

FACTsheet



Homeland Security and Public Health Question and Answer Information Sheet

What should I know about...

...Homeland Security Presidential Directive #5 (HSPD-5)?

- HSPD-5 was signed by the President in February 2003.
- HSPD-5 charges the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to lead a coordinated national effort with other Federal departments and agencies and State, local, and tribal governments to establish a National Response Plan (NRP) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- HSPD-5 formally notes that crisis management and consequence management is a single function
- HSPD-5 provides criteria for when an incident becomes an Incident of National Significance:
 - a Federal department or agency acting under its own authority has requested the assistance of the Secretary [of DHS];
 - the resources of State and local authorities are overwhelmed and Federal assistance has been requested by the appropriate State and local authorities;
 - more than one Federal department or agency has become substantially involved in responding to the incident;
 - or, the Secretary [of DHS] has been directed to assume responsibility for managing the domestic incident by the President.

Read HSPD-5 at (http://www.nimsonline.com/presidential_directiveshspd_5/htm)

...the National Incident Management System (NIMS)?

- NIMS is a consistent framework for entities at all jurisdictional levels to work together to manage domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity.
- NIMS includes a core set of concepts, principles, terminology, and technologies addressing:
 - the incident command system;
 - multi-agency coordination systems;
 - unified command;
 - training;
 - identification and management of resources (including systems for classifying types of resources);
 - qualifications and certification;
 - and the collection, tracking, and reporting of incident information and incident resources.
- Future federal funding for preparedness will require adoption of NIMS at every jurisdictional level.
- NIMS compliance at this time includes formal jurisdictional recognition of NIMS, incorporating NIMS concepts and processes into emergency planning (see NIMSCAST, below) completion of the online NIMS Awareness Course (NIMS 700), and implementing basic level Incident Command System training.
- NACCHO is also working with partners to develop a set of "NIMS for Public Health" resources that will begin with a basic public health-oriented NIMS course and then augmented with additional resources as NIMS evolves.

Get a copy of NIMS at: (http://www.fema.gov/nims/nims_compliance.shtm#nimsdocument)

Access the online NIMS course at:
(<http://training.fema.gov/EMITWeb/IS/is700.asp>).



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...the NIMSCAST?

- NIMSCAST stands for National Incident Management System Capability Assessment Support Tool.
- NIMSCAST is available online and asks a series of questions based on the NIMS to provide jurisdictions to perform a self-assessment on preparedness and because of the structure, NIMS as well.
- NIMSCAST provides the ability to answer yes/no to a series of questions, write in notes, cite supporting documentation for the answer, and record future strategies for compliance.
- NIMSCAST also provides the ability to print out reports and charts of this information in a variety of formats, including comparisons of old data and new data entered in order to chart progress.
- NIMSCAST allows jurisdictions/agencies to conduct the assessment as a single entity or information can be rolled up from the local level to the state level to form a comprehensive report.

Access the NIMSCAST here: (<https://www.fema.gov/nimcast/index.jsp>).

...the National Response Plan (NRP)?

- The NRP is an all-discipline, all-hazards plan based on the NIMS that provides the structure and mechanisms to coordinate operations for evolving or potential of Incidents of National Significance.
- The NRP is intended to form the basis of how the federal government coordinates with state, local, and tribal governments and the private sector during incidents.
- The NRP focuses on activities that are directly related to an evolving incident or potential incident rather than steady-state preparedness or readiness activities conducted in the absence of a specific threat or hazard.
- The NRP formally defines public health as a “first responder.”
- The NRP contains many references to the public health aspects of an NRP response including:

Public Health and Safety: Initial safety efforts focus on actions to detect, prevent, or reduce the impact to public health and safety. Such actions can include environmental analysis, plume modeling, evacuations, emergency sheltering, air monitoring, decontamination, emerging infectious disease tracking, emergency broadcasts, etc. These efforts may also include public health education; site and public health surveillance and testing procedures; and immunizations, prophylaxis, and isolation or quarantine for biological threats coordinated by HHS and State and local public health officials.

- The NRP is organized by Emergency Support Function, and also includes annexes in addition to the base plan, including incident-specific and function-specific annexes.

Get a full copy of the NRP at:
(http://www.dhs.gov/interweb/assetlibrary/NRP_FullText.pdf)

Read just the Biological Incident Annex here:
(http://www.au.af.mil/au/awc/awcgate/nrp/biological_incident.pdf)

Read just the Catastrophic Incident Annex here:
(http://www.au.af.mil/au/awc/awcgate/nrp/catastrophic_incident.pdf)

Read the section on ESF 8 here:
(<http://www.au.af.mil/au/awc/awcgate/nrp/esf08.pdf>)

Read the section on ESF 6 here:
(<http://www.au.af.mil/au/awc/awcgate/nrp/esf06.pdf>)

Read the Volunteer & Donations Management Support Annex here: (<http://www.au.af.mil/au/awc/awcgate/nrp/volunteers.pdf>)

...Homeland Security Presidential Directive #7 (HSPD-7) and the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP)?

- HSPD-7 requires DHS to work closely with other Federal departments, agencies, State and local governments, and the private sector to produce a comprehensive, integrated National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP).
- The NIPP addresses a number of different “sectors,” including:
 - food (non-agriculture related);
 - water;
 - agriculture;
 - public health and healthcare;
 - energy;
 - transportation (air, road, rail, port, waterways);
 - energy;
 - chemical, etc.

- The NIPP planning activity for the public health community is being led by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). NACCHO has participated with DHHS in planning for public health specific “sector” management.
- State, local, and tribal entities will be engaged to promote awareness of and provide feedback on the NIPP framework and to solicit their involvement in the national Critical Infrastructure Protection program.
- As the NIPP is implemented, State, local, and tribal government agencies should expect to experience more coordinated data calls, fewer overlapping efforts to identify and assess critical assets, and subsequent versions of the NIPP will reflect discussions between the DHS and other stakeholders, including State, local, and tribal government agencies.
- An interim NIPP was issued in February 2005.

