

# Regional Logistics Program

New York • New Jersey • Connecticut • Pennsylvania



## *Building a Common Operating Picture in Disaster Logistics*

### THE REGIONAL CREDENTIALING ANNEX

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#### What is Credentialing?

The process of establishing the qualifications of licensed professionals and assessing their background and legitimacy.

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#### Why is it important?

A trustworthy credential verifies that a person is who they say they are, and that they are qualified to do what they say they can do.

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#### What is the problem?

When a catastrophe strikes, key personnel may experience movement control delays because local, state and federal governments use different methods to credential emergency responders.

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#### How does the Credentialing Annex help?

The Credentialing Annex is a starting point for increased Regional coordination and communication. It provides an overview of Regional credentialing practices as well as information and tools to help jurisdictions build out their credentialing plans and protocols.

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#### What is the current plan?

If a jurisdiction needs additional assistance in responding to an incident, existing agreements are used to request, identify and deploy appropriate personnel across jurisdictional boundaries. These include EMAC, ICDDC, certain IMAP and specific MOUs which allow responders' credentials to be transferred across state or local jurisdiction lines. Actual validation of the credential is usually visual, not electronic, and the level of trust is low.

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#### How can we build trust into our plans?

The federal government developed a highly trusted credentialing model as part of the Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 201. FIPS outlines a Personal Identity Verification (PIV) standard, where:

- ü PIV-I classified credentials validated by the federal government are the most trusted.
- ü PIV-C classified credentials are not as trusted, but are compatible with PIV-I card readers.

Unfortunately, purchasing and maintaining a system that meets the PIV-I standard is cost prohibitive to most jurisdictions. The PIV-C standard, while less expensive, is still costly and lacks trust.

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#### What's next?

- ü The Credentialing Document is available for download through [www.EmergencyLogistics.org](http://www.EmergencyLogistics.org).
- ü Promote the establishment of credentialing-specific grants at the federal level.
- ü Request that the federal government work with states and locals to create a recommended model that is lower in cost.