Santa Clara County ARES/RACES/ACS
On-Line FEMA ICS Training

Incident Command System Training

The Incident Command System (ICS) is a management system designed to enable effective and efficient domestic incident management by integrating a combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure. ICS is normally structured to facilitate activities in five major functional areas: command, operations, planning, logistics, finance and administration. It is a fundamental form of management, with the purpose of enabling incident managers to identify the key concerns associated with the incident—often under urgent conditions—without sacrificing attention to any component of the command system.

As volunteers we will often be working alongside the professionals and need to be versed in ICS. Many organizations require that volunteers take the basic ICS training classes as outlined below. These courses can be taken on-line in a few hours. When you complete the training, you will be provided a certificate showing your successful completion. Save this certificate and provide a copy to the served agency or your EC if they request it. These courses are required to earn Credentials and Endorsements,

IS-100 - Introduction to the Incident Command System: This independent study course introduces ICS and provides the foundation for higher level ICS training. It describes the history, features and principles, and organizational structure of the system. This course also explains the relationship between ICS and NIMS.

IS-200 - ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents: This independent study course is designed to enable personnel to operate efficiently during an incident or event within the ICS. ICS-200 provides training and resources for personnel who are likely to assume a supervisory position within the ICS.

IS-700 - NIMS, an Introduction: This independent study course introduces the NIMS concept. NIMS (National Incident Management System) provides a consistent nationwide template to enable all government, private-sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work together during domestic incidents.

These Independent Study Courses can be accessed from this link.

https://training.fema.gov/is/

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Note: Some courses have prerequisites (shown in red) which are also listed on the course page. These are not strictly enforced; but, to get the most out of the course, you should have previously attended the prerequisite courses. If you have not yet attended one or more of the prerequisites, you should carefully review the course materials for the missed prerequisites prior to attending the course. Then, be sure to attend any missed prerequisites at your earliest opportunity.

Introductory Courses

- **Introduction to Emergency Communications**

  This is an introductory course for new hams who may be interested in Emergency Communications. It is the first in a series of courses offered to prepare Amateur Radio Operators to provide Emergency Communications (EmComm). This class is useful for new hams to gain the basic concepts of simplex, repeaters, and working within a net.

- **Fundamentals of Emergency Communications**

  Pre-Requisites
   Introduction to Emergency Communications or approved equivalent substitute

  This is an introductory training course for hams who are new to Emergency Communications (EmComm) in Santa Clara County. It is the second in a series of courses offered for new hams who may be interested in EmComm **or** experienced hams who are new to EmComm or new to Santa Clara County ARES/RACES procedures.

Core Courses

Note: ICS resource types are numbered using Roman numerals, with Type **I** as the highest. Therefore, the course for Type **III** comes before the Type II course.

- **Field Operations - Type III, Part A & B, Type II**

  Pre-Requisites
   Introduction to Emergency Communications or approved equivalent substitute
   Fundamentals of Emergency Communications
   ICS-214-SCCo Unit Activity Log (20-minute self-paced video)

  This two-part course is designed to prepare individuals to perform field communicator duties as a fully independent operator. This is the basics that other courses build upon.

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- **Net Control - Type III, Part A and Part B**

    Pre-Requisites
    Field Operations Type III Parts A & B, Type II
    Message Passing

    This two-part course is designed to prepare individuals to perform net control duties as a fully independent operator for low to medium speed county nets and city or event nets.

- **Net Control - Type II**

    Pre-Requisites
    Net Control Type III Parts A & B
    Antenna Fundamentals
    Crossband Repeat

    This course covers advanced net control techniques, procedures and equipment for operating medium-to-high speed nets.

- **Packet Operations - Type III, Part A and Part B**

    Pre-Requisites
    Field Operations Type III Parts A & B, Type II

    This two-part course is designed to prepare an individual to assemble and operate an existing packet station. Part A focuses on the individual packet station. It covers the components of a baseline station and how to assemble it and send a message to yourself. Part B includes hands-on exercises focused on configuring and operating the baseline packet station. The Part B class may be taken with only a laptop with Wi-Fi capabilities to simulate a packet radio.

