

# The InfoGram



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## New streamlined cost recovery guidance for first responders

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) just released [updated guidance detailing the streamlined process to apply for public assistance funding during COVID-19](#).

First responder agencies, local governments and private non-profit entities providing emergency protective measures during COVID-19 may be eligible to receive funding from FEMA. There are several steps to request [FEMA Public Assistance](#), including a prerequisite prior to even applying, and it is important to follow these steps carefully to ensure your application is complete.

Among the things you will need to submit is itemized list of costs your department or agency incurred. It is therefore very important to keep detailed records of your costs related to COVID-19 response.

In addition, private for-profit companies and private non-profit EMS agencies (including tribal ambulance services) are eligible for the [Paycheck Protection Program](#). This program was created by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). It is a loan program administered by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) to incentivize small businesses to keep workers on the payroll.

The SBA will forgive loans under this program if certain conditions are met. The maximum amount available to borrow under this program is 2.5 times average total monthly payroll costs, not to exceed \$10 million.

(Source: [FEMA](#) and [SBA](#))

## UL releases course on fire training cardiovascular, chemical risks

Underwriters Laboratories' Fire Safety Research Institute (FSRI) and its partners just released the new online course [Cardiovascular and Chemical Exposure Risk Considerations During Training](#).

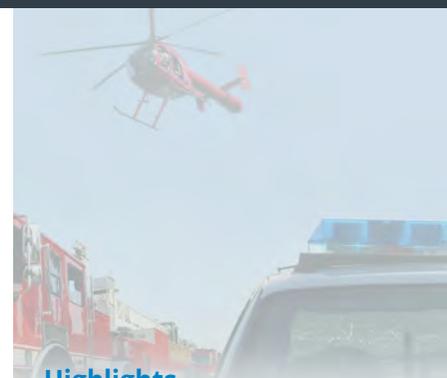
This free course looks at the hazards of smoke from the types of fuels more commonly used in modern firefighter training, such as engineered wood products. Many firefighters treat training exercises as though they are safer than what they experience on an actual residential or commercial fireground but this is often not the case.

In addition to risks associated with live fire training, the FSRI course discusses different types of fuel selection and the exposure risks posed by them, ways to reduce exposure, proper PPE use and decontamination methods.

The program has other resources available to include guides on physiological responses and safety, airborne contaminants produced by different fuel packages, and exposure and absorption to chemicals during fire response.

The course itself is 90-minutes long and includes an introduction, three modules and a summary. [FSRI's Fire Service Academy](#) has more online courses available on a variety of topics.

(Source: [UL FSRI](#))



### Highlights

New streamlined cost recovery guidance for first responders

UL releases course on fire training cardiovascular, chemical risks

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Three COVID-19 Webinars: PPE; testing; medical coordination cells

### Cyber Threats



U.S. Fire Administration

The U.S. Fire Administration operates the Emergency Management and Response – Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC).

For information regarding the EMR-ISAC visit [www.usfa.dhs.gov/emr-isac](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/emr-isac) or contact the EMR-ISAC office at: (301) 447-1325 and/or [emr-isac@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:emr-isac@fema.dhs.gov).

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## Resources available to help Alternate Care Site set-up and operation

The Department of Health and Human Services Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response (ASPR) maintains a [webpage to assist state, local, tribal and territorial entities establish Alternate Care Sites](#) to help with COVID-19 response.

The ASPR Technical Resources, Assistance Center, Information Exchange (TRACIE) Topic Collection features tools, plans, templates and other resources to assist with all aspects of Alternate Care Site identification, set-up and operation. Many of these documents are from state, local and private sector partners that have created the guides based on their own successes and best practices.

A sample of available resources include guidance on:

- Sources of Additional Staff.
- Infection Prevention and Control Considerations for Alternate Care Sites.
- Reopening Shuttered Hospitals to Expand Surge Capacity.
- Planning Guide for Local Governments: Setting Up Assessment and Recovery Locations for COVID-19.

