

NIMS *Alert*

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Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency

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What is considered fully NIMS compliant?

Local jurisdictions should bear in mind that implementation activities from previous fiscal years remain on-going commitments in the present fiscal year and must continue to support all implementation activities required or underway in order to achieve full NIMS compliance. Future refinement of the NIMS will evolve as policy and technical issues are further developed and clarified. With the completion of the FY 2007 activities, local jurisdictions will have the foundational support for future NIMS implementation and compliance.

For all practical purposes, jurisdictions will be considered fully NIMS compliant for FY07 if they complete and/or are actively working on completing the following items:

1. Adoption

- a. Formally adopt the NIMS through Executive Order, Proclamation, Resolution, Legislation, or Other legal authority.
- b. Promote and encourage the adoption of NIMS through meetings, email or websites, mailings, exercises or other means to associations (e.g., professional organization or trade associations), critical infrastructure, utilities (e.g., transportation, electric, water), private sector incident management and response organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs).
- c. Designate a single point of contact with the authority to serve as the principal coordinator for overall NIMS implementation within the jurisdiction.

2. Command and Management

- a. Use the Incident Command System to manage all incidents: pre-planned, routine and large-scale.
- b. Use Incident Action Plans during incidents, as required.
- c. Use a common communications plan (i.e. common terminology, interoperable communications equipment).
- d. Encourage the use of multi-agency coordination systems for preplanned events (Recurring/Special), incident-specific hazards, no-notice events, and specific events.
- e. Incorporate a process and procedure for utilizing a Public Information System (PIS), including establishment of a Joint Information System (JIS) and a Joint Information Center (JIC) as incidents dictate, into Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs).

3. Preparedness: Planning

- a. Utilize federal preparedness funds to improve NIMS preparedness and response activities.
- b. Local jurisdictions with an emergency management or emergency response function incorporated NIMS into the following activities: planning, training programs, response activities, exercise program, equipment acquisition, evaluations, and corrective actions.
- c. Incorporate NIMS concepts and principles into incident management policies and standard operating procedures and standard operating guides.
- d. Participate and promote intra-state and inter-agency mutual aid agreements.

- e. Promote mutual aid agreements with private sector and NGOs.

4. Preparedness: Training

- a. Train and document the training status of personnel.
- b. In the continued absence of what specifically constitutes federal “NIMS training compliance”, Pennsylvania establishes the following threshold or process:
 - i. Pennsylvania’s 3-year training implementation program schedule started at 50% in Year 1, which started in Fiscal Year 2007 (October 1, 2006 – September 30, 2007);
 - ii. Jurisdictions will increase to 70% in Year 2; and
 - iii. All jurisdictions will attain 80% by the end of the 3-year period.
 - iv. For example, 50% of all identified personnel in jurisdiction “A” must have completed IS 700 (NIMS Awareness), IS 800 (NRP Awareness) and ICS 100 (Incident Command System) and ICS 200 (Basic Incident Command System) as outlined in the FY07 NIMS Training Guidelines at <http://www.fema.gov/pdf/emergency/nims/TrainingGdlMatrix.pdf> by September 30, 2007. A training schedule is posted on the PEMA calendar at <http://www.pema.state.pa.us/pema/ical/calendar.asp> to meet the ICS 300 and ICS 400 requirements, as appropriate, by September 30, 2008. Pennsylvania as a whole, to include all state agencies, the nine regional task forces, all 67 counties and local jurisdictions within those counties, as well as the entire response community, will utilize the PA Learning Management System to register and track NIMS training at <https://key.emsed.com/login.asp>.

5. Preparedness: Exercises

- a. Incorporate NIMS/ICS into all local and regional training and exercises.
- b. Participate in an all-hazard exercise program based on NIMS that involves responders from multiple disciplines and multiple jurisdictions.
- c. Incorporate corrective actions into preparedness and response plans and procedures.

6. Resource Management

- a. Inventory community response assets to conform to homeland security resource typing standards.
- b. To the extent permissible by law, ensure that relevant national standards and guidance to achieve equipment, communication and data interoperability are incorporated into local acquisition programs.
- c. Validate that the inventory of response assets conforms to homeland security resource typing standards and provide to the state as required.
- d. Utilize the state response asset inventory for Intra-State Mutual Aid requests, exercises, and actual events.

7. Communications and Information Management

- a. Apply standardized and consistent terminology, including the establishment of plain language communications standards across the public safety sector.
- b. Develop systems, tools, and processes to present consistent and accurate information to incident managers at all levels (e.g., common operating picture).

IMPORTANT NOTE: We recognize that not all of these activities will have been completed by September 30, 2007. If your jurisdiction identified that an activity needs to be implemented, and are actively working to or have a plan to implement it, you can answer ‘yes’ to that question in the metrics. In the notes section, write out what your jurisdiction is doing or plan to do. Remember, all Tier 1 questions must be answered ‘yes’ to be considered NIMS compliant. (All Tier 1 questions are FY05 & FY06 requirements and should be completed or in-work.)