



# IS-100.HE: Introduction to the Incident Command System, ICS-100 for Higher Education

Student Manual

November 2008



# FEMA



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**ICS-100: Introduction to ICS  
for Higher Education**

**Student Manual**

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**November 2008**



**Purpose** This course provides an introduction to the Incident Command System (ICS).

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**Course Objective** The course objective is to enable you to demonstrate basic knowledge of ICS.

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**Training Content** The training is comprised of the following units:

- Unit 1: Course Overview
- Unit 2: ICS Overview
- Unit 3: ICS Features and Principles
- Unit 4: Incident Commander and Command Staff Functions
- Unit 5: General Staff Functions
- Unit 6: Unified Command
- Unit 7: Course Summary – Putting It All Together



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# Unit 1: Course Overview

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**Objectives**

At the end of this unit, you should be able to describe the purpose of the course.

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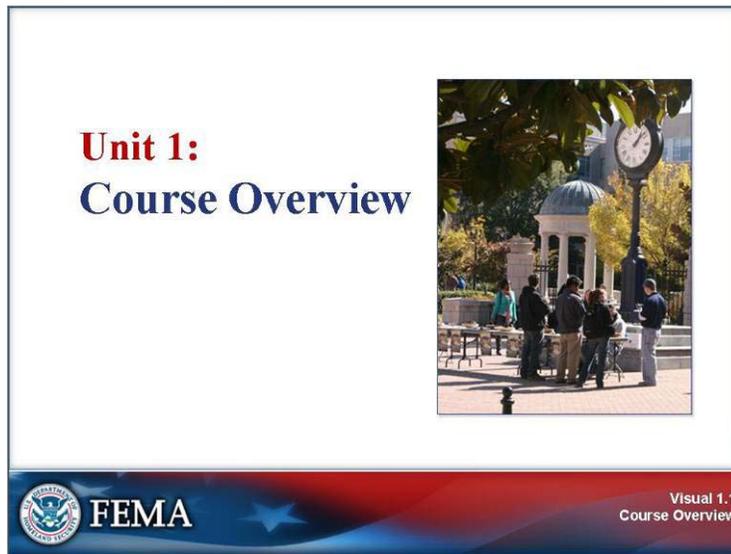
**Scope**

- Unit Introduction
  - Course Objective
  - Participant Introductions
  - Expectations: Participant and Instructor
  - Course Structure
  - Course Logistics
  - Successful Course Completion
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Visual 1.1



**Visual Description:** Unit Introduction

### Key Points

This course will introduce them to the Incident Command System (ICS).

Your instructors will provide information about their background and experience with emergency or incident response.



Visual 1.2

**ICS-100 Course Objective**

Demonstrate basic knowledge of the Incident Command System (ICS) and how it applies to incidents at higher education institutions.



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Visual 1.2  
Course Overview

**Visual Description:** ICS-100 Course Objective

### Key Points

The objective for this course is for you to demonstrate basic knowledge of the Incident Command System (ICS) and how ICS applies to higher education.

This course is designed to provide overall incident management skills rather than tactical expertise. Additional courses are available on developing and implementing incident tactics.



Visual 1.3



**Visual Description:** Video: Incident Command System: Promoting Safer Higher Education Settings

### Key Points

This brief video presents a review of the purpose of ICS.

### Video Transcript:

Each year, natural disasters such as tornadoes, floods, and severe storms affect our communities. Health-related incidents such as flu outbreaks, food-borne diseases, and even rabid animals can threaten all of us. Unfortunately, institutes of higher education are not immune from these threats and others, such as intruders, crime, and violence. And accidents, whether in research labs, sporting venues, or on campus shuttles, may occur.

When Hurricane Katrina struck the gulf coast in 2005, the University of Southern Mississippi incurred an estimated \$57 million, and the storm cost Tulane University more than \$200 million in damages. Higher education institutes across the region were affected, not just by the structural damages, but also by setbacks in their scientific research and medical developments.

