



HCCERT Membership Overview

CERT Level I

CERT Level I is designed for individuals only interested in participating in the CERT Basic Training course. Participants must meet the following criteria:

- Reside or work in Henrico County, or be from a locality that does not provide CERT training.
- Be at least 18 years old. Exceptions may be considered case-by-case if a parent or legal guardian attends the class.
- Commit to attending all mandatory training sessions.
- Agree to collaborate within the training framework and adhere to the guidelines of the Henrico County CERT organization.
- Consent to undergo a criminal records check, which could affect eligibility for participation.

CERT Level II

CERT Level II is for CERT Basic Training course graduates who wish to further their training and volunteer their time. Participants must meet the following criteria:

- Reside or work in Henrico County, or be from a locality that does not provide CERT training.
- Complete FEMA IS-100, IS-200, and IS-700, and obtain CPR certification.
 - Submit FEMA IS course certificates before participating in meetings, events, or training sessions.
 - Obtain CPR certification within two years of achieving CERT Level II status.
- Be available to volunteer in various disaster and non-disaster roles.
- Attend at least two meetings, events, or training sessions per fiscal year (July-June).
- Have no criminal history, including felony convictions, specific misdemeanor convictions (e.g., drug-related offenses), or outstanding warrants.
 - Undergo a criminal records check every three years, or more frequently if requested by the HCCERT Coordinator.

Training and Benefits:

- Enhanced training options, such as Stop the Bleed, CPR/AED/First Aid courses, and full-scale exercises, are available locally and regionally.
- CERT members acquire essential risk-reduction skills applicable across diverse scenarios.
- CERT members join a tightly knit team dedicated to community assistance during disasters.

Non-Disaster Duties:

CERT members can participate in various non-emergency activities based on their interests, such as:

- Acting as victims in training exercises.
- Assisting with staffing at special County events.
- Promoting awareness of potential hazards and preparedness measures.
- Engaging in other public information and community education programs.

Deployment:

- CERT members prioritize the safety and well-being of their homes and families first.
- CERT members self-activate and do not receive deployment calls from the Henrico County Communications Center. They will only respond to emergencies beyond their immediate neighborhoods if requested by EMWS/Incident Command.
 - CERT members must keep their contact information up to date with Henrico County EMWS to ensure they can be reached when additional resources are needed.

Disaster Duties:

In an emergency, CERT members may engage in various activities within their neighborhoods, including:

- Assessing and reporting disaster situations.
- Conducting light search and rescue operations in stable, damaged buildings.
- Performing triage, including basic head-to-toe evaluations and administering basic first aid to victims.
- Assisting victims and team members using basic disaster psychology training.
- Evaluating and extinguishing small fires and maintaining safety zones around live utilities.
- Identifying potentially hazardous material incidents and taking appropriate actions.
- Managing logistics such as resource collection and allocation, food preparation and coordination, and evacuations as directed by authorities.
- Assisting at schools or designated shelter areas.
- Working cooperatively within the Incident Command system.

If further assistance is needed, CERT volunteers may also:

- Help staff emergency shelters.
- Distribute emergency supplies in coordination with County, state, and/or federal agencies.
- Answer information phone lines.
- Perform other tasks appropriate to their background, education, and skills.