



Number:	D2019-03
Effective Date:	September 13, 2019
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Rescinds Directive Number:	NA


PEMA Directive

Subject:
Hazardous Materials Response Team (HMRT) Training Requirements

Scope:
Current and Potential HMRTs in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

- Distribution:**
- www.pema.pa.gov
 - Directors, PEMA Area Offices
 - Chairpersons, County Boards of Commissioners/County Executives
 - County Coordinators
 - Chairpersons, County Local Emergency Planning Committees

By Direction of:



David R. Padfield, Director
PA Emergency Management Agency

I. PURPOSE

- A. This Directive results from the requirement of Section 201(g)(10) and Section 209(a) of the Hazardous Material Emergency Planning and Response Act (Act 165), 35 P.S. § 6022.201(g)(10) and 35 P.S. § 6022.209(a). It provides the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) with the requirement, power, and duty to prescribe standards for HMRT Training. As the delegate of the SERC, and by virtue of this Directive, the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) is establishing training standards for state-certified HMRT members in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- B. This Directive establishes a two (2) year implementation period for current and potential HMRTs to make the necessary changes in their program's training methodology required to meet these training standards. This two (2) year period will allow PEMA to evaluate the HMRT training program and standards, make required changes, and to fully implement the program with minimal negative effects. Once this two (2) year period is completed, this Directive will be rescinded and replaced with the permanent HMRT training program Directive.
- C. This Directive establishes training standards which requires all state-certified HMRT members to train to National Incident Management System (NIMS) and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standards for hazardous materials

Comments and Questions Regarding this Directive Should be Directed to:
Bureau of Technological Hazards, Hazardous Materials Division, 717-651-7076

response personnel in accordance with the NIMS Resource Typing requirements for HMRTs.

- D. This Directive establishes training standards which meet or exceed those required by the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) and the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant (HMEP). The HMEP Grant funds a majority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's hazardous materials response training. PHMSA requires all training being purchased through the HMEP Grant to meet or exceed NFPA 472 *Standard for Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents* training.
- E. This Directive establishes training standards and a program methodology for HMRT members which PEMA and the Pennsylvania State Fire Academy (PSFA) have agreed upon concurrently; ensuring continuity of hazardous materials response training standards across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

II. AUTHORITY AND REFERENCES

- A. PA Emergency Management Services Code 35 Pa.C.S. §7101 *et seq.*, as amended.
- B. Hazardous Material Emergency Planning and Response Act, Act 165 of 1990, P.L. 639, No. 165, as amended, 35 P.S. §6022.101 *et seq.*
- C. PEMA Directive D2019-02 Hazardous Material Response Team (HMRT) Certification/Recertification Program Requirements
- D. PEMA Directive D2016-01 National Incident Management System (NIMS) Implementation, Compliance, and Improvement or Most Current Revision
- E. NFPA® 472 Standard for Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents, Most Current Edition
- F. NFPA® 475 Organizing, Managing, and Sustaining a Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Response Program, Most Current Edition
- G. NFPA® 1072 Standard for Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Emergency Response Personnel Professional Qualifications, Most Current Edition
- H. OSHA Standard for Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response, 29 CFR 1910.120
- I. OSHA Standard for Respiratory Protection, 29 CFR 1910.134
- J. EPA Worker Protection 40 CFR Part 311
- K. FEMA, NIMS 508: Hazardous Materials Response Team

- L. FEMA, NIMS 509: Hazardous Materials Technician

III. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. In order to meet the requirements for federal hazardous materials response grants and to meet the training requirements for NIMS Resource Typing standards as per FEMA, NIMS 509: *Hazardous Materials Technician* and PEMA Directive D2019-02, all state certified HMRTs are required to ensure all personnel/HMRT members meet or exceed the requirements outlined in this Directive.
- B. Personnel who are assigned to or provide support to state certified HMRTs in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are required to complete training which meets or exceeds NFPA 472 standards in accordance with FEMA, NIMS 509: *Hazardous Materials Technician* standards.
- C. Personnel who are assigned to or provide support to state certified HMRTs in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are required to complete NIMS Incident Command Systems (ICS) training in accordance with FEMA, NIMS 509: *Hazardous Materials Technician* standards.

IV. INDIVIDUAL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

This Directive provides individual training requirement guidance for both current and new HMRT members. These requirements differ in scope and are detailed below. All requirements listed below apply to members of NIMS Type 1, Type 2, and Type 3 HMRTs in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. All HMRT positions which are required by Directive D2019-02 are listed below.

- A. Hazardous Materials Technicians

All state certified HMRT Hazardous Materials Technician are required to complete the following listed NFPA 472/1072 standard training levels and NIMS ICS courses.