Given today's threats, higher education institutions must be prepared to respond in partnership with local, State, tribal, and Federal agencies. As partners, you must respond together in a seamless, coordinated fashion using the same terminology and approach.

(Continued on next page.)

**Video Transcript (Continued):**

The Incident Command System, or ICS, is a standardized, on-scene, all-hazard incident management approach. ICS allows campus personnel and community responders to adopt an integrated organizational structure that matches the complexities and demands of the incidents without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. With institutes of higher education blending into the larger community response system, ICS allows all involved to know their roles and work together, without jeopardizing anyone's voice or authority.

The ICS structure is flexible. It can grow or shrink to meet different needs. This flexibility makes it a very cost-effective and efficient management approach for both small and large situations. In this course, you'll learn ICS principles that can be applied to higher education settings. And, more importantly, you'll be better able to interface with other community responders.



Visual 1.4

### Participant Introductions



- Name, job title, and higher education affiliation
- Overall experience with emergency or incident response
- Possible role in responding to incidents

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Visual 1.4  
Course Overview

**Visual Description:** Participant Introductions

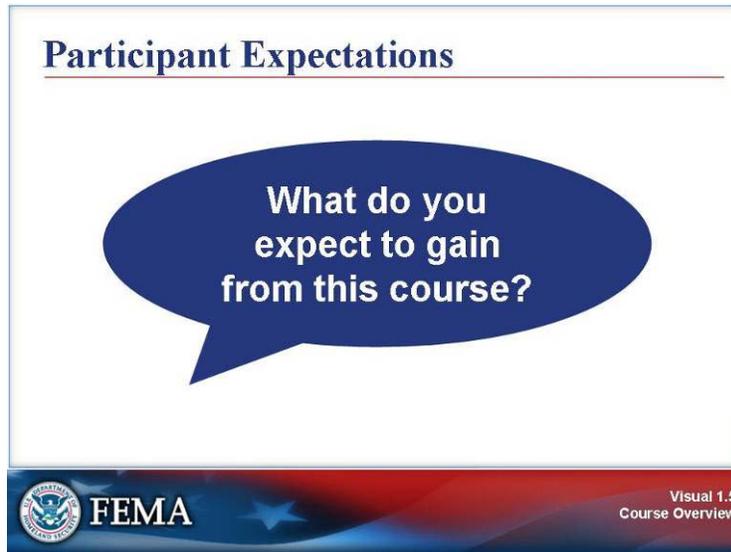
### Key Points

Introduce yourself by providing:

- Your name, job title, and higher education affiliations.
- A brief statement of your overall experience with emergency or incident response.
- Your possible role in responding to incidents.



Visual 1.5



**Visual Description:** Participant Expectations: What do you expect to gain from this course?

### Key Points

What do you expect to gain from this course?



Visual 1.6

### Instructor Expectations

- Cooperate with the group.
- Be open minded to new ideas.
- Participate actively in all of the training activities and exercises.
- Return to class at the stated time.
- Use what you learn in the course to perform effectively within an ICS organization.



**Visual Description:** Instructor Expectations

### Key Points

Your instructors expect that you will:

- Cooperate with the group.
- Be open minded to new ideas.
- Participate actively in all of the training activities and exercises.
- Return to class at the stated time.
- Use what you learn in the course to perform effectively within an ICS organization.



Visual 1.7



**Visual Description:** Course Structure – Unit 1: Course Overview; Unit 2: ICS Overview; Unit 3: ICS Features and Principles; Unit 4: Incident Commander & Command Staff Functions; Unit 5: General Staff Functions; Unit 6: Unified Command; Unit 7: Course Summary – Putting It All Together

## Key Points

The course is divided into the following seven units:

- Unit 1: Course Overview
- Unit 2: ICS Overview
- Unit 3: ICS Features and Principles
- Unit 4: Incident Commander & Command Staff Functions
- Unit 5: General Staff Functions
- Unit 6: Unified Command
- Unit 7: Course Summary – Putting It All Together



