

CRS Report for Congress

Received through the CRS Web

Terrorism Preparedness: A Catalog of Federal Assistance Programs

December 27, 2001

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Terrorism Preparedness: A Catalog of Federal Assistance Programs

Summary

Congress has authorized a limited number of programs specifically designed to assist state and local governments with preparing for terrorist attacks, particularly those involving weapons of mass destruction. Congress also authorizes several general assistance programs that states and localities may use for terrorism preparedness.

At present, several agencies administer preparedness programs, including the Departments of Defense, Health and Human Services, and Justice, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and others. Congress authorizes the agencies to provide technical assistance and monetary grants for emergency planning, training, and equipment acquisition. Federal preparedness programs can be arranged into the following categories:

- Emergency management and planning,
- Training and equipment for first responders,
- Weapons of mass destruction and hazardous materials,
- Law enforcement, and
- Public health and medical community.

This report will be updated as relevant programs are created, modified, or terminated.

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Terrorism Preparedness: A Catalog of Federal Assistance Programs

Introduction to Preparedness Programs

This report lists and describes selected federal programs that assist states and localities with preparing for terrorist attacks, particularly those involving weapons of mass destruction. Some of the programs are authorized specifically for this purpose, while others are general assistance programs that recipients may use for terrorism preparedness.

Preparedness programs are administered by several agencies, including the Departments of Defense, Justice, and Health and Human Services, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and others. These agencies provide technical assistance and monetary grants for emergency planning, training, and equipment acquisition. The programs can be arranged into the following categories:

- Emergency management and planning,
- Training and equipment for first responders,
- Weapons of mass destruction and hazardous materials,
- Law enforcement, and
- Public health and medical community.

For each program, **Table 1** provides the program title, administering agency, description (with web site, if available), and CRS contact. For those programs registered in the *Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance* (CFDA), the program number is provided after the title. For information on a specific program, please see the CFDA web site at [<http://www.cfda.gov>], the program web site, or, for the most up-to-date information, contact the listed CRS analyst.

Several of the listed programs are currently administered by the Department of Justice's Office of National Domestic Preparedness.¹ Presently, these programs are in the process of being transferred to FEMA's Office of National Preparedness. It is not yet clear whether this new office will assume the overall responsibilities of the Justice Department's office.²

¹See web site at: [<http://www.ndpo.gov/>].

²For more information on this issue, see the CRS Terrorism Briefing Book page on First Responder Training: [<http://www.congress.gov/brbk/html/ebter77.html>].

For more information on state and local emergency preparedness, please see the following CRS products:

- CRS Terrorism Briefing Book, at [<http://www.congress.gov/brbk/html/ebter1.shtml>]; see web pages listed under the heading “Domestic Emergency Response,” particularly *First Responder Training*.
- CRS Report RS20071, *United States Fire Administration: An Overview*, by Len Kruger.
- CRS Report RS20272, *FEMA's Mission: Policy Directives for the Federal Emergency Management Agency*, by Keith Bea.

The U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) has published several reports with evaluations of federal programs for state and local terrorism preparedness. GAO has listed these reports on its web site, [<http://www.gao.gov>]. The reports listed below directly address federal programs for terrorism preparedness:

- *Observations on the Nunn-Lugar-Domenici Domestic Preparedness Programs*, GAO/T-NSIAD-99-16, October 1998.
- *Combating Terrorism: FEMA Continues to Make Progress in Coordinating Preparedness and Response*, GAO-01-15, March 2001.
- *Combating Terrorism: Selected Challenges and Related Recommendations*, GAO-01-822, September 2001.

For assistance with any further questions on state and local emergency preparedness, congressional clients may contact Ben Canada at 7-0632.

Table 1. Selected Federal Grant Programs for State and Local Emergency Preparedness

Program^a	Agency	Description	CRS Contact
Emergency Management and Planning			
Emergency Management Institute (83.527, 83.529, 83.530)	Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	Training and grants for training to state and local emergency response personnel; intended to improve emergency management practices among state, local, and tribal government managers, and federal officials as well, in response to emergencies and disasters; programs embody the Comprehensive Emergency Management System by unifying the elements of management common to all emergencies: preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery. [http://www.fema.gov/emi/]	Keith Bea 7-8672
Emergency Management Performance Grants (83.552)	FEMA	Grants to states to develop comprehensive emergency management, including terrorism consequence management preparedness, at the state and local level, and to improve emergency planning, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery capabilities. [http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fedguide/ch1-92.htm]	Keith Bea 7-8672
National Fire Academy Training Assistance (83.009, 83.010)	U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) (FEMA)	Training for state and local emergency officials to increase the professional level of the fire service and others responsible for fire prevention and control. [http://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/]	Len Kruger 7-7070
Training and Equipment for First Responders			
First Responder Counter-Terrorism Training Assistance (83.547)	USFA (FEMA)	Grants to states to enhance the capabilities of first responders in managing the consequences of terrorist acts; training is provided through each of the 50 states through individual state fire training systems; the training is targeted for first responders, those who will come into contact with, and be forced to manage, the consequences of terrorist acts. [http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fedguide/ch1-1.htm]	Len Kruger 7-7070
State Fire Training System Grants (83.553)	USFA (FEMA)	Financial assistance to state fire training systems for the delivery of a variety of National Fire Academy courses/programs. [http://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/]	Len Kruger 7-7070