1. NFPA 472/1072 Hazardous Materials Awareness
2. NFPA 472/1072 Hazardous Materials Operations
3. NFPA 472/1072 Hazardous Materials Technician
4. ICS-100: Introduction to the Incident Command System
5. ICS-200: Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response
6. ICS-700: National Incident Management System, An Introduction
7. ICS-800: National Response Framework, An Introduction

- B. Hazardous Materials Incident Commander (HMIC)

All state certified HMRT Hazardous Materials teams chiefs/leaders are required to complete the training listed above for Hazardous Materials Technicians and the following listed NFPA 472/1072 standard training levels and NIMS ICS courses in order to meet the requirements to serve as a HMIC.

1. NFPA 472/1072 Hazardous Materials Incident Commander
2. ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents

C. HMRT Support Personnel

All state certified HMRTs which employ or have members which provide support functions to the HMRT must ensure all HMRT Support personnel meet or exceed the following minimum training requirements in order to be a part of the HMRTs active roster.

1. NFPA 472/1072 Hazardous Materials Awareness
2. NFPA 472/1072 Hazardous Materials Operations
3. ICS-100: Introduction to the Incident Command System
4. ICS-200: Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response

D. Minimum Training Hour Requirements for NFPA 472/1072 Training Level Courses

1. NFPA 472/1072 Hazardous Materials Awareness – 4 Hours
2. NFPA 472/1072 Hazardous Materials Operations – 24 Hours
3. NFPA 472/1072 Hazardous Materials Technician – 32 Hours
4. NFPA 472/1072 Hazardous Materials Incident Commander – 32 Hours

E. Additional Requirements

1. All HMRT members must be trained and understand the requirements of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.120: *Hazardous Materials Technician Level* and NFPA 472.

NOTE: Most NFPA 472/1072 Operations and Technician level courses incorporate OSHA HAZWOPER requirements into the course material (which meets this requirement).

2. All HMRT members must be briefed and receive a copy of the HMRT's Respiratory Protection Program in accordance with OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.134(k): *Respiratory Protection*.
3. All HMRT members must be briefed and receive a copy of the HMRT's Medical Surveillance Program in accordance with OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.120(b)(1)(ii): *Medical Surveillance*.

F. Certification

Pro Board and/or International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) certification is highly recommended but **is not required**.

V. ANNUAL TRAINING/REFRESHER REQUIREMENTS

All HMRT members must complete mandatory annual training as per Directive D2019-02, Attachment 5. In NFPA 1072, specific Job Performance Requirements (JPR) are detailed along with the NFPA 472 Competencies which are required for each JPR. In Attachments 3-5 of this Directive, all NFPA required JPRs and Competencies for the NFPA 472/1072 Hazardous Materials Awareness, Operations, and Technician Level of training are provided. These attachments provide the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) and the HMIC with the detailed references, training requirements, and training standards for each JPR and Competency provided by NFPA 472 and 1072. The requirements listed below are minimum training requirements and should not reflect the entirety of an HMRT's Training Program.

A. Hazardous Materials Technician Annual Training Requirements

1. Sixteen (16) Hours of Annual Refresher Training required.

- a. Training may be spread out throughout the year or conducted as a single training event and may include any NFPA 472/1072 JPR and Competencies which are deemed necessary by the AHJ and/or the HMRT HMIC at the Hazardous Materials Technician Level or below.
- b. Training hours must be logged and HMRT member attendance sign-in sheets/logs must be retained and presented during the on-site Assessment as per Directive, D2019-02, Attachment 5.
- c. The AHJ/ HMIC will determine the training requirements for the HMRT members and the corresponding NFPA 1072 JPRs and NFPA 472 Competencies based on current gaps in training and the current threat assessment for the jurisdictions in which the HMRT operates.
- d. These training hours must be documented on the HMRTs Training Calendar as per Directive D2019-02, Attachment 5.

B. Hazardous Materials Operations Annual Training Requirements

1. Eight (8) Hours of Annual Refresher Training required.

- a. Training may be spread out throughout the year or conducted as a single training event and may include any NFPA 472/1072 JPR and Competencies which are deemed necessary by the AHJ and/or the HMRT HMIC at the Operations Level or below.

- b. Training hours must be logged and HMRT member attendance sign-in sheets/logs must be retained and presented during the on-site Assessment as per Directive, D2019-02, Attachment 5.
- c. The AHJ/ HMIC will determine the training requirements for the HMRT members and the corresponding NFPA 1072 JPRs and NFPA 472 Competencies based on current gaps in training and the current threat assessment for the jurisdictions in which the HMRT operates.
- d. These training hours must be documented on the HMRTs Training Calendar as per Directive D2019-02, Attachment 5.