Visual 1.8

### Course Logistics

- Course agenda
- Sign-in sheet
- Housekeeping:
  - Breaks
  - Message and telephone location
  - Cell phone policy
  - Facilities
  - Other concerns



 **FEMA** Visual 1.8  
Course Overview

**Visual Description:** Course Logistics

## Key Points

Your instructor will review the following information:

- Course agenda
- Sign-in sheet
- Breaks
- Message and telephone location
- Cell phone policy
- Facilities
- Other concerns

**Note:** The course glossary is located at the end of this unit, and you should use it throughout the course. Note that some of the terms in the glossary may be used differently in ICS than in day-to-day operations on campus (e.g., facilities).



Visual 1.9

**Successful Course Completion**

- Participate in unit activities/exercises.
- Achieve 75% or higher on the final exam.
- Complete the end-of-course evaluation.



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Visual 1.9  
Course Overview

**Visual Description:** Successful Course Completion

### Key Points

In order to successfully complete this course, you must:

- Participate in unit activities/exercises.
- Achieve 75% or higher on the final exam.
- Complete the end-of-course evaluation.

The next unit will provide an overview of the Incident Command System.

**A**

**Action Plan:** See Incident Action Plan.

**Agency:** An agency is a division of government with a specific function, or a nongovernmental organization (e.g., private contractor, business, etc.) that offers a particular kind of assistance. In ICS, agencies are defined as jurisdictional (having statutory responsibility for incident mitigation) or assisting and/or cooperating (providing resources and/or assistance). (See Assisting Agency, Cooperating Agency, Jurisdictional Agency, and Multiagency Incident.)

**Agency Administrator or Executive:** Chief executive officer (or designee) of the agency or jurisdiction that has responsibility for the incident.

**Agency Dispatch:** The agency or jurisdictional facility from which resources are allocated to incidents.

**Agency Representative:** An individual assigned to an incident from an assisting or cooperating agency who has been delegated authority to make decisions on matters affecting that agency's participation at the incident. Agency Representatives report to the Incident Liaison Officer.

**Air Operations Branch Director:** The person primarily responsible for preparing and implementing the air operations portion of the Incident Action Plan. Also responsible for providing logistical support to helicopters operating on the incident.

**Allocated Resources:** Resources dispatched to an incident.

**All-Risk:** Any incident or event, natural or human-caused, that warrants action to protect life, property, the environment, and public health and safety, and minimize disruption of governmental, social, and economic activities.

**Area Command (Unified Area Command):** An organization established to oversee the management of (1) multiple incidents that are each being handled by an ICS organization, or (2) large or multiple incidents to which several Incident Management Teams have been assigned. Area Command has the responsibility to set overall strategy and priorities, allocate critical resources according to priorities, ensure that incidents are properly managed, and ensure that objectives are met and strategies followed. Area Command becomes Unified Area Command when incidents are multijurisdictional. Area Command may be established at an emergency operations center facility or at some location other than an Incident Command Post.

**Assigned Resources:** Resources checked in and assigned work tasks on an incident.

**Assignments:** Tasks given to resources to perform within a given operational period, based upon tactical objectives in the Incident Action Plan.

**Assistant:** Title for subordinates of the Command Staff positions. The title indicates a level of technical capability, qualifications, and responsibility subordinate to the primary positions.

**Assisting Agency:** An agency or organization providing personnel, services, or other resources to the agency with direct responsibility for incident management.

**Available Resources:** Resources assigned to an incident, checked in, and available for a mission assignment, normally located in a Staging Area.

**B**

**Base:** The location at which primary Logistics functions for an incident are coordinated and administered. There is only one Base per incident. (Incident name or other designator will be added to the term Base.) The Incident Command Post may be collocated with the Base.

**Branch:** The organizational level having functional or geographic responsibility for major parts of the Operations or Logistics functions. The Branch level is organizationally between Section and Division/Group in the Operations Section, and between Section and Units in the Logistics Section. Branches are identified by the use of Roman numerals or by functional name (e.g., medical, security, etc.).

