



FEMA

NIMS *Alert*

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National Integration Center
202-646-3850

Vendor-provided NIMS ICS Course and Instructor Validation and Certification

The purpose of this NIMS Alert is to clarify the role of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as it relates to vendor-provided National Incident Management System (NIMS) Incident Command System (ICS) course and instructor validation or certification.

DHS and FEMA have received numerous inquiries requesting DHS/FEMA certification of privately-offered NIMS ICS courses. In response to these inquiries, DHS and FEMA do not certify or validate any private vendor's NIMS ICS training course(s), course curricula, course materials, or instructors, regardless of content or instructor qualifications. State, local, and private sector partners that rely on these vendors to provide NIMS training must ensure the vendor training courses meet or exceed the minimum criteria set in the *Five-Year NIMS Training Plan* "Course Summaries" (Appendix B). These summaries clearly state course objectives, discussion topics, and minimum requirements for instructional time and instructor qualifications for in-classroom courses.

Issued in February 2008, the *Five-Year NIMS Training Plan* ensures instructional and course integrity of the NIMS curriculum courses across the nation. Through the *Five-Year NIMS Training Plan*, the National Integration Center defines instructor qualifications and required instructors per course. This does not preclude any State, tribal, or local partner from maintaining more restrictive instructor qualifications.

For more information on the *Five-Year NIMS Training Plan* visit:
www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/NIMSTrainingCourses.

Questions can be directed to IMSI via e-mail: FEMA-NIMS@dhs.gov or via telephone: 202.646.3850.

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