

Superfund Academy 101



The Superfund Academy 101 consists of four introductory-level courses, including the Fundamentals of Superfund, the Enforcement Process Overview, the Removal Process, and the Remedial Process. The target audience for each course is On-Scene Coordinators (OSC) and Remedial Project Managers (RPM). The Fundamentals of Superfund and Enforcement Process courses are mandatory for OSCs and RPMs to meet the inspector training requirements set forth under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Order 3500.1. In addition, the Fundamentals of Superfund Course is a prerequisite for EPA employees who would like to attend the Removal and Remedial Process courses. There are no tuition costs for this training.

FUNDAMENTALS OF SUPERFUND



Course Description and Objectives

Fundamentals of Superfund, a 3-day introductory training course, provides an overview of the purpose, legal framework, and implementation of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) for newly hired OSCs and RPMs . By taking the course, participants will achieve the following objectives:

- Understand the evolution of the Superfund program. The course explores the origin, accomplishments, and future of the Superfund program.
- Understand the statutory and regulatory basis for the authorities of OSCs and RPMs.
 The course provides an overview of the roles of the OSC and RPM as they are defined in laws, regulations, policy, and guidance, including a comparison of authorities and liabilities.
- Learn about the three types of response activities defined under CERCLA. The course discusses the components of the removal, remedial, and enforcement programs and the major responsibilities of OSCs and RPMs in their work on Superfund responses, site cleanups, and enforcement activities.

Condensed Course Outline

- I. Overview of CERCLA
- II. Statutory and Regulatory Framework
- III. Discovery, Notification, and Initial Site Assessment
- IV. Removal Process
- V. Remedial Process
- VI. Liability and Enforcement
- VII. Community Involvement
- VIII. Federal Facilities

About the CERCLA Education Center

The CERCLA Education Center (CEC) is a unique training forum implemented by EPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response. CEC courses have been developed cooperatively by the Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation; the Office of Emergency Management; the Office of Acquisition Management; the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance; and the Office of Research and Development. Site managers from many EPA regions provide technical advice, comment, and support. The CEC's structured curriculum, designed primarily for EPA hazardous waste site managers, enables participants to attend training that is of particular interest to them and most appropriate to their projects and workloads.

ENFORCEMENT PROCESS OVERVIEW COURSE



Course Description and Objectives

Enforcement Process Overview, a 2-day course, provides an overview of the EPA's Superfund enforcement process for OSCs and RPMs. By taking the course, participants will achieve the following objectives:

- Learn about the goals, priorities, and actions of the Superfund enforcement program. The course provides an introduction to response actions and enforcement authorities under Superfund; illustrates the relationship between major enforcement actions and remedial and removal actions; defines Superfund enforcement goals and principles; identifies objectives of Superfund enforcement reforms; and highlights current enforcement priorities of EPA.
- Understand EPA's fundamental principles and policies related to enforcement, the four types of potentially responsible parties (PRP), common defenses against liability, and other enforcement policies. The course examines the four classes of PRPs, identifies PRP's defenses and exemptions to liabilities, and identifies major enforcement discretionary policies.
- Understand the Superfund enforcement process and the roles of states, tribes, Federal agencies, and communities in the enforcement process. The course examines and applies EPA's cost recovery strategy and discretionary enforcement policies, as well as the roles of administrative and judicial law in the enforcement process.
- Develop their ability to use the tools available to encourage settlements. Participants will learn about the various types of enforcement tools, such as alternative dispute resolution, that are used in the settlement process.

Condensed Course Outline

- I. Enforcement Overview
- II. PRP Liability
- III. PRP Search
- IV. Administrative and Judicial Procedures
- V. Records Management
- VI. Consent Decree Settlements
- VII. Settlement Tools
- VIII. Superfund Enforcement: Program Operations
- IX. Cost Recovery

More Information

For more information about the CEC and the most recent schedule of course offerings, please call (703) 603-9910 or visit EPA's web site about training opportunities at *www.trainex.org*. Through this site, you will be able to find information on training courses directly targeted to your needs.

How to Register

Register on-line today! View the most recent schedule of course offerings and register on-line for the Superfund Academy 101 at www.trainex.org. Once on the Trainex Site, click on the button "Register here." This will take you to the Course Listings page where you can use the alphabet at the top of the screen to find the course name. If a course currently is not offered, click on the link at the bottom of the registration page to submit your request.

