

Several questions/concerns regarding the new NIMS training requirement and how to deal with the screens that have been added to the training section in NIMSCAST. The questions and answers below are meant to clear up the majority of issues that have come up over the past week or so.

What is IS-701 NIMS Multiagency Coordination System (MACS) course and where can I find it?

IS-701 NIMS Multiagency Coordination System (MACS) is a FEMA Independent Study (IS) course that has been added to the list of required NIMS/ICS courses in the Ohio NIMS Implementation Guidance. IS-701 is currently listed as IS-701.a on the FEMA Independent Study catalogue at <http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp>. Please note that each time a FEMA IS course is revised, the letter designation changes (.a, .b, .c, etc.) but the course number does not. In addition, it is not necessary to retake a course that has undergone revision in order to meet training requirements (i.e. if you took IS-701 before it became IS-701.a, you are not required to retake it).

Who is required to take IS-701?

This course is required for personnel staffing an Emergency Operations Center and/or Departmental Operations Center. Consider depth of staffing and scalability (both small incidents and large disasters) when identifying these individuals if you do not already have established rosters with primary and alternate contacts. While elected officials are highly encouraged to take IS-701, it is not a requirement. Individual jurisdictions/agencies should institute training policies based on an assessment of emergency/disaster roles and responsibilities.

How do I track IS-701 in NIMSCAST ?

If your jurisdiction/agency does not operate an EOC/DOC or if you do not supply representatives to such a multiagency coordination entity, you may complete the IS-701 screen in NIMSCAST by marking YES and entering 0 (zero) for the number of people identified as required to take the course and the number of people who have completed the course.

If your jurisdiction/agency has personnel identified as requiring the course but they have not completed the course, you may complete the IS-701 screen in NIMSCAST by marking YES and entering the estimated number requiring the course and whatever number have completed it at the time, even if this number is 0 (zero). Compliance with the requirement is met if there is a program/policy in place to ensure the appropriate individuals are aware of the requirement and it is incorporated into the training program of the jurisdiction/agency.

What about IS-702, IS-703, and IS-704?

The following training is not required, but recommended for appropriate audiences (as described in Five-Year NIMS Training Plan, February 2008): IS-702: NIMS Public Information Systems, IS-703: NIMS Resource Management, IS-704: NIMS Communications and Information Management. These courses can be accessed through FEMA's Independent Study site at <http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp>.

How do I treat IS-702, IS-703, and IS-704 in NIMSCAST since they are new screens, but not required?

To complete NIMSCAST you have to complete the new screens for these courses. If your jurisdiction/agency has decided not to track these courses, mark the answer to the compliance question YES and enter 0 (zero) for the number of people identified as required to take the course and the number of people who have completed the course.

If your jurisdiction/agency would like to track this training marking YES and entering the estimated number requiring the course and whatever number have completed it at the time, even if this number is 0 (zero).

Where can I find more related information on NIMS and NIMSCAST?

The full Ohio NIMS Implementation Guidance for this and past federal fiscal years can be accessed at: <http://ema.ohio.gov/NimsGuidance.aspx> .

Federal Guidance and resources relating to NIMS can be accessed at: <http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/>.