

Term	Definition
Activation	MRC activation is the unit-specific process for a unit to notify volunteers of an event and the unit's response roles, including personnel and resources for public health activities and emergency operations.
Background check	Search for existence of criminal records for an applicant.
Certification	Formal document that shows an applicant has successfully completed the education, training, and experience needed to specialize in a certain healthcare area. Registration and certification are sometimes synonymous; both often require education, training, and passing an examination. Certification or registration is sometimes a prerequisite for taking a State licensure examination or, sometimes, accepted in lieu of taking a licensure examination.
Command:	The act of directing or controlling resources under the authority of explicit legal or agency authority or delegated authority. May also refer to the Incident Commander.
Command Staff	Consists of the Public Information Officer (PIO), Safety Officer (SO) and Liaison Officer (LO). They report directly to the Incident Commander.
Credential	License, diploma, or other documented evidence of, or testimony to, a person's education, training, or other abilities.
Demobilization	The process of winding down a response, including tracking volunteers and equipment, and addressing responder needs and experiences after a deployment.
Deployment	The deployment phase starts after an emergency occurs, includes steps to activate volunteers and prepare them for an identified response mission, and identifies responsibilities during a deployment.
Epidemiology:	The scientific study of diseases; includes analyzing the occurrence and distribution of diseases and the factors that govern their spread.
Epidemiologist:	A professional skilled in disease investigation. Epidemiologists design and conduct epidemiological studies, analyze data to detect patterns and trends in disease, establish and maintain surveillance systems, monitor health status and evaluate the performance and cost effectiveness of public health programs.
Emergency Management:	<p>The effort of the state and political subdivisions to develop, plan, analyze, conduct, provide, implement and maintain programs for disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.</p> <p>Emergency management activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Mitigation: eliminating hazards or reducing their potential impact</li> <li>•Preparedness: planning, training, and exercising for disastrous events</li> <li>•Response: taking action when a disaster occurs to save lives, prevent injuries, and prevent or limit property damage</li> <li>•Recovery: restoring normalcy after the disaster</li> </ul> <p>These activities are not the sole responsibility of the designated emergency management agency. Virtually all agencies have a role, but most particularly law enforcement, fire services, public works, and public health.</p>
Emergency Operations Plan	An EOP is a document that contains information on actions that may be taken by a governmental jurisdiction to protect people and property in a disaster or disaster-threat situation. It describes actions that may be required for any hazard, natural or technological, including the effects of nuclear war. It details the tasks that are to be carried out by specified organizational elements at

	projected places and times based on established objectives, assumptions, and a realistic assessment of capabilities.
Event	A planned, non-emergency activity. The incident command system (ICS) can be used as the management system for events to practice and reinforce response plans. Event planning usually includes contingency plans that might occur during the event.
Exercise	Examination of potential emergency situations for the purpose of evaluating Emergency Response procedures. Also known as drills, simulations, or tests. Exercises can be very simple or very complex, depending on the objectives of the exercise.
Healthcare volunteer	A qualified healthcare professional who voluntarily renders aid or performs a health service without pay or other remuneration.
Hot Wash	A facilitated discussion that is held immediately following an exercise, planned event, or emergency response and should include participants from each functional area. The hot wash is an opportunity for participants to share opinions of the exercise. It is designed to capture feedback about any issues, concerns, or proposed improvements participants may have. This facilitated meeting allows players to participate in a self-assessment and provides a general assessment of how the jurisdiction performed.
Incident	An actual or impending hazard, caused by humans or by natural phenomena, requiring action by emergency personnel to prevent or minimize loss of life or damage to property and/ or natural resources.
Incident Commander (IC)	The individual responsible for all incident activities, including the development of strategies and tactics and the ordering and the release of resources. The IC has overall authority and responsibility for conducting incident operations and is responsible for the management of all incident operations at the incident site.
Incident Management Team (IMT)	The Incident Commander and appropriate Command and General Staff personnel assigned to an incident.
Joint Information Center (JIC)	A facility established to coordinate all incident-related public information activities. It is the central point of contact for all news media at the scene of the incident.
Licensure	Affirmation by a duly constituted government, usually the state, that a specific individual has met certain prescribed qualifications and is therefore recognized under law to engage in certain activities.
License Lookup	This is a free public information service provided by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation for organizations and citizens to review the status of health care professionals in Illinois. Link: <a href="https://online-dfpr.micropact.com/lookup/licenselookup.aspx">https://online-dfpr.micropact.com/lookup/licenselookup.aspx</a>
Localities	Cities and Counties throughout Illinois.
Local Health Department:	means a State-certified health department of a unit of local government.
Local vs. Non-Local Response	Local responses are managed through the jurisdiction's emergency management agency in accordance with local emergency response plans. MRC Volunteers may be called upon to help support their local response plans. In some cases, MRC Volunteers may be asked to support an emergency response outside of their local jurisdiction as part of a mutual aid agreement or through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) system.