Jurisdictions considering an Alternate Care Site or those that have already created one should refer to this Topic Collection. If you have a guide, tool, plan or best practices document related to this topic, consider sharing it with ASPR TRACIE through its [Information Sharing Page](#).

(Source: [ASPR TRACIE](#))

## Three COVID-19 Webinars: PPE; testing; medical coordination cells

Three webinars scheduled for tomorrow, Friday April 24, 2020, deal with different issues responders face with COVID-19. All require registration.

[COVID-19 Testing: Promises, Problems and Potential](#) tackles testing availability, accuracy, turnaround time and sampling. This webinar covers what it all means to EMS and what EMS leaders and medical directors need to do to incorporate testing into their systems. There will be a question and answer session at the end. EMS World is hosting this webinar at 1 p.m. Eastern on Friday, April 24, 2020.

The American College of Medical Toxicology is holding the [Town Hall Q&A: Practical Issues of PPE and COVID-19](#) on Friday, April 24, 2020 at 12 noon Eastern. This event is an extension of the [ongoing webinar series](#) that, given the volume of participants, has been unable to cover all the questions submitted. Join this webinar for an interactive question and answer session on PPE use during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Finally, ASPR TRACIE is hosting [Establishing Medical Operations Coordination Cells \(MOCCs\) for COVID-19](#), a webinar featuring a variety of speakers with medical operations coordination cells (MOCC) related experience. Join this webinar on Friday, April 24, 2020 from 2-3:15 p.m. Eastern to learn more about establishing MOCCs, available guidance and lessons learned from states that have used this concept in previous emergencies and currently with COVID-19.

(Sources: Various)

## Cyber Threats

### Millions of Facebook profiles sold on dark web for \$600

Threat actors are selling over 267 million Facebook profiles for £500 (\$623) on dark web sites and hacker forums. While none of these records include passwords, they do contain information that could allow attackers to perform spear phishing or SMS attacks to steal credentials.

For many of these records, they contained a user's full name, their phone number, and a unique Facebook ID.

(Source: [Bleeping Computer](#))

### SBA reports data breach in disaster loan application website

The Small Business Administration said Tuesday that the personal information of more than 7,000 business owners applying for economic injury disaster loans was potentially seen by other applicants on the SBA website on March 25.

The SBA said only the disaster loan program was affected, not the Paycheck Protection Program, which did not begin until April 3 and which is handled by a separate system.

SBA spokeswoman said the agency has notified the 7,913 owners whose information may have been exposed and offered them a year of free credit monitoring. The agency immediately disabled the affected part of its system.

(Source: [Security Week](#))

### COVID-19 lockdowns causing huge spike in data breaches

The International Association of IT Asset Managers (IATAM) is warning that at-home work due to the COVID-19 pandemic is leading to a spike in data breaches that's greater than anticipated. Risk falls into one of four categories:

- ❖ Assets being left purposefully unsecured to simplify remote work.
- ❖ Adding new hardware without taking the time to properly secure it.
- ❖ Company devices working on unsecured home networks.
- ❖ Unprepared users making mistakes.

(Source: [Tech Republic](#))

### Microsoft AccountGuard free to frontline service providers, hospitals

Microsoft is now offering its AccountGuard service for free to healthcare organizations such as hospitals, clinics, labs, frontline service providers, device manufacturers and life science companies researching treatments for COVID-19 to help protect them from state-sponsored cyberattacks.

(Source: [Microsoft](#))

#### Cyber Information and Incident Assistance Links

##### [MS-ISAC](#)

[SOC@cisecurity.org](mailto:SOC@cisecurity.org)  
1-866-787-4722

##### [IdentityTheft.gov](#)

##### [IC3](#)

##### [Cybercrime Support Network](#)

#### General Information Links

##### [FTC scam list](#)

##### [CISA alerts](#)

##### [Law Enforcement Cyber Center](#)

##### [TLP Information](#)

The InfoGram is distributed weekly to provide members of the Emergency Services Sector with information concerning the protection of their critical infrastructures.