

Training Format

CERT training consists of a combination of classroom and hands-on learning, taught in a series of two hour modules over a period of approximately nine weeks. Typically one module is taught per week, scheduled in the evening hours.

You will train alongside members of your community that will be part of your **CERT** Team, as well as with participants from other neighborhoods. Classes are taught by professionals from the Mayor's Office of Emergency Preparedness, Boston Police and Fire Department, Boston Emergency Medical Services, the Boston Public Health Commission, the American Red Cross, and other agencies active in emergency preparedness.

How do I Join?

CERT program participants must be 18 years of age, successfully complete a CORI check, and complete all training sessions for certification. For more information, to find out if there is an active **CERT** program in your community, or to sign up, contact the Mayor's Office of Emergency Preparedness at:

(617) 635-1400

**www.cityofboston.gov/cert, or
CERT@cityofboston.gov**



Mayor Thomas M. Menino honors the Charlestown CERT team at their graduation ceremony.

Corporate and Campus CERT

The City of Boston **CERT** program is expanding to the private sector through the creation of Corporate and Campus **CERT** programs.

Boston Businesses can sponsor training to strengthen their employees' ability to be prepared for and address emergencies.

Boston colleges and universities may sponsor training to strengthen their ability to be prepared for and address emergencies on campus and in their communities.



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City of Boston
CERT
Program

Join Today!



Mayor Thomas M. Menino

What is **CERT**?

The Boston Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program trains citizens to prepare for and respond to emergencies in their communities.

CERT is a critical component of the national Citizen Corps program, which aims to make communities safer, stronger, and better prepared through education, training, and volunteer service. Here in Boston, the **CERT** program is part of Ready Boston, Boston's community preparedness initiative which encourages individuals to create a plan, make a kit, be informed and **GET INVOLVED**.

Through **CERT**, citizens learn skills and concepts that prepare them to assist victims, organize volunteers, and help their neighbors recover in the aftermath of a disaster. **CERT** also teaches people how to prepare their homes, their families, and their communities in order to reduce the impact of a disaster.

Upon completion of the **CERT** program, you will be part of a team of volunteers that is ready and able to take action to prepare and protect your community.



Learn to Prepare and Protect Your **Family**, Your **Home**, and Your **Community**.

CERT Training Will Prepare You To . . .

- Understand the hazards that can affect your neighborhood
- Identify and reduce fire hazards in your home or business
- Perform basic first aid
- Assist in the operation of an emergency shelter
- Distribute commodities in an emergency or disaster
- Assess and provide for human services needs following a disaster
- Make an emergency preparedness kit for your home
- Make an emergency plan for your family or business
- Teach your neighbors about emergency preparedness

Course Overview

- Session 1:** Disaster Preparedness
- Session 2:** **CERT** organization
- Session 3:** Disaster Medical Ops
- Session 4:** Commodities Distribution
- Session 5:** Search & Rescue Hazards
- Session 6:** Fire Safety & All Hazards
- Session 7:** Emergency Shelter Ops
- Session 8:** Disaster Psychology
- Session 9:** Final Exercise

The Final Exercise:
Shelter Operations Simulation -
An exercise based in your community to apply acquired skills, with an emphasis on setting up and operating a neighborhood shelter.

Each class will be 2 hours in length for a total of 18 hours of training.



dorchester mission hills south end north end charlestown