

## About Teen CERT

As a teen, there are probably a lot of things you're told you can't do. But there is one very important thing you can do: Learn to protect yourself, your family, and your friends in case of a disaster.



Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, is a national program of volunteers trained in disaster preparedness and emergency response. Volunteers come from all ages and all walks of life, including teenagers like you!

Teen CERT training teaches you about the potential disasters that could affect your area and how to safely and responsibly respond to them.

Through Teen CERT you can serve your community and help take care of your school and home.

## Learn More

To find out more about the training visit: [www.citizencorps.gov/cert](http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert).

Here you can take the IS-317 training, *Introduction to CERT*. This independent study web-based training is interactive and will introduce you to CERT skills before you take the classroom training.



FEMA



A Program of the Federal  
Emergency Management Agency

Insert Local CERT Program Contact Info Below:

Interested in learning more and taking the training? Visit: [www.citizencorps.gov/cert](http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert)

# Making a Difference with Teen CERT

Disaster response training for everyone.



FEMA



*"Teen CERT is great. The training helps us learn skills and info that can be useful in many hazardous situations. I like knowing I can help people when disaster happens. People know I am trained and count on me to know what I am doing... I like that."*

**-Reid B.**

*"Not going to lie—I brag about being a member of Teen CERT. I mean, how many teens know how to respond to a disaster?"* **-Alissa S.**



Who will look out for your friends more than you?

### What You Learn

It takes about 20 hours to complete the CERT training. But the critical skills you learn will last your entire life. During the training you learn to:

- Extinguish small fires
- Conduct light search and rescue
- Assist those who are injured
- Set up medical treatment areas
- Assist emergency responders
- Identify and anticipate hazards
- Reduce fire hazards in the home and workplace
- Help reduce survivor stress

### Why Join?

Would you know what to do if an emergency struck your community? Your school? After a disaster, professional responders will be needed everywhere. In the chaotic aftermath of an emergency, who could help until professional responders arrive? Who could be the first person on-scene to step up? The answer: You.

When you see a classmate's or a teacher's look of fear, you can be the support they need. You can direct friends to safety. You can help those who are hurt. You can be a leader in your school.

In most emergencies, the victim or a bystander provides the first immediate assistance. Joining Teen CERT teaches you how to respond when others look to you for help.

### What You Do

We all have a role to play in ensuring the safety of our communities. No matter where you live, no matter who you are, no matter how you participate. What role will you play? Once you complete your CERT training, you can participate in or lead a variety of activities. Here are some examples:

During an emergency your Teen CERT could:

- Organize other volunteers
- Assist in evacuations
- Provide damage assessment information
- Provide shelter support
- Give assistance to other survivors
- Assist with crowd control

For year-round assistance to your school, your Teen CERT could:

- Participate in disaster drills and exercises
- Present fire safety education
- Address safety issues in the school
- Provide peer mentoring
- Assist in preparedness outreach