

# Module 6: Course Summary

## Lesson 6-1: Finishing Up

### Module Overview

In this module, you'll review the main concepts that were covered in the first five modules in this course:

- Module 1: CERT Basics
- Module 2: Fire Safety
- Module 3: Hazardous Materials and Terrorist Incidents
- Module 4: Disaster Medical Operations
- Module 5: Search and Rescue

You'll also find out about printing your completion certificate for this course and going on to take the classroom-based *CERT Basic Training* course that's required for you to become a trained and qualified CERT member.

It should take you about **20 minutes** to complete this module. After you've done that, you should be ready to take the final exam for this training.

### Module 1 Review

#### Module 1: CERT Basics

- When disaster overwhelms emergency response resources, CERTs can extend the capabilities of response organizations through hazard mitigation and response activities.
- Before disaster strikes, you should mitigate potential hazards in the home and workplace, develop a family emergency plan, and assemble a disaster supply kit.
- Obtaining the maximum benefit from CERT response activities requires a carefully structured CERT organization. CERT decision-making is guided by the goal of protecting team members' safety while doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people.

## Module 2 Review

### Module 2: Fire Safety

- Fire requires heat, fuel, and oxygen. Take away any one of these elements, and fire can't be sustained.
- The type of fuel dictates both the class of fire (A, B, C, D, K) and the best methods and equipment for extinguishing a fire.
- A CERT member's fire safety role begins with mitigating fire hazards related to electricity, natural gas, and flammable liquids at home and in the workplace.
- Suppressing small fires is one of the CERT roles. The decision to extinguish a fire is based on personal safety and having the proper resources.

When suppressing fires, CERT members guard their safety by:

- Wearing protective equipment
- Working as a team
- Planning for safe entry and exit
- Maintaining a safe distance and position in relation to the fire
- Suppressing only small fires, using the proper equipment
- Using the PASS procedure to operate fire extinguishers
- Overhauling the fire to prevent re-ignition

The sizeup process includes the following steps:

1. Gather facts
2. Assess and communicate the damage
3. Consider probabilities
4. Assess your own situation
5. Establish priorities
6. Make decisions
7. Develop plans of action
8. Take action
9. Evaluate progress

## Module 3 Review

### Module 3: Hazardous Materials and Terrorist Incidents

The best way to protect yourself from household chemical emergencies is to practice LIES:

- **L**imit the amount of hazardous materials in storage.
- **I**solate products in approved containers and protect them from sources of ignition.

- **E**liminate products that are no longer necessary by disposing of them properly.
- **S**eparate incompatible materials.

Hazardous materials:

- The NFPA 704 Diamond identifies hazardous materials stored at fixed facilities.
- When a facility is placarded with an NFPA 704 Diamond, the only action that CERT members should take during disaster response is to evacuate persons who are downwind to an uphill and upwind location.
- The DOT placard system is used to identify hazardous materials in transit in the United States.

Terrorist Incidents:

- Terrorist incidents may involve chemical or biological materials, dirty bombs, nuclear blasts, conventional explosives, and other weapons.
- Safety for all CERT members and persons in the area of a terrorist incident is of first concern.
- Terrorist incident sites are crime scenes, and care must be taken to protect evidence. Leave all items alone unless moving something is absolutely necessary for life safety.
- Terrorist incidents are a "stop sign." If there are any indicators of a terrorist incident, do not proceed. Move away from the object or area to an uphill and upwind location and report it to authorities immediately.
- Do not use a cellular phone or two-way radio if you suspect an explosive device is present. Use a landline phone instead.
- Do not attempt to treat survivors in a contaminated area. Tell people who are leaving the area to use basic decontamination procedures and to wait for responders to perform complete decontamination.

## **Module 4 Review**

### **Module 4: Disaster Medical Operations**

- The conditions that always get first treatment priority include obstructed airway, excessive bleeding, and shock.
- Use direct pressure, elevation, and pressure points, as needed, to control bleeding.

#### Medical Treatment Areas

- Clearly marked medical treatment areas and morgues help responders efficiently treat survivors.

- Public health measures should include proper hygiene, sanitation, and water purification.
- After all survivors have been triaged and treated for the three "killers," CERT members assess each survivor from head to toe before beginning treatment of any other injuries.

