

Preparedness in the Southwest Course

Module 5: Emergency Operations Center

An effective Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is essential during an emergency response to ensure coordination and dissemination of information in a timely manner. This module will describe the different goals and tasks that must be accomplished by Incident Command and the EOC, how the EOC is organized and managed and the role of public health in a multi-jurisdictional EOC.

Learning Objectives:

1. Understand the purpose of the EOC
2. Describe how an EOC is managed and organized
3. List important facilities that must be considered when setting up an EOC
4. Describe the tasks and responsibilities for key roles within the ICS
5. Differentiate between an EOC and an Incident Command
6. List the incidents in which public health may take a leading role
7. Describe ways in which public health would be utilized in a multi-jurisdictional event

Core competencies addressed:

Competency 1: Describe the public health role in emergency response in a range of emergencies that might arise. (e.g. "This department provides surveillance, investigation and public information in disease outbreaks and collaborates with other agencies in biological, environmental, and weather emergencies.")

Competency 2: Describe the chain of command in emergency response

Competency 3: Identify and locate the agency emergency response plan (or the pertinent portion of the plan).

Peripheral Competencies addressed:

Competency 6: Describe communication role(s) in emergency response:

- Within agency
- Media
- General public
- Personal (family, neighbors)