FEMA’s National Preparedness Directorate (NPD) and Grant Programs Directorate (GPD) Technical Assistance (TA) program assists states, tribes and local jurisdictions to build and sustain specific emergency management program capabilities by providing services and analytical capacities drawn from within FEMA, from other Federal Departments and Agencies and from other subject matter experts. Within a requesting jurisdiction, TA provides the relevant practitioners—and their leadership—with specialized, practical tools and information in order for the jurisdiction to create more resilient, more comprehensive and better coordinated plans and planning. TA differs from training in that TA presumes participants already possess sufficient topical knowledge to consider and discuss new, practical aspects of the TA subject and are able on their own authority to subsequently adjust their emergency management plans and programs.

FEMA NPD provides Preparedness TA activities in support of the four homeland security mission areas of prevention, protection, response and recovery. FEMA GPD provides Program Management TA that directly supports effective and efficient grant program management. TA is provided free-of-charge and is available to all qualified Department of Homeland Security (DHS) FEMA preparedness grantees and sub-grantees.

Preparedness Technical Assistance

TA is provided by one of two means: through written material (templates, checklists, lessons learned and other experiential perspectives) or through scheduled, facilitated, on-site deliveries. Jurisdictions can request a specific type of TA from the list of existing TA subjects or may simply request help to address their emergency management planning difficulties or desired outcomes. Requests must be submitted through the State Administrative Authority for approval and must be in support of a specific Goal and Objective of the State’s Homeland Security Strategy. Upon receipt of approved requests for on-site, facilitated delivery, FEMA will set a conference call for the requesting jurisdiction, the state, the FEMA Region and, if required, FEMA Headquarters, to agree upon expectations, logistics and deliverables.

Prevention Technical Assistance

The prevention mission area focuses primarily on facilitating the development of a national fusion center capability and the implementation of baseline capabilities within all state and major urban area fusion centers. In support of this effort the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) Protection and National Preparedness (PNP) and the U.S. Department of Justice’s (DOJ) Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) partnered in 2007 to develop the Fusion Process Technical Assistance Program. This program has been developed in support of the DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) and in coordination with the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI); the Office of the Program Manager, Information Sharing Environment (PM-ISE); the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI); and experts from the state and local community—including the Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative (Global), the Criminal Intelligence Coordinating Council (CICC), and the Global Intelligence Working Group (GIWG).
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.”

Protection Technical Assistance
The protection mission area focuses primarily on the following national priorities:
(1) Expand Regional Collaboration, (2) Implement the National Infrastructure Protection Plan and (3) Strengthen Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive Detection, Response and Decontamination Capabilities. NPD has partnered with the DHS Office of Infrastructure Protection to enhance protection-related support to State and local jurisdictions.

Planning Technical Assistance
In coordination with federal, state and local agencies, FEMA seeks to ensure that the necessary plans, protocols, and procedures are in place to effectively manage the impact of a large-scale or catastrophic incident at the state/local level. Effective prevention, protection, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts depend on the necessary structures being in place to manage and implement critical capabilities. This includes the assessment of preparedness and performance at the state and local level as well as operationalization of planning guidance, utilization of resources, the incorporation of lessons learned, strategic planning support and the coordination of personnel in all disciplines and at all levels. The goal is to ensure that in the event of a large-scale incident the loss of life and property is minimal and the restoration of normal operations is swift.

Technical Assistance Subjects

Prevention Technical Assistance
- Fusion Process Orientation and Development Services
- Fusion Center Technology
- Fusion Center Privacy Policy Development
- Fusion Liaison Officer Program
- Fusion Center Security
- 28 CFR Part 23
- Intelligence Commanders Course
- State and Local Anti-Terrorism Training
- Criminal Intelligence for the Chief Executive
- National Information Exchange Model
- Fusion Center and Fire Service Information Sharing and Coordination
- Fusion Center and EOC Information Sharing and Coordination
- Fusion Center and Critical Infrastructure Protection Information Sharing and Coordination

Program Management Technical Assistance

The GPD Program Management TA services provide direct assistance in the establishment and enhancement of the overall homeland security administrative framework within state and local jurisdictions. These technical assistance services help to build the infrastructure at the state and local levels in which preparedness purchases, training activities, exercises and additional assistance can accurately be managed, administered, tracked and measured. This component of the overall TA program includes services focused on grant reporting, grants management, overall homeland security program management and resource management strategies for special needs jurisdictions.
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Federal Emergency Management Agency

- Fusion Center and Health Security Information Sharing and Coordination
- Fusion Center Communications and Outreach
- Protection Technical Assistance
  - CIKR Asset Protection Technical Assistance Program (CAPTAP)
  - Improvised Explosive Device
- Planning Technical Assistance
  - Interoperable Communications
  - Continuity of Operations Planning
  - Emergency Operations Center Design and Management
  - Evacuation Planning
  - Incident Analysis Planning
  - 9-1-1 Communications Center
  - Logistics and Resource Management
  - Public Information Planning
  - Regional Planning – Regionalization
- Regional – Regional Response Planning
- Risk Assessment
- Special Events Planning
- Strategic Planning
- Terrorism Incident Annex Planning
- Synchronization Matrix
- Logistics and Process Analysis Tool
- Joint Information System/Center Implementation
- Mass Fatalities Incident Planning

Program Management Technical Assistance
- Program Management
- Investment Planning
- Grants Reporting
- Grants Management
- Environmental & Historical Preservation

For more information about Technical Assistance Program visit: www.fema.gov/about/divisions/pppa_ta.shtm

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