Mission Set	The term 'Mission Set' is used to describe a scalable response and recovery capability for MRC units and volunteers that is organized, developed, trained, and exercised prior to an emergency or disaster.
MRC Volunteer Deployment	The process by which MRC volunteers receive training, are assigned a job assignment, and support incident response activities within the ICS structure on behalf of their MRC unit. Deployments can be local, intrastate, or interstate functions.
Occupation	Professions as well as other non-licensed occupational categories
Post-Deployment	The post-deployment phase begins once a deployment mission has been completed and includes activities to close out assigned mission response roles and administrative activities.
Pre-Deployment	The pre-deployment phase includes activities that happen during steady state to prepare volunteers or emergency responders for potential deployments.
Preparedness	Preparedness is the phase of emergency management taken in advance of an emergency. Preparedness activities develop operational capabilities and facilitate an effective response in the event an emergency occurs. Typical preparedness activities include response planning, resource management, training for response personnel, hazard analysis, building and maintaining EOCs, communications, and warning systems.
Privileges	Authorization from an employer, such as a hospital, entitling certain healthcare professionals (advanced practice registered nurse, dentist, physician (doctor of medicine and doctor of osteopathy), physician assistant, and psychologist) to provide patient care, treatment, and services at that hospital.
Public Health Emergency	Public health emergencies occur every day across the United States. Tornadoes, hurricanes, wildfires, floods, infectious disease outbreaks, terrorist attacks, and other emergencies have the potential to impact the overall health of large populations of people and may require a coordinated emergency response.
Rapid Deployment	The rapid deployment phase includes activities that happen at the onset of emergencies that require expedited deployment.
Readiness	During the readiness phase, emergency response personnel prepare and coordinate appropriate response plans. They also establish organizations to execute plans, train personnel and organizations to the required level of proficiency, evaluate the response organization's ability to execute plans, and educate the public to the potential threat, including emergency response procedures.
Reception Area	A location, separate from staging areas, where resources report in for processing and out-processing. Reception Areas provide accountability, security, situational awareness briefings, safety awareness, distribution of Incident Action Plans (IAPs), supplies and equipment, feeding, and bed down.
Recovery:	The final phase of the emergency management cycle. Recovery continues until all systems return to normal, or near normal. Short-term recovery returns vital life support systems to minimum operating standards. Long-term recovery from a disaster may go on for years until the entire disaster area is completely redeveloped; either as it was in the past or for entirely new purposes that is less disaster-prone.
Response	Emergency response or responding to emergencies means a response effort by employees from outside the immediate release area or by other designated responders (i.e., mutual-aid groups, local fire departments, etc.) to an occurrence which results, or is likely to result, in an uncontrolled release of a hazardous substance. Responses to incidental releases of hazardous

	substances where the substance can be absorbed, neutralized, or otherwise controlled at the time of release by employees in the immediate release area, or by maintenance personnel are not considered to be emergency responses within the scope of this standard. Responses to releases of hazardous substances where there is no potential safety or health hazard (i.e., fire, explosion, or chemical exposure) are not considered to be emergency responses.
Specialty certification	Recognition by a recognized national certifying organization of a healthcare professional's education, training, and skills in a specialty practice area of his or her profession.
Staging Area	Any location in which personnel, supplies, and equipment can be temporarily housed or parked while awaiting operational assignment.
Tabletop Exercise	An activity in which elected or appointed officials and key staff with emergency management responsibilities are gathered together informally, usually in a conference room, to discuss various simulated emergency situations. The exercise is designed to elicit constructive discussion by the participants without time constraints as they examine and then attempt to resolve problems based on existing emergency operations plans. The purpose is for participants to evaluate plans and procedures and to resolve questions of coordination and assignment of responsibilities throughout the exercise in a non-threatening format and under minimum stress (2 to 4 hours).
Unencumbered license	Free of any licensure restriction that impedes or prohibits the ability of a license holder to practice within the profession.

Acronym	Definition
ACS	Alternate Care Site
ASPR	Administration for Strategic Planning and Response
CDC	U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CERT	Community Emergency Response Team: CERT educates people about disaster preparedness and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, and disaster medical operations. Using their training, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event and can take a more active role in preparing their community.
COVID-19	The novel SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus
CRC	Community Reception Center
DHS	U.S. Department of Homeland Security
DMPH	Disaster Medicine and Public Health
EMAC	Emergency Medical Assistance Compact
EMS (Personnel)	Emergency Medical Services Personnel: means persons licensed as an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) (First Responder), Emergency Medical Dispatcher (EMD), Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate (EMT-I), Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (A-EMT), Paramedic (EMT-P), amongst others.
EOC	Emergency Operations Center: The physical location at which the coordination of information and resources to support emergencies take place. Some health departments have health department emergency operation centers or (PHEOCs).

ESAR-VHP	Emergency System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals: federal name for a statewide volunteer registry. Illinois' ESAR-VHP is Illinois HELPS.
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
HHS	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
IAP	Incident Action Plan: A written plan containing general objectives reflecting the overall strategy for managing an incident.
ICS	Incident Command System: A standardized on-scene emergency management construct specifically designed to provide for the adoption of an integrated organizational structure that reflects the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. ICS is the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure, designed to aid in the management of resources during incidents. It is used for all kinds of emergencies and is applicable to small as well as large and complex incidents. ICS is used by various jurisdictions and functional agencies, both public and private, to organize field-level incident management operations.
IS	Independent Study
JITT	Just-in-Time Training
MRC	Medical Reserve Corps
MRP	Mission Ready Package
NACCHO	National Association of County and City Health Officials
NDMS	National Disaster Medical System
NIMS	National Incident Management System: A system mandated by HSPD-5 that provides a consistent nationwide approach for Federal, State, local, and tribal governments; the private-sector; and nongovernmental organizations to work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size or complexity. To provide for interoperability and compatibility among Federal, State, local, and tribal capabilities, the NIMS includes a core set of concepts, principles, and terminology.
OEM	Office of Emergency Management
PCR	Patient Care Report
PFA	Psychological First Aid
PHEM	Public Health Emergency Management
PIO	Public Information Officer
POD	Point of Dispensing
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
SARS-CoV-2	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2