



Weapons of Mass Destruction Installation Preparedness Course Descriptions

The Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC) is the U.S. Army's principal research and development center for chemical and biological defense technology, engineering, and services. ECBC has achieved major technological advances for national defense, civilian needs, and industrial competitiveness, with a long and distinguished history of providing the Armed Forces with quality systems and outstanding customer service. ECBC is located at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD.

ECBC's Homeland Defense Business Unit (HLDBU) offers several courses aimed at improving installation preparedness and response for incidents involving chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, or explosive (CBRNE) weapons of mass destruction (WMD). Courses can be offered directly to students or as train-the-trainer. Translation of material is available upon request. The training is provided at your location by mobile teams of subject matter experts.

Employee Awareness (Video)

Employee Awareness training is a 30-minute video presentation intended to provide basic WMD awareness to a diversified audience of installation military, civilians and dependents. There is a separate module in the video that specifically targets 911 call takers and dispatchers. The training is presented in layman's terms and is available in both English and Spanish. There is no instructor requirement; however, a facilitator is recommended to guide you through the video. The video covers the following:

- General aspects of WMD terrorism
- Information to recognize a WMD terrorist incident through signs and symptoms and possible dissemination devices
- Self-protection measures and notification to the proper authorities

Instructional materials include a facilitator's guide, a pamphlet for the participants (both English and Spanish), and a checklist for 911 call takers and dispatchers.



Command and Staff Workshop

The workshop is a 3-hour course intended to provide the installation commander and staff members awareness of the implications of a WMD incident on their installation. The interactive workshop employs video clips, case studies, lecture, and discussion to promote understanding among installation officials of the impacts of a WMD incident on their installation and their mission. The workshop has the following objectives:

- Develop an awareness of the impact of a WMD incident on the mission
- Assess the potential risk to the installation of a WMD incident
- Understand the implications of a WMD incident on the installation
- Understand the need for an integrated response
- Develop an awareness for special considerations of WMD response

Suggested class size: 20–30

Responder Awareness

The 4-hour Responder Awareness course is an introductory course designed for emergency responders, installation planners, and support personnel, such as family services and public works. The goal of this course is to enable participants to recognize the signs and symptoms of chemical and biological agents and nuclear/radiological materials, to recognize potential devices used for dissemination, to make proper notifications, and to take defensive

actions to safeguard themselves and the installation. This course covers the following:

- Introduction to the WMD terrorism threat
- Nuclear/radiological, biological, and chemical materials
- Dissemination devices
- Responder actions

Prior to enrollment in the Responder Awareness course, participants should have a basic understanding of principles and procedures for responding to a hazardous material incident.

Suggested class size: 25–50

Responder Operations

The 4-hour Responder Operations course is designed specifically for incident response teams in a defensive mode. The goal of this course is to teach the technical aspects of WMD incidents and the defensive actions required for responders to protect themselves and their installation. This course covers the following:

- Responder actions at the operations level
- Chemical downwind hazard analysis
- Personal protection
- Introduction to detection and identification
- Emergency decontamination procedures
- Practical exercise

The Responder Awareness course is a prerequisite for this course.

Suggested class size: 25–50

Technician-HazMat

The 16-hour Technician-HazMat course is specifically designed for HazMat technicians. HazMat technicians learn the difference between responding to WMD terrorist incidents and HazMat events. The goal of this course is to provide HazMat technicians with an understanding of the technical aspects of WMD incidents and the offensive actions required to protect themselves and their installation. This course covers the same subjects as the Responder Awareness and Responder Operations courses, but at a more advanced level. The course covers the following:

- Responder actions at the HazMat technician level
- Hands-on detection and identification exercise
- WMD agents at the HazMat technician level
- Protective equipment
- Decontamination procedures

- Chemical classification, detection, and identification
- Practical exercise
- Downwind hazard analysis
- Dissemination devices

The participants should be HazMat technician qualified prior to enrollment. No WMD installation preparedness (IP) course prerequisites are required.

Suggested class size: 15–20

Technician-EMS

The 8-hour Technician-EMS course instructs emergency medical technicians and paramedics on the unique aspects of a response to a WMD terrorist event. The goal of this course is to enable the participants to understand the technical aspects of WMD incidents and the defensive actions required by EMS responders to protect themselves and their installation. This course includes the following:

- Introduction to the WMD terrorism threat
- Possible dissemination devices
- Recognizing WMD exposure
- Trends indicating possible events
- Safe and legal antidote requirements
- Unique triage of potential mass casualties and emergency medical field treatment demands
- Unique considerations to treat victims of a WMD terrorist incident

The course consists of lectures, demonstrations, and practical exercises, to include personal protection measures, detection, decontamination, and triage. No WMD IP course prerequisites are required.

Suggested class size: 15–20

Medical Facility Provider

The 8-hour Medical Facility Provider course provides emergency department physicians and nurses with an understanding of the medical aspects of WMD incidents and the defensive actions required to protect themselves and their emergency department. This course includes some of the same topics as the Technician-EMS course, but at a more advanced level. This course covers the following:

- Introduction to the WMD terrorism threat
- Diagnosis and treatment of victims of a WMD incident
- Unique public health guidelines
- Special considerations for hospital personnel dealing with a WMD incident:

- Management of contaminated victims
- Decontamination of contaminated victims
- Protection against cross-contamination using personal protective measures

Course format includes classroom lecture with demonstrations and case studies. No WMD IP course prerequisites are required.

Suggested class size: 10–25

Incident Command

The 8-hour Incident Command course provides incident commanders and key responders with the necessary information and considerations to manage a WMD incident effectively. The course consists of 4 hours of lecture and a 4-hour tabletop exercise. Specific topics include coordination of resources, protective measures and associated risks, evacuation versus shelter-in-place considerations, perimeter security measures, management of mass casualties, and applications of the Federal Response Plan. The goal of this course is to familiarize the participants with the challenges, consequences, and special considerations of incident commanders when dealing with WMD incidents. This course covers the following:

- Challenges and consequences of management in a WMD incident

- Tactical considerations and actions for WMD incidents
- Understanding the roles of the federal government in a WMD terrorist incident
- WMD terrorism response and planning exercises

The Responder Awareness and Responder Operations courses or any of the technician level courses (Technician-EMS, Technician-HazMat, or Medical Facility Provider) are prerequisites for the Incident Command course.

Suggested class size: 10–20

The installation preparedness program has trained over 10,000 emergency responders and has translated the training materials into Japanese, Italian, and German. The installation preparedness courses can be tailored upon request.

For more information, contact the Homeland Defense Business Unit, U.S. Army ECBC at (410) 436-3674 or visit the web site at <http://www.ecbc.army.mil/hld>.