



FACT SHEET– 2025 SB 180 TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

BACKGROUND

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

TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

During the initial implementation period, individuals subject to the training requirement should complete the foundational course no later than December 31, 2026. Thereafter, individuals assuming a covered position must complete the foundational course within 12 months of their official start date.

Because local government organizational structures vary across the state, FDEM defers to each entity's legal counsel to determine which positions within its organization meet the statutory requirements.

Personnel serving in the covered positions must satisfy the training requirement by completing at least one of the courses listed below. Additional courses may be approved at the discretion of the FDEM Executive Director or designee. These courses provide the foundational framework for understanding emergency management from a Florida perspective.

- **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

At the conclusion, the individual should upload their certificate as verification of attendance to fulfill the requirement.

EXTENSION REQUEST

In cases of hardship, emergency deployment, or other qualifying circumstances, individuals may request an extension of the training deadline by notifying FDEM.

CONTACTS

If you have any questions regarding 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. For questions regarding implementation of the statute, please consult with your entity's legal counsel.