



Providing the public with timely, accurate and complete information that will enable citizens to protect themselves in an emergency is a challenge and responsibility facing all emergency management officials. The Joint Information System/Joint Information Center (JIS/JIC) has been designed specifically to meet the informational needs of the public and media during an emergency.

Argonne National Laboratory's JIS/JIC Workshop provides responders with the concepts, tools and skills necessary to effectively manage information during a crisis. The course has been developed by public information professionals with experience on critical incidents large and small. It is designed within the framework of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS) and provides a methodology for handling emergency information regardless of the type of incident or the number of responding agencies involved.

In this two-day, interactive workshop, you will learn why you need a JIS/JIC, how it works, the functions to be performed, and the team, equipment and facility layout needed to get the job done. The course also includes modules designed to build the public information skills of individuals who will perform various functions within the JIS/JIC.

On the final day, you will participate in a highly interactive JIC-based training activity using a scenario that tests the emergency information response capabilities of participating organizations. Experienced controllers guide the exercise play while simulating interactions with the public and the news media. News stories and social media posts reflect what would be reported on traditional and social media channels during an actual emergency event. This gives players the opportunity to respond in a controlled environment where their decisions can be assessed.

The training activity concludes with a discussion of how the JIC functioned, issue identification, why the media and public focused on the issues they did, how player performance influenced external audiences, and other lessons learned directly from JIC staff.

This course is designed for:

- Public information officers and public affairs officers
- JIC staff (all positions)
- Federal, state and local emergency management and response directors
- Elected and appointed officials
- Representatives from volunteer agencies and private sector organizations
- Contractors and volunteers
- And anyone else who will be involved in your emergency public information efforts

This course developed and presented by Argonne National Laboratory.

For more information, please contact:

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