**C**

**Cache:** A pre-determined complement of tools, equipment, and/or supplies stored in a designated location, available for incident use.

**Camp:** A geographical site, within the general incident area, separate from the Incident Base, equipped and staffed to provide sleeping, food, water, and sanitary services to incident personnel.

**Chain of Command:** A series of management positions in order of authority.

**Check-In:** The process whereby resources first report to an incident. Check-in locations include: Incident Command Post (Resources Unit), Incident Base, Camps, Staging Areas, Helibases, Helispots, and Division Supervisors (for direct line assignments).

**Chief:** The ICS title for individuals responsible for functional Sections: Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration.

**Clear Text:** The use of plain English in radio communications transmissions. No Ten Codes or agency-specific codes are used when utilizing clear text.

**Command:** The act of directing and/or controlling resources by virtue of explicit legal, agency, or delegated authority. May also refer to the Incident Commander.

**Command Post:** See Incident Command Post.

**Command Staff:** The Command Staff consists of the Public Information Officer, Safety Officer, and Liaison Officer. They report directly to the Incident Commander. They may have an Assistant or Assistants, as needed.

**Communications Unit:** An organizational Unit in the Logistics Section responsible for providing communication services at an incident. A Communications Unit may also be a facility (e.g., a trailer or mobile van) used to provide the major part of an Incident Communications Center.

**Compacts:** Formal working agreements among agencies to obtain mutual aid.

**Compensation/Claims Unit:** Functional Unit within the Finance/Administration Section responsible for financial concerns resulting from property damage, injuries, or fatalities at the incident.

**Complex:** Two or more individual incidents located in the same general area that are assigned to a single Incident Commander or to Unified Command.

**Cooperating Agency:** An agency supplying assistance other than direct operational or support functions or resources to the incident management effort.

**Coordination:** The process of systematically analyzing a situation, developing relevant information, and informing appropriate command authority of viable alternatives for selection of the most effective combination of available resources to meet specific objectives. The coordination process (which can be either intra- or interagency) does not involve dispatch actions. However, personnel responsible for coordination may perform command or dispatch functions within the limits established by specific agency delegations, procedures, legal authority, etc.

**Coordination Center:** A facility that is used for the coordination of agency or jurisdictional resources in support of one or more incidents.

**Cost-Sharing Agreements:** Agreements between agencies or jurisdictions to share designated costs related to incidents. Cost-sharing agreements are normally written but may also be oral between authorized agency or jurisdictional representatives at the incident.

**Cost Unit:** Functional Unit within the Finance/Administration Section responsible for tracking costs, analyzing cost data, making cost estimates, and recommending cost-saving measures.

**Crew:** See Single Resource.

## D

**Delegation of Authority:** A statement provided to the Incident Commander by the Agency Executive delegating authority and assigning responsibility. The Delegation of Authority can include objectives, priorities, expectations, constraints, and other considerations or guidelines as needed. Many agencies require written Delegation of Authority to be given to Incident Commanders prior to their assuming command on larger incidents.

**Demobilization Unit:** Functional Unit within the Planning Section responsible for assuring orderly, safe, and efficient demobilization of incident resources.

**Deputy:** A fully qualified individual who, in the absence of a superior, could be delegated the authority to manage a functional operation or perform a specific task. In some cases, a Deputy could act as relief for a superior and therefore must be fully qualified in the position. Deputies can be assigned to the Incident Commander, General Staff, and Branch Directors.

**Director:** The ICS title for individuals responsible for supervision of a Branch.

**Dispatch:** The implementation of a command decision to move a resource or resources from one place to another.

**Dispatch Center:** A facility from which resources are ordered, mobilized, and assigned to an incident.

**Division:** Divisions are used to divide an incident into geographical areas of operation. A Division is located within the ICS organization between the Branch and the Task Force/Strike Team. (See Group.) Divisions are identified by alphabetic characters for horizontal applications and, often, by floor numbers when used in buildings.

