



## Regional Response Coordination Centers

FEMA's Regional Response Coordination Centers operate within each of the ten FEMA [regional offices](#) around the nation. These facilities provide response and recovery support to each of the states and tribal governments within the regional jurisdictions. The Regional Response Coordination Center functions as the regional interface between the states and tribal governments and the FEMA National Response Coordination Center, maintaining situational awareness and executing mission objectives until a Joint Field Office opens. The center provides federal support for activities responding to federally declared disaster response. Additionally, it coordinates personnel and resource deployments to support disaster operations and prioritizes interagency allocation of resources.

The Regional Response Coordination Center is organized by FEMA Personnel, other appropriate personnel/agencies and [Emergency Support Functions](#), each led by a different federal agency. By bringing together members of the federal family, FEMA can better coordinate a combined federal response and easily deconflict issues by interacting with each agency face-to-face. The staff comes together as a whole community to support first responders and disaster survivors.



The FEMA Watch capability provides the information which initiates activations of Regional and National Incident Support Staff at the direction of the FEMA Regional Administrator and provides continual monitoring of events during activations. The Regional Response Coordination Center can activate to several different levels and is capable of operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Regional Response Coordination Center will deploy teams to establish the Joint Field Office that will eventually assume the response and recovery support functions once it is established.

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The FEMA Regional Administrator, or delegated official, will activate the Regional Response Coordination Center to a specified “Activation level” as depicted below:

Activation Level	Conditions	Staffing Guidelines
<b>Level 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Due to its severity, size, location, actual or potential impact on public health, welfare, and infrastructure, the incident requires an extreme amount of direct Federal assistance for response and recovery efforts for which the capabilities to support it do not exist at any level of government.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full staffing,</li> <li>• All Emergency Support Functions and interagency liaisons</li> </ul>
<b>Level 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A disaster which, due to its severity, size, location, actual or potential impact on public health, welfare, and infrastructure requires a high amount of direct Federal assistance for response and recovery efforts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mid-level staffing</li> <li>• Most but not all Emergency Support functions and liaisons</li> </ul>
<b>Level 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A disaster which, due to its severity, size, location, actual or potential impact on public health, welfare, and infrastructure requires a moderate amount of direct Federal assistance.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moderate staff</li> <li>• Only Select Emergency Support Functions and inter-agency liaisons</li> </ul>
<b>Enhanced Watch</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Watch Center and select members of the Regional Response Coordination Center Activation team maintains situation awareness. The Regional Response Coordination Center is not activated.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anticipation of Federal Assistance and/or immediate response to disaster</li> </ul>
<b>Watch Steady state</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No event or incident anticipated</li> <li>• Regional Watch Center maintains situation awareness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Normal office staff</li> </ul>

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