



**MA Responds Orientation Course Materials**

**September 2021**

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# Welcome

Welcome to this introductory course for MA Responds volunteers. This course provides an overview on how to prepare for and respond to a public health emergency or other event. It is intended to complement additional training volunteers will receive through face to face meetings with their local MRC unit or other volunteer group, other courses recommended by volunteer coordinators and training provided on-site when you participate in an actual deployment or exercise.

## Learning Objectives

By completing the modules of this course you will be able to:

- Identify volunteer roles in *MA Responds*
- Outline volunteer responsibilities
- Define a public health emergency
- List examples of types of public health events and emergencies
- Explain the benefits and key roles of an Incident Command System (ICS)
- List five functions of the ICS
- Describe crisis and emergency risk communication
- Identify the central person who controls communication
- Prepare yourself and your family in the event of an emergency
- Recognize ways to help individuals with disabilities or access and functional needs effected by a public health event
- Describe the MA Responds system activation process
- Outline requirements and activation information for volunteers
- List priorities for safety and security
- Identify the components of proper hand hygiene and use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Define groups that may require additional assistance
- Define common behavioral health reactions to emergencies
- Identify people most at risk and ways *MA Responds* volunteers can help