- **Packet Operations - Type II**

    Pre-Requisites
    Packet Operations Type III Parts A & B

    This course covers advanced packet usage and troubleshooting within the Santa Clara County packet network.

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- **Shadow Communicator - Type III**

    Pre-Requisites
    Field Operations Type III Parts A & B, Type II

    This course discusses how to be an effective shadow communicator for an event official, dignitary or other individual needing communication support.

- **Message Passing**

    Pre-Requisites
    Field Operations Type III Parts A & B, Type II

    This class will review message passing skills and work through tips and techniques for accurate and clear communications. It includes numerous exercises for practicing learned skills and techniques.

- **Cross-band Repeating**

    Pre-Requisites
    Field Operations Type III Parts A & B, Type II

    This course covers the advanced field communications technique of cross-band repeating.

- **Antenna Fundamentals and Safety**

    Pre-Requisites
    None; however, Field Operations Type III Parts A & B is suggested

    This course covers antenna location and safety concerns when setting up antennas at a site. A basic review of antenna fundamentals is included.

- **Event Planning – Type I**

    Pre-Requisites
    Must have completed any of the Type II classes in either Field Ops, Net Control, or Packet.

    This class will address the skills and planning activities necessary to create the plans for drills, public service events, and activations. The class will include interactive table-top exercises. Recommended for those in leadership positions or anyone who may be tasked with planning a drill, public service event or activation.

Link to class/event registration page: https://www.scc-ares-races.org/activities/   Rev. 20240131

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- **Year End Review**

  Pre-Requisites
  Any of the core courses listed at:
  https://www.scc-ares-races.org/training/ar-courses.shtml

  Offered in December each year to review the significant changes made to any classes or procedures during the year. This class does not replace the need to take the actual courses. It only covers changes to procedures and policies presented in the most recent classes.

- **County EOC Radio Room Orientation**

  Pre-Requisites
  Credentials: Net Control Type III <u>or</u> Packet Operator Type III Credential
  Mutual Aid Communicator Endorsement (MAC)

  This class will prepare operators for working in the radio room of the county Emergency Operations Center (EOC). This class is required to earn the 'County EOC Radio Room Operator' (ERO) <u>Endorsement</u> .

- **County EOC RACES Unit Leader**

  Pre-Requisites
  Credentials: Net Control Type II <u>and</u> Packet Operator Type II Credential
  County EOC Radio Room Operator Endorsement (ERO)

  This class will prepare operators to perform the role of RACES Unit Leader in the county EOC. This class is required to earn the 'County EOC RACES Unit Leader' (RUL) <u>Endorsement.</u>

- **County Fire Station Operations**

  Pre-Requisites
  Credentials: Field Operator Type III <u>and</u> Packet Operator Type III Credential

  This class will prepare operators to operate at a County Fire Station as a radio operator. This class is required to earn the 'County Fire Station Operator' (FRO) <u>Endorsement</u> .

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Recommended Course Progression Based on Prerequisites

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                    Introduction To
                      Emergency
                    Communications
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                          ▼
                    Fundamentals Of
                      Emergency
                    Communications
                          │
                          ▼
                    Field Operations
                    Type III Part A
                          │
                          ▼
                    Field Operations
                    Type III Part B
                       Type II
                          │
        ┌─────────────────┼─────────────────────────┬──────────────────┐
        ▼                 ▼                          ▼                  ▼
    Message        Cross-Band Repeat              Packet             Shadow
    Passing        ─────────────────          Communications
                        Antenna                Type III Part A
                     Fundamentals
        │                 │                          │
        ▼                 │                          ▼
   Net Control            │                       Packet
  Type III Part A         │                   Communications
                          │                   Type III Part B
        │                 │                          │
        ▼                 │                          ▼
   Net Control            │                       Packet
  Type III Part B         │                   Communications
                          │                      Type II
        │                 │
        ▼                 ▼
              Net Control
                Type II
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F3 & P3 Credential	N2 & P2 Credential ERO Endorsement		Any Type II Class	N3 or P3 Credential MAC Endorsement
▼	▼		▼	▼
ACES County Fire Station Operations	County EOC RACES Unit Leader Orientation		Event Planning Type I	County EOC Radio Room Orientation