident. Executives will learn to identify threats and vulnerabilities of freight and passenger system operations within their jurisdictions/organizations, learn to recognize and prioritize the importance of facility and conveyance hardening, receive familiarization with the National Incident Management System (NIMS)/NRF to prioritize organizational immediate actions and response operations, and learn how to develop and apply management/planning tools for counter Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) operations and evacuations.

This course will generate questions of who, what, how long and why of how an agency or agencies will impact a jurisdiction or community. This course will address agency missions in general. One of the key objectives is get participants thinking about what they will need to ask in the event of an incident and make a plan to address the situation.

Blended Learning Strategy – This short 4-hour course will involve facilitated discussion in which participants can discuss issues and solutions in a peer atmosphere with instruction and facilitation provided by an experienced, proficient instructor. Participants will be provided with a course manual and several handouts for quick access to appropriate national guidance and resources.

Dates: COMING SOON IN 2015!

Tank Car Specialist (TCS), 5-day, 40-hr course
NTED Course Catalog #PER-290
Recommended Training: Technician Level, NIMS/ICS IS-100b, IS-200b, IS-700a.

This FEMA certified 40-hour course is designed to address specific fundamentals and skills associated with an emergency response to a rail surface transportation incident involving HazMat/WMD. The TCS course will provide technical knowledge pertaining to tank cars, including damage assessment, oversight for product removal, and movement of damaged tank and other rail cars present. Participants will conduct site assessments of incidents, damage assessments of the containers, and will conduct product removal using different transfer techniques on the various DOT containers used in rail transportation. The skills acquired at this specialty course are above and beyond that of a HazMat/WMD technician. The TCS course provides technical information and includes extensive hands-on practice of incident actions on full-scale scenario-based rail HazMat/WMD surface transportation incidents.
Participants learn about various types of rail cars, their nomenclature, design features, commodities, and common types of leaks involved during an emergency. Containment measures, product transfer techniques, and liquid/vapor flaring options are also covered. This Tank Car Specialist course covers the technical skills and knowledge necessary for effectively managing a HazMat/WMD incident in a rail transportation emergency. Most of the training is hands-on, conducted in the field.

SERTC can also design a course involving our many surface transportation props and specialized training modules to accommodate your organizations’ individual needs. Please contact us for individualized course development.

**Dates (subject to change):**

- TCS(DHS)-11-03-2014 PER-290 Nov 3 - 7, 2014
- TCS(DHS)-02-02-2015 PER-290 Feb 2 - 6 2015
- TCS(DHS)-02-23-2015 PER-290 Feb 23 – 27 2015
- TCS(DHS)-03-30-2015 PER-290 Mar 30 – Apr 3 2015
- TCS(DHS)-04-13-2015 PER-290 Apr 13 - 17 2015
- TCS(DHS)-07-20-2015 PER-290 Jul 20 – 24 2015
- TCS(DHS)-08-17-2015 PER-290 Aug 17 – 21 2015
- TCS(DHS)-10-12-2015 PER-290 Oct 12 -16 2015
- TCS(DHS)-11-16-2015 PER-290 Nov 16 -20 2015

For further clarification or answers to questions please contact one of the following:

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