REMOVAL PROCESS COURSE



Course Description and Objectives

The *Removal Process Course*, a 4½-day intermediate-level training course, provides OSCs with fundamental information and practical knowledge they need to effectively plan and conduct removal actions in response to releases of hazardous substances under the NCP and discharges of oil under the Clean Water Act (CWA). The *Removal Process Course* is structured to follow the framework of the NCP. By taking the course, participants will achieve the following objectives:

- Learn to carry out the step-by-step process of conducting a removal action. The course follows the chain of events from site discovery to completion of the removal action, demonstrating how the enforcement process is integrated into various phases of the removal process.
- Understand the authorities and limitations of an OSC during a removal action. The course provides a comprehensive review of statutory and regulatory requirements, including an overview of response authority, requirements for public participation, and regulations governing contracting services.
- Strengthen their ability to use the Incident Command System/Unified Command (ICS/UC) effectively and learn the roles and responsibilities of an OSC during emergency responses to releases of hazardous substances. The course examines the organization of the ICS/UC and provides a thorough discussion of the planning and support functions.

Condensed Course Outline

- I. Response Authorities and Limitations
- II. Knowing the NCP
- III. Planning and Preparedness
- IV. Oil Spill Response
- V. Hazardous Substance Response
- VI. Emerging Issues and Activities

REMEDIAL PROCESS COURSE



Course Description and Objectives

The *Remedial Process Course*, a 4½-day, intermediate-level training course, provides a comprehensive examination of the technical and regulatory issues that RPMs must address as they oversee remedial response efforts at Superfund sites. By taking the course, participants will achieve the following objectives:

- Learn the process to implement remedial response activities at Superfund sites and methods to conduct such activities effectively. The course discusses strategies for site characterization, oversight of PRP-lead activities, applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements (ARAR), independent government cost estimates, Superfund decision documents, remedial design and remedial action (RD/RA), and community participation.
- Understand and identify the various regulatory and administrative aspects of the Superfund program. The course examines a number of contracting issues, identifies resources that support contracting efforts, and reviews requirements for operation and maintenance activities, site close-out, five-year reviews, and remedy optimization.
- Develop an awareness of the role of community involvement in the remedial process.
 The course discusses the principles of community involvement, the role of community involvement plans, and various methods of dealing with problems related to community involvement, including conflict management and effective negotiation.

Condensed Course Outline

- I. Site Characterization
- II. Oversight and Enforcement
- III. Community Involvement
- IV. Developing Remedial Alternatives
- V. Contracts and Resources
- VI. Implementing Remedial Alternatives

Related Courses and Training Program

Additional training opportunities for RPMs and OSCs include:

- *EPA Environmental Response Training Program (ERTP)* provides several courses designed for personnel who respond to emergencies or who investigate and cleanup abandoned hazardous waste sites. Training is provided in health and safety as well as in the various technical operations needed to control hazardous substance releases. For more information about ERTP and training courses offered, please call (513) 569-7537 or visit *www.ertresponse.com*.
- New Attorney Orientation Training provides attorneys who are new to Superfund with a thorough understanding of the components of the Superfund program and the role of the Superfund attorney in these cases. The importance of the partnership among members of the case team is stressed throughout the course. The intended audience is all regional attorneys who are new to the program. Attorneys from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), and other Federal agencies and from states that work closely with Superfund also may attend. This course is offered every two years.
- OSC Warrant Authority Training provides an overview of the contracting and program
 authorities vested in a warranted OSC and explains the various tools, procurement and nonprocurement, that are available to an OSC during emergency and time-critical removals.
 This 5-day training is for EPA OSCs, Project Officers (PO), and Contracting Officers (CO).
- Remedial Design/Remedial Action Training Program for Remedial Project Managers provides steps for implementing and completing RD/RA projects under Superfund and describes the overall effort needed to conduct an RD/RA project. The training program is designed primarily for RPMs who currently or soon will be involved in an RD/RA project and consists of two different instructional methodologies, (1) 3-day workshop consisting of lecture, discussion, and hands-on exercises and (2) web-based computer training consisting of 7 self-directed learning (SDL) modules (www.rdra.org).
- Waste Treatment, Transportation, and Disposal Course focuses on specific technical and regulatory issues that OSCs must address when treating, transporting, and disposing of waste from removal actions. RPMs, site assessment managers (SAMs), and state emergency responses personnel, also may benefit from this 2-day advanced level training.
- The OSC Readiness Training Program allows OSCs to strengthen the knowledge and skills essential to successful job performance. This annual training program showcases regional case studies, current tools, and other resources available to OSCs. The training that is offered is by OSCs for OSCs. For more information about the conference and training offered, visit www.oscreadiness.org.
- The National Association of Remedial Project Managers sponsors their training conference annually and provides the opportunity for RPMs to obtain relevant training designed specifically for RPMs. For more information about the conference and training offered, visit www.epanarpm.org.

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