



FACT SHEET– 2025 SB 180 TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

BACKGROUND

The Legislature passed Senate Bill (SB) 180 Emergencies on May 2, 2025, and Governor DeSantis signed it into law on June 26. The Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) requires a training requirements training for that county or municipal administrators, county or city managers, county or municipal emergency management directors, and county or municipal public works directors or other officials responsible for the construction and maintenance of public infrastructure must complete **biennially** in addition to the training required pursuant to section 252.38(1)(b), Florida Statutes. FDEM will provide training to meet these requirements or approve training to be given by a not-for-profit corporation.

TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

During the initial year, required individuals shall fulfill the **foundational course requirement** no later than twelve (12) months after the official start date within the position. Current elected officials shall be compliant no later than July 1st, 2026.

Personnel who hold the aforementioned roles shall comply with the training requirements using the guidance below. Additional courses can be approved at the discretion of the FDEM Executive Director or designee. The courses will serve as the **foundational** framework for understanding the emergency management profession from the Florida perspective. At least one of the courses below will be taken:

- **FL Senior Elected Officials Course (4hrs.)** - During disasters, it is imperative for local, state, and federal partners to relay communications and decisions effectively. This course discusses best practices for Senior Officials in Florida (executives, elected and appointed officials, city/county managers, agency administrators, etc.) on how to support their emergency management personnel during disasters. A large focus will be on communication and information sharing.
- **FL Local Coordinating Officer Course (4hrs.)** - This course provides key local staff with updated information on state and federal disaster assistance programs and processes, including statewide mutual aid, the role of the State EOC, and FEMA's Individual Assistance, Public Assistance, and Hazard Mitigation Programs. The focus is on management issues that local response and recovery officials may face in relationship with state and federal partners.
- **When the World Descends (4hrs.)** - This course paints the picture of "when the State Emergency Response Team (SERT) descends," an Incident Command Post (ICP) is set up, and what resources/support can be expected. This is an in-depth discussion of what resources are available, from equipment to personnel support, and how to establish and maintain communication between local, state and federal partners.

VERIFICATION AND REPORTING

Each applicable official shall register through the SERT TRAC platform for the course. At the conclusion, the official should upload their certificate as verification of attendance and to remain in compliance.

WAIVERS AND EXEMPTIONS

FDEM may grant waivers or extensions in cases of hardship, emergency deployment, or other qualifying circumstances, pursuant to the rule.

CONTACTS

If you have any questions on the training requirements, please contact the Education & Training Development Manager, Porschica Griffith at porschica.griffith@em.myflorida.com.

For any general questions regarding the Statute, please contact Legislative Affairs Director, Meigs Lamb at Meigs.Lamb@em.myflorida.com.