Program ^a	Agency	Description	CRS Contact
Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant Program	USFA (FEMA)	Grants made directly to fire departments to train and equip firefighting personnel. Activities include: establish wellness and fitness programs for firefighting personnel; buy firefighting vehicles, including fire trucks (no more than 25% of the total amount appropriated may be awarded to purchase vehicles); buy firefighting equipment, including equipment for communications and monitoring; buy personal protective equipment; fund fire prevention programs (FEMA is directed to award no less than 5% of the total amount appropriated in each FY in this category). [http://www.usfa.fema.gov/grants/factsheet.htm]	Len Kruger 7-7070
Weapons of Mass Destruction and Hazardous Materials			
State Domestic Preparedness Equipment Support Program (16.007)	Office for Domestic Preparedness (DOJ)	Grants to states to provide training to state and local jurisdictions to respond to Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) domestic terrorist incidents involving nuclear, biological, chemical, and explosive devices, execute a comprehensive threat and needs assessment, develop a 3-year plan to enhance first responder capabilities, and provide for equipment purchases and the provision of specialized training. [http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/terrorism/funding.htm]	Bill Ellis 7-6928
State and Local Domestic Preparedness Training Program (16.008)	Office for Domestic Preparedness (DOJ)	Grants to provide training to state and local jurisdictions to respond to Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) domestic terrorist incidents involving nuclear, biological, chemical, and explosive devices. [http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/]	Bill Ellis 7-6928
State and Local Domestic Preparedness Exercise Support (16.009)	Office for Domestic Preparedness (DOJ)	Grants to provide exercise planning to state and local jurisdictions and to conduct national, state, and local exercises for response to Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) domestic terrorist incidents involving nuclear, biological, chemical, and explosive devices. [http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/]	Bill Ellis 7-6928

Program ^a	Agency	Description	CRS Contact
State and Local Domestic Preparedness Technical Assistance (16.010)	Office for Domestic Preparedness (DOJ)	Technical assistance grants to state and local jurisdictions in enhancing their capacity and preparedness to respond to Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) domestic terrorist incidents involving nuclear, biological, chemical, and explosive devices. The program goals are to enhance the ability of state and local jurisdictions to develop, plan, and implement a program for WMD preparedness, and to sustain and maintain specialized equipment. [http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/]	Bill Ellis 7-6928
State and Local Anti-Terrorism Training (16.614)	Office for Domestic Preparedness (DOJ)	Training and technical assistance for specialized, multiagency anti-terrorism preparedness courses; while state and local law enforcement preparation and readiness issues addressed in this project are tailored to interventions in domestic terrorism, major portions of the programs' preparedness and operational readiness outcomes are equally applicable to any terrorist threat or incident, whether domestically or internationally inspired. [http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/]	Bill Ellis 7-6928
Hazardous Materials Assistance Program (83.012)	FEMA	Grants provide technical and financial assistance through the states to support state, local, and Indian tribal governments in oil and hazardous materials emergency planning and exercising; to enhance state, tribal, and local governments' capabilities to inter-operate with the National Response System (NRS); to support the Comprehensive Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) Emergency Response – Capability Assessment Program (CHER-CAP) Activities [http://www.fema.gov]	Keith Bea 7-8672
Law Enforcement			
Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance (16.579)	Office of Justice Programs (DOJ)	Discretionary and formula grants to develop and implement antiterrorism training and to obtain equipment for local law enforcement personnel. [http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA]	Garrine Laney 7-2518

Program ^a	Agency	Description	CRS Contact
Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (16.592)	Office of Justice Programs (DOJ)	Formula grant program to support: purchasing of equipment, technology, and other material directly related to basic law enforcement functions; hiring and training additional law enforcement officers and necessary support personnel; enhancing security in and around schools and other facilities or locations that are considered a special risk for incidents of crime; and establishing multijurisdictional task forces composed of local and federal law enforcement officials to prevent and control crime. [http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA]	Garrine Laney 7-2518
Law Enforcement Assistance – FBI Field Police Training (16.302)	Federal Bureau of Investigation (DOJ)	To develop the professional skills of non-federal law enforcement personnel. Courses available from FBI instructors range from basic recruit training to specialized instruction in such areas as fingerprinting, legal topics, police-community relations, hostage negotiation, white collar crime, organized crime, computer fraud, management techniques, investigative support, criminal investigative analysis, etc.	Garrine Laney 7-2518
Public Health and Medical Community			
Metropolitan Medical Response Systems (MMRS)	Office of Emergency Preparedness (Department of Health and Human Services)	HHS/OEP technical assistance to states and localities to develop a coordinated systems (fire, police, EMS, hospital, public health, etc.) response to WMD incidents. HHS/OEP approaches MMRS development from two perspectives, chemical and biological. The assistance is primarily for planning activities, such as planning for mass prophylaxis of exposed and potentially exposed populations, mass patient care, mass fatality management, and environment surety. [http://mmrs.hhs.gov/] or [http://ndms.dhhs.gov/CT_Program/MMRS/mmrs.html]	Pamela Smith 7-7048 or Steve Redhead 7-2261

Program ^a	Agency	Description	CRS Contact
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – State and Local Programs	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (HHS)	Grants and technical assistance to enhance capacity of state and local public health departments to deal with bioterror events. Activities include developing statewide bioterrorism preparedness plans; assessments of capabilities and needs; detection and investigation of infectious disease outbreaks; upgrading public health laboratory capacity to deal with biological and chemical agents; further developing the Health Alert Network for information exchange; technology improvements. [http://www.bt.cdc.gov/]	Pamela Smith 7-7048 or Steve Redhead 7-2261
USAMRIID Training for Public Health Professionals	U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (DOD)	Training opportunities for public health professionals. Courses focus on recognizing signs of bioterror attack, planning and preparation for treating casualties, and preventing spread of disease. [http://www.usamriid.army.mil/education/index.html]	Steve Bowman 7-7613

a. Most federal assistance programs are listed in the *Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance* (CFDA). The CFDA number has been provided for all programs registered in the catalog. The CFDA is online at [<http://www.cfda.gov/>].