



Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program Introduction Letter

Dear Interested Citizen:

Following a major disaster, first responders who provide fire and medical services can be overwhelmed with the demand for these services. Factors such as number of victims, communication failures, and road blockages will prevent people from accessing the emergency services they have come to expect at a moment's notice through 911. People sometimes may have to rely on each other for help in order to meet their immediate life saving and life sustaining needs.

In 2009, the West Sacramento Fire Department established a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program to assist our citizens in helping themselves. Our CERT Program educates ordinary people about disaster preparedness and weapons of mass destruction by providing training in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, and disaster medical operations. With proper CERT training, you can help protect your family, neighbors, and co-workers if a disaster occurs.

CERT training gives our members a better understanding of the potential threats to their home, workplace, and community and instructs them how to lessen the effects of these hazards. If a disaster happens that overwhelms local response capability, CERT members can apply the training learned in the classroom and during exercises to give critical support to their family, loved ones, and neighbors as directed by response personnel. In a non-emergency role, CERT members can assist with projects that improve the safety of the community, such as distributing and installing smoke alarms, replacing smoke alarm batteries in the homes of elderly, distributing disaster education material, providing services at special events, such as parades, sporting events, concerts and much more.



Our CERT Program is about readiness, people helping people, rescuer safety and doing the greatest good for the greatest number. The program is a positive and realistic approach to emergency and disaster situations where citizens will be initially on their own and their actions can make a difference. If you have an interest in learning how to prepare yourself for disaster and helping your community, we welcome you to join our team. Please contact our administration office at (916) 617-4600 or visit our website at http://www.cityofwestsacramento.org/city/depts/fire/prevention/cert_program.asp to received an application and register for the next academy.

Thank you for your interest in our program and we hope to see you at our next academy!



CERT DISASTER VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Personal Information

Last Name:	First Name:	MI:
SSN:	Driver's License #	DOB:
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Home Phone:	Work Phone:	
Cell Phone:	Cell Phone Provider (Verizon, Sprint, etc.):	
Email:		

Employment Data

Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Occupation:	Work Performed:	

Emergency Notification

Last Name:	First Name:	Relation:
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Home Phone:	Cell Phone:	

Experience/Skills

<input type="checkbox"/> Accounting/Clerical <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Care <input type="checkbox"/> Building Inspector <input type="checkbox"/> Construction <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy/Counseling <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Skills <input type="checkbox"/> CPR/AED/First Aid <input type="checkbox"/> Damage Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/> Doctor <input type="checkbox"/> EMT <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering <input type="checkbox"/> Explorer <input type="checkbox"/> Firefighter <input type="checkbox"/> First Responder <input type="checkbox"/> Ham Radio Operator <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> Medical Assistant <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing <input type="checkbox"/> Paramedic <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations <input type="checkbox"/> Red Cross <input type="checkbox"/> Scouting <input type="checkbox"/> Security <input type="checkbox"/> Instructor
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Signature

I hereby apply for membership in the City of West Sacramento Fire Department CERT team. I understand that any falsification of this document will result in immediate suspension of membership in the team.

Signature

Date

Volunteer Agreement

I agree to conform to the rules and regulations of the City of West Sacramento. I understand that I will begin service on a reciprocal trial basis. I agree to participate in orientation and training. I understand that a law enforcement clearance may be obtained and that references may be contacted. I am authorizing the City of West Sacramento to contact my references.

I understand my volunteer schedule and realize the City is depending on my services. If, for a serious reason, I cannot keep my commitments, I will notify my supervisor in advance.

I agree and understand that any work I perform within the scope of this agreement will be provided on a voluntary basis and that I do not expect payment or other compensation for performing such work. I also understand that a volunteer position does not constitute an employee-employer relationship with the City of West Sacramento, and that I serve at the discretion of the City Manager or designee.

If I am currently a City employee I know that any volunteer work to be performed is outside of my regular job classification and is separate from any paid work responsibility.

I agree not to divulge any information regarding persons who are receiving services or other assistance from the City or otherwise involved in my volunteer services. I recognize that unauthorized release of confidential information may make me subject to a criminal action.

I understand that I am fully responsible for maintaining my own personal records of time volunteered to the City for the purposes of internships, community service, etc., subject to my supervisor's verification. At the end of my volunteer service I can have my supervisor sign a letter documenting hours donated and I understand that the City will maintain no permanent record of this time. I understand that I will be required to sign in and out.

I understand that I am covered under the City's workers' compensation insurance in the event of an injury from rendering a volunteer service. I will report any injury or incident to my supervisor immediately.

I understand that the City has a zero-tolerance policy against any type of harassment or discrimination. I agree to comply with this policy, and recognize that I will also be protected by it.

I understand that the City has a zero-tolerance policy against any type of violence, threat or intimidation, implied or actual, in the workplace. I agree to comply with this policy, and recognize that I will also be protected by it.

I understand that the City has a zero-tolerance policy against any use of, or being under the influence of, illegal drugs or alcohol in the workplace. I agree to comply with this policy.

I understand that the City is not responsible for loss or damage to personal belongings.

I will never use or attempt to use the West Sacramento Fire Department CERT insignia, decal, plaques, stickers or city issued equipment or any article giving reference to membership in West Sacramento Fire CERT to influence any city employee, police or fire official during a non-emergency situation.

Signature

Date