### The Role of the CERT Member

- CERTs provide basic treatment for common injuries, including burns, wounds, fractures/sprains, and hypothermia.
- To limit the effects of vicarious trauma, CERT members avoid over-identifying with survivors, monitor their own trauma symptoms, and use stress reduction techniques.
- When working with survivors, CERT members stabilize the incident scene by stabilizing individuals.

## Module 5 Review

### Module 5: Search and Rescue

- The goals of CERT search and rescue are to protect rescuer safety and to rescue as many survivors as possible as quickly as possible.
- During search and rescue, CERT members create a safe environment by:
  - Working within their limits
  - Working as a team and putting rescuer safety first
  - Using personal protective equipment
  - Remaining alert to hazards
  - Following all safety procedures
  - Moving and stabilizing debris by leveraging and cribbing
  - Using safe methods to remove survivors
- Search should begin with a sizeup of the exterior and interior of the building or structure.
- Effective search methods include calling out to survivors, using a systematic search pattern, marking searched areas, and reporting results.
- Rescue objectives are to maintain rescuer safety and to triage and evacuate survivors as quickly as possible while minimizing additional injury to them.

## Lesson Summaries

Each lesson in this course included a summary of key points covered in the lesson. If you'd like to study any of these summaries before you take the final exam, select your choice:

### Lesson 1-1: CERT Overview

- Disasters may overwhelm emergency response resources.
- CERTs can extend the capabilities of response organizations through hazard mitigation and response activities.
- Before a disaster, CERTs focus on emergency preparedness and hazard mitigation.
- After a disaster, CERTs may operate directly or assist responders in activities to save or sustain lives and protect property.

### Lesson 1-2: Family and Workplace Preparedness

- Identify potential hazards in the home and workplace.
- Take steps to mitigate those hazards.
- Develop and practice a family disaster plan.
- Assemble a disaster supply kit.

### Lesson 1-3: CERT Organization

- The ICS is used to manage emergency operations.
- CERTs use ICS, which expands and contracts as needed to handle the situation.
- Efficient two-way communication is essential for effective decision-making.
- The CERT decision-making process is guided by the goal of CERT safety.

### Lesson 2-1: Introduction to Fire Safety

- Fire requires heat, fuel, and oxygen. The combination of these elements can cause a chemical exothermic reaction (fire).
- There are five classes of fire, and they are based on the type of fuel that feeds the fire.
- The type and quantity of fuel dictate the best methods and equipment for extinguishing a fire.
- The decision to extinguish a fire should be based on maintaining your personal safety and having access to the proper resources.

### Lesson 2-2: Fire Hazards in the Home and Workplace

- A CERT member's fire safety role begins at home and at the workplace.
- Electricity, natural gas, and flammable liquids can create fire hazards.
- Taking the time to look for and eliminate fire hazards reduces the risk of having a fire occur in the home or workplace.

### Lesson 2-3: Safe Fire Suppression

- Wear protective equipment.
- Work with a buddy and as a team.

- Plan for safe entry and exit.
- Maintain a safe distance and position in relation to the fire.
- Suppress only small fires, using the proper equipment.
- Use the PASS procedure to operate fire extinguishers.
- Overhaul the fire to prevent re-ignition.

#### Lesson 3-1: Introduction to Special Situations

- Treat hazardous materials as STOP signs: Only professional responders with special equipment are trained to deal with these situations.
- If you become contaminated, use basic decontamination procedures and then wait for responders to perform complete decontamination.

#### Lesson 3-2: Hazardous Materials Safety

- Taking the time to read product labels can reduce the chances of an accident.
- In cases of a hazardous materials emergency, you need to evaluate the type of exposure and type of chemical involved before taking action.
- The NFPA placard system is an important way to identify fixed locations where hazardous materials are used or stored.
- The DOT placard system is an important way to recognize vehicles or containers that carry hazardous materials in transit.

#### Lesson 3-3: Terrorism and CERT

- Personal safety is always your first priority.
- In the event of a terrorist attack, it is important to stay informed. Monitor television, radio, and Internet news broadcasts to keep on top of the situation.
- Always have a plan of action in case of terrorism. Your plan should include an emergency kit, an evacuation route, and supplies to shelter in place.

