



Incident Management Assistance Teams

OPERATIONAL MISSION:

The Incident Management Assistance Teams are interagency, regionally based response teams that provide a forward Federal presence to improve coordination and response to serious incidents. Their mission is to deploy rapidly and be the initial interface with Regional and State partners, usually at the State Emergency Operations Center. They will support State and local government efforts to save lives, protect property, and provide life-sustaining services to meet basic individual and community needs such as shelter, emergency feeding, and temporary restoration of essential government services.

The decision to deploy an Incident Management Assistance Team rests with the FEMA Administrator and the affected Regional Administrator(s). As national “on-call” teams they are able to deploy within two hours and arrive on-scene within twelve hours to support the State Emergency Operations Center in establishing a unified command. Incident Management Assistance Teams are staffed with subject matter experts that are able to quickly assess the situation, determine the level of required Federal support, establish an immediate Federal presence with the State, and assume command of the Federal response.

AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY:

Nationwide, and within the ten (10) FEMA Regions.

CAPABILITIES:

Incident Management Assistance Teams provide situational awareness and subject matter expertise that is essential in determining the level and type of immediate Federal support that may be required for assisting decision-makers at all levels of government. An Incident Management Assistance Team does not include all Federal personnel required to manage an incident, but provides a nucleus of personnel that can assess the situation, develop an organizational structure to meet operational needs, determine requirements, and order follow-on resources.

Incident Management Assistance Teams are trained to manage Level I, II, and III incidents:

Type I teams primarily respond to all Level 1 disasters; however, they are qualified to respond to all levels. They are led by a Type I Senior Executive Service member and comprised of Type I trained team members in accordance with the FEMA Qualification System.

“FEMA’s mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.”

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Type II teams are qualified to respond to Level II and III disasters and may rotate into Level I disasters when complexity decreases. They are comprised of Type II trained team members in accordance with the FEMA Qualification System.

OTHER TEAM FUNCTIONS OR SPECIAL INTERACTIONS:

Incident Management Assistance Teams also participate in Regional Interagency Steering Committee meetings, work with tribal governments to help integrate tribal emergency management within national emergency management systems, and respond to National Security Events such as the Democratic and Republican National Conventions and the Super Bowl.