VI. IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of the above listed training standards requires a two-pronged approach. With both active members and new members there are challenges which must be addressed during the two (2) year implementation and evaluation period of this training program. The implementation requirements for both new and active HMRT members are listed below.

A. New HMRT Members

1. New HMRT members are defined as any HMRT member whose membership, employment, or application to join a state certified HMRT and be placed on the HMRT's active roster (Directive D2019-02, Attachment 4) occurs 180 days after the Effective Date of this Directive.
2. New HMRT members must meet all requirements in this Directive.
3. New HMRT Chiefs/Leaders must meet the above listed NIMS ICS course requirements and NFPA 472 HMIC course requirement by the end of the two (2) year implementation period.

B. Active HMRT Members

1. Active HMRT members are defined as any HMRT member whose membership, employment, or application to join a state certified HMRT and was on the HMRTs active roster (Directive D2019-02, Attachment 4) prior to the Effective Date of this Directive or less than 180 days after the Effective Date of this Directive.
2. Active members must complete the Annual Training/Refresher requirements outlined in Section V. above based on their current training level within the two (2) year implementation period of this Directive and every year thereafter.
3. Active members are not required to repeat any course or level previously achieved and documented with a certificate of completion. All courses and

qualifications will continue to be recognized for Active members which meet the criteria in Item VI.B.1. above.

4. Active members must meet the NIMS ICS course requirements listed above within one (1) year of the Effective Date of this Directive.
5. Active HMRT Chiefs/Leaders must meet the above listed NIMS ICS course requirements and NFPA 472 HMIC course requirement by the end of the two (2) year implementation period.

VII. APPROVED TRAINING PROVIDERS AND EXCEPTIONS

Individual training requirements must be delivered by an approved training provider or meet one of the exception criteria listed below. Certificates of completion for all individual training requirements listed in Section IV. above must come from one of the approved resources below.

A. NIMS ICS Training

1. All ICS courses must come from a FEMA certified instructor or through an online course provided by FEMA or a FEMA partner which requires a FEMA Student Identification (FEMA SID).
2. All ICS Courses must be documented with a FEMA certificate of completion or a PEMA accepted equivalency.

B. NFPA 472/1072 Training

1. Approved Providers
 - a. All FEMA approved Hazardous Materials courses. FEMA and the Center for Domestic Preparedness provide several alternatives for this training and all meet or exceed NFPA 472/1072 standards.
 - b. Any Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Hazardous Materials Technician course. The EPA is required to meet or exceed NFPA 472 standards in its course curriculum.
 - c. Any Pennsylvania State Fire Academy (PSFA) Hazardous Materials courses.
 - d. Any PSFA approved Educational Training Agency (ETA) with PSFA approved Hazardous Materials training curriculum and PSFA approved Hazardous Materials curriculum instructors.

HMRTs may apply to the PSFA to have instructors and/or curriculum approved to meet this requirement.

2. Exceptions

HMRT Members may substitute the individual training requirements in this Directive with the corresponding Pro Board/IFSAC Certification listed below:

1. NFPA 472/1072 Hazmat Awareness
2. NFPA 472 Operations or NFPA 1072 Hazmat Operations Core
3. NFPA 1072 Hazmat Operations with Mission Specific - Product Control
4. NFPA 1072 Hazmat Operations with Mission Specific - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
5. NFPA 472/1072 Hazmat Technician
6. NFPA 472/1072 Hazardous Materials Incident Commander

NOTE: If HMRT members wish to substitute Pro Board/IFSAC Certification in lieu of taking a standard NFPA 472/1072 course, they must present either a NFPA 472 or NFPA 1072 Pro Board/IFSAC certificate which includes an official certification test site, number and date.

VIII. DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

- A. Certificates of completion are required for all the individual training requirements listed in this Directive.
- B. Certificates of completion must be from one of the approved providers listed in Section VII.
- C. Certificates of completion must be retained in the HMRT member's individual training record and made available for inspection during the HMRT Certification/Recertification Assessment as per Directive D2019-02, Attachment 5.

IX. INFORMATION

For additional information or answers to your questions, please contact the Bureau of Technological Hazards, Hazardous Materials Division at 717-651-7076.

PEMA Directive:
Effective Date:
Page Number:

D2019-03
September 13, 2019
9

Attachment (1) FEMA, 509: Hazardous Materials Technician
Attachment (2) NFPA 1072 Job Performance Requirements and NFPA 472 Competencies
Attachment (3) NFPA 472 Awareness Level Required Task List
Attachment (4) NFPA 472 Operations Level Required Task List
Attachment (5) NFPA 472 Technician Level Required Task List

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