#### Lesson 4-1: Introduction to Disaster Medical Operations

- The CERT goal is to stay safe and do the greatest good for the greatest number of survivors.
- Trauma injuries in disasters can often result in death. Sometimes these deaths can be prevented through simple, early treatment. CERT members are trained to provide this treatment until medical professionals are available to help.
- Do not apply the medical treatment skills covered in this module until you have completed classroom *CERT Basic Training* course.

#### Lesson 4-2: Principles and Guidelines for Survivor Care

- The three killers - obstructed airway, excessive bleeding, and shock
- Purpose of triage

- Purpose and importance of head-to-toe assessment
- Neck, spine, and head injuries
- Common injuries, such as burns and wounds
- The purpose of medical treatment areas
- Public health concerns after disasters

#### Lesson 4-3: Disaster Psychology

- To limit the effects of vicarious trauma on yourself, don't over-identify with survivors. Monitor your own reactions and use stress reducers that work for you.
- Traumatic stress may affect a survivor's cognitive functioning, physical health, and interpersonal relationships.
- When working with survivors, the CERT psychological role is to stabilize the incident scene by stabilizing individuals.

#### Lesson 5-1: Introduction to Light Search and Rescue

- CERT search and rescue includes initial sizeup, search operations, and rescue operations.
- The goals of CERT search and rescue are to protect rescuer safety and to rescue as many survivors as possible as quickly as possible.
- Search and rescue teams protect rescuer safety by wearing personal protective equipment, working as a team, putting rescuer safety first, doing ongoing sizeup, and remaining alert to changing situations.

#### Lesson 5-2: Search Operations

- Search operations should begin with a sizeup of the exterior of the building or structure.
- Effective search methods include calling out, using a systematic search pattern, marking searched areas, and reporting results.

#### Lesson 5-3: Rescue Operations

- The goals of rescue operations are to maintain rescuer safety and rescue survivors as quickly as possible while minimizing additional injury to them.
- Rescuers can create a safe environment by:
  - Working within their limits
  - Using personal protective equipment
  - Following safety procedures
  - Using leveraging and cribbing to move and stabilize debris
  - Using safe methods to remove survivors

### **Limitations of Your Training**

Now that you've had time to review the material covered in this training, you're nearly ready to move forward. But first a word of CAUTION!! Even though you've

completed these training modules, you're not trained to perform CERT functions. Do NOT try to use any of the procedures introduced in this training until you've completed the classroom-based CERT Basic Training course. That course provides the instruction and supervised practice that are required for you to become a fully trained and qualified CERT member. At this point, however, you should be ready to take the next steps in your CERT training, which are ...

## **Next Steps**

1. Take the final exam for this training course
2. Print your completion certificate after you pass the exam
3. Take the classroom-based *CERT Basic Training* course

### **Taking the Final Exam**

To take the final exam for this training course:

- Download and print a copy of the final exam in PDF format
  - Circle your answers on the printed exam to save time when you go online
- Complete the online answer sheet

To pass the exam, you must get at least 31 of the 40 questions on the exam correct, giving you a score of 77.5% or higher.

If you get 30 or fewer questions correct, you won't pass the exam. If you don't pass on your first try, you should review the modules where you had difficulty. Then go through Module 6: Course Summary again, in order to re-take the exam.

### **Printing Your Certificate**

When you're notified that you've passed the exam, you'll then be able to print your completion certificate from your own computer.

### **Taking the *CERT Basic Training* Classroom Course**

To arrange to take the CERT classroom training, go to the [CERT national Web site](#) and locate a nearby CERT training program, based on your ZIP code.

If there is no nearby CERT training program available in your area, select [here](#) to find out how to get one started.

## **Knowledge Review**

Take a moment to think about what you've learned in this course. Based on this information, what are some changes you plan to make in your home and workplace to prepare for a disaster? Write your answers below and compare to the answers given.

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Answer:

Here are some examples of responses that other learners have made:

- Put together a disaster plan for my family and test it
- Prepare an emergency supply kit for my office
- Install a carbon monoxide detector in the basement near the furnace
- Gather up leftover household chemicals for proper disposal
- Restock food and medical supplies at home for shelter-in-place emergency

## **Conclusion**

Congratulations! You've completed this training course.

Once you've passed the exam, you'll receive a message with a link for the certificate. You can download the certificate to your computer and save an electronic copy before printing it out on your printer.

To take the final exam, select [here](#).