

## **Online Courses in Disaster Preparedness**

In addition to the classroom and self-paced options, online training can help MRC members to keep up with important concepts in disaster response.

The following courses can be taken at each member's convenience, and are highly recommended by the Center for Emergency Preparedness in Massachusetts.

### **I. NIMS Training**

This course provides a basic understanding of NIMS: the National Incident Management System.

According to Homeland Security Presidential Directives, all agencies that receive federal all-hazards preparedness funding must be in compliance with NIMS. (This material builds on existing training for ICS: the Incident Command System.)

The NIMS approach is crucial to public health care providers who are working with other agencies and disciplines. The course is available at the following site:

<http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS700.asp>

Click on the "Interactive Web-based Course" and follow the instructions. It takes about three hours to complete the course.

### **II. Terrorism and Public Health**

The State University of New York at Albany has developed an excellent course on terrorism that focuses specifically on public health. The course covers the basics of epidemiology and biological, chemical, and radiological threats, incorporating the elements of public health planning. The course is available at the following site:

<http://www.ualbanycphp.org/learning/registration/default.cfm>

Click on "Register for this Course" and follow the instructions. Participants who engage in all lessons of the course and who successfully complete the exam (80% or higher within two tries) will be eligible for 6 hours CME/CHES or 7.2 hours CNE.

### **III. FEMA Courses**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency web site offers numerous all-hazards online courses, which are available at no charge:

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/>

Members are encouraged to explore this site at their convenience, and to take all FEMA online courses that may be of interest.