**Documentation Unit:** Functional Unit within the Planning Section responsible for collecting, recording, and safeguarding all documents relevant to the incident.

## E

**Emergency:** Absent a Presidentially declared emergency, any incident(s), human-caused or natural, that requires responsive action to protect life or property. Under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, an emergency means any occasion or instance for which, in the determination of the President, Federal assistance is needed to supplement State and local efforts and capabilities to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in any part of the United States.

**Emergency Management Coordinator/Director:** The individual within each institution that has coordination responsibility for jurisdictional emergency management.

**Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs):** The physical location at which the coordination of information and resources to support domestic incident management activities normally takes place. An EOC may be a temporary facility or may be located in a more central or permanently established facility, perhaps at a higher level of organization within a jurisdiction. EOCs may be organized by major functional disciplines (e.g., fire, law enforcement, and medical services), by jurisdiction (e.g., Federal, State, regional, county, city, tribal), or some combination thereof.

**Emergency Operations Plan (EOP):** The plan that each jurisdiction has and maintains for responding to appropriate hazards.

**Event:** A planned, non-emergency activity. ICS can be used as the management system for a wide range of events, e.g., parades, concerts, or sporting events.

## F

**Facilities Unit:** Functional Unit within the Support Branch of the Logistics Section that provides fixed facilities for the incident. These facilities may include the Incident Base, feeding areas, sleeping areas, sanitary facilities, etc.

**Federal:** Of or pertaining to the Federal Government of the United States of America.

**Field Operations Guide:** A pocket-size manual of instructions on the application of the Incident Command System.

**Finance/Administration Section:** The Section responsible for all incident costs and financial considerations. Includes the Time Unit, Procurement Unit, Compensation/Claims Unit, and Cost Unit.

**Food Unit:** Functional Unit within the Service Branch of the Logistics Section responsible for providing meals for incident personnel.

**Function:** Function refers to the five major activities in ICS: Command, Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration. The term function is also used when describing the activity involved, e.g., the planning function. A sixth function, Intelligence, may be established, if required, to meet incident management needs.

**G**

**General Staff:** A group of incident management personnel organized according to function and reporting to the Incident Commander. The General Staff normally consists of the Operations Section Chief, Planning Section Chief, Logistics Section Chief, and Finance/Administration Section Chief.

**Ground Support Unit:** Functional Unit within the Support Branch of the Logistics Section responsible for the fueling, maintaining, and repairing of vehicles, and the transportation of personnel and supplies.

**Group:** Groups are established to divide the incident into functional areas of operation. Groups are composed of resources assembled to perform a special function not necessarily within a single geographic division. (See Division.) Groups are located between Branches (when activated) and Resources in the Operations Section.

**H**

**Hazard:** Something that is potentially dangerous or harmful, often the root cause of an unwanted outcome.

**Helibase:** The main location for parking, fueling, maintenance, and loading of helicopters operating in support of an incident. It is usually located at or near the incident Base.

**Helispot:** Any designated location where a helicopter can safely take off and land. Some Helispots may be used for loading of supplies, equipment, or personnel.

**Hierarchy of Command:** See Chain of Command.

**I**

**Incident:** An occurrence or event, natural or human-caused, that requires an emergency response to protect life or property. Incidents can, for example, include major disasters, emergencies, terrorist attacks, terrorist threats, wildland and urban fires, floods, hazardous materials spills, nuclear accidents, aircraft accidents, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, tropical storms, war-related disasters, public health and medical emergencies, and other occurrences requiring an emergency response.

**Incident Action Plan (IAP):** An oral or written plan containing general objectives reflecting the overall strategy for managing an incident. It may include the identification of operational resources and assignments. It may also include attachments that provide direction and important information for management of the incident during one or more operational periods.

**Incident Base:** Location at the incident where the primary Logistics functions are coordinated and administered. (Incident name or other designator will be added to the term Base.) The Incident Command Post may be collocated with the