Read HSPD-7 at: (<http://www.fas.org/irp/offdocs/nspd/hspd-7.html>)

Get a copy of the interim NIPP at: (<http://www.deq.state.mi.us/documents/deq-wb-wws-interim-nipp.pdf>)

What is Homeland Security Presidential Directive #8 (HSPD-8)?

- HSPD-8 focuses on establishing policies “to strengthen the preparedness of the United States to prevent and respond to threatened or actual domestic terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies.”
- HSPD-8 seeks to do this through “establishing mechanisms for improved delivery of Federal preparedness assistance to State and local governments, and outlining actions to strengthen preparedness capabilities of Federal, State, and local entities.”
- HSPD-8 defines preparedness as “the existence of plans, procedures, policies, training, and equipment necessary at the Federal, State, and local level to maximize the ability to prevent, respond to, and recover from major events. The term ‘readiness’ is used interchangeably with preparedness.”
- HSPD-8 established the Secretary of the DHS as the “principal Federal official for coordinating the implementation of all-hazards preparedness in the United States” and requires the Secretary to work with other agencies and stakeholders to define the National Preparedness Goal.

- The 15 National Planning Scenarios, Universal Task List, and the Targeted Capabilities List (see below for further descriptions) also evolved out of the requirements of HSPD-8.

Read HSPD-8 at(<http://www.fas.org/irp/offdocs/nspd/hspd-8.html>).

What are the 15 National Planning Scenarios?

- The 15 National Planning Scenarios are meant to highlight the scope, magnitude, and complexity of plausible catastrophic terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies in order to be used as the foundation for “capabilities-based planning.”
- The 15 scenarios included chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, explosive, food and agricultural, and cyber terrorist incidents, not intending to be exhaustive or predicative, but rather meant to illustrate a broad range of terrorist attacks.
- The 15 scenarios provided the basis from which the Universal Task List (see below) was initially generated.

Read the executive summaries of the National Planning Scenarios by registering for a username and password at the ODP Secure Portal (<https://odp.esportals.com>) or the Lessons Learned Information Sharing System (<http://www.llis.gov>).

...the National Preparedness Goal (NPG)?

- The NPG is intended to answer three questions:
 - “How prepared do we need to be?”
 - “How prepared are we?” and
 - “How do we prioritize efforts to close the gap?”
- An interim National Preparedness Goal was issued in March 2005.
- The mission statement of the current goal is “[T]o engage Federal, State, local, and tribal entities, and their private and non-governmental partners, and the general public to achieve and sustain risk-based target levels of capability to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from major events in order to minimize the impact on lives, property, and the economy.”
- The Final Goal will be completed by October 1, 2005.
- Building on the other elements of the HSPD-8 process, the Final Goal will include readiness targets, priorities, standards for preparedness assessments and strategies,

and a system for assessing the Nation's overall level of preparedness. NACCHO has worked with DHS and other partners to provide comments on the NPG and the capabilities-based planning that the Goal directs.

Read the interim National Preparedness Goal at: (http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/docs/InterimNationalPreparednessGoal_03-31-05_1.pdf)

...the Universal Task List (UTL)?

- Generated originally from the 15 National Planning Scenarios, the UTL defines all the tasks that need to be performed in response to an Incident of National Significance. No single jurisdiction or agency would be expected to perform every task.
- The intent of the UTL is to guide the design, development, conduct and evaluation of training and exercise events. Entities select tasks that apply to their responsibilities and assigned roles in prevention, protection, response, and recovery.
- DHS suggests that entities at all levels of government use the UTL as a reference to develop proficiency in training and exercises.
- NACCHO has participated in the UTL development process, along with many other public health and healthcare organizations.

Get the second version of the UTL by registering for a username and password at the ODP Secure Portal (<https://odp.esportals.com>) or the Lessons Learned Information Sharing System (<http://www.llis.gov>).

...the Target Capabilities List (TCL)?

- The TCL provides guidance on specific capabilities are levels of capability that Federal, State, and local, and tribal entities will be expected to develop and maintain.
- There are currently 36 Capability Summaries, of which eight are specifically public health and medical capabilities:
 - Fatality Management
 - Isolation and Quarantine
 - Mass Prophylaxis

- Medical Supplies Management and Distribution
- Medical Surge
- Public Health Epidemiological Investigation and Laboratory Testing
- Triage and Pre-Hospital Treatment
- Worker Health and Safety
- Others would encompass aspects of public health response work (Volunteer Management and Donations, Mass Care, CBRNE Detection, etc).
- The TCL was initially built around tasks from the Universal Task List that were defined "Critical Tasks" or those prevention, protection, response, and recovery tasks that require coordination among an appropriate combination of governmental and non-governmental entities during a major event to minimize the impact on lives, property, and the economy.
- Expectations of the extent to which each capability should be achieved in any given jurisdiction will be tailored based upon a system that is still in development.
- The TCL is envisioned as a tool for helping to identify gaps in critical preparedness areas in order to better target the allocation of limited funding streams.
- NACCHO has been working with DHS to update the draft TCL for reissuance on October 1st, 2005.

Read draft TCL 1.1 by registering for a username and password at the ODP Secure Portal (<https://odp.esportals.com>) or the Lessons Learned Information Sharing System (<http://www.llis.gov>).

Reference

Text for most of this document came from the publications described within, with emphasis on the "Interim National Preparedness Goal" document released by DHS on March 31, 2005 (http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/docs/InterimNationalPreparednessGoal_03-31-05_1.pdf).