

Disaster Prevention - It starts with YOU

TEEN CERT is a national Homeland Security initiative directed at making our schools and communities safer by having educated/trained youth capable of preparing and responding to disasters and emergencies. TEEN CERT is an integral part of Citizen Corps, the grass-roots movement that actively involves everyone in making our communities and our nation safer, stronger, and better prepared. Many schools are utilizing trained TEEN CERT members to enhance their school response plan. No matter where you live, no matter who you are, no matter your age we all have a role in hometown preparedness. What role will YOU play?



For more information on how to start a TEEN CERT program in your school

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**Teen Community
Emergency Response Team
(TEEN CERT)**



What is TEEN CERT?

TEEN CERT is a training program that prepares you to help yourself, your family, and your school in the event of a disaster. During an incident, emergency service personnel may not be able to reach everyone right away. By getting trained in TEEN CERT, you will have the skills to help emergency responders, save lives, and protect property. As a member of a TEEN CERT team, you can respond to disasters, participate in drills and exercises, and take additional training.



What do TEEN CERT teams do in an emergency?

Under the direction of school and local emergency responders, TEEN CERT teams help provide critical support by giving immediate assistance to victims, providing damage assessment information, and organizing other volunteers at a disaster site. Teen Volunteers trained in CERT also offer a potential workforce for performing duties such as shelter support, crowd control, and evacuation. The role of a TEEN CERT volunteer is to help others until trained emergency personnel arrive.

How Does TEEN CERT Help the School?

In addition to supporting emergency responders during a disaster, the TEEN CERT program builds strong working relationships between emergency responders and the people they serve. TEEN CERT teams also help the school year-round by helping with safety issues in the school, peer mentoring, emergency management exercises, preparedness outreach, fire safety education, and home safety.

The Benefits of TEEN CERT Training

TEEN CERT training takes about 20 hours to complete and provides critical skills in emergency preparedness and response.

Participants Learn How To:

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

Who Should Take TEEN CERT Training?

- Youth who want to make a difference
- Teachers and School Administrators
- Parents
- Communities of faith
- Scouting and youth organizations
- Members of clubs and civic organizations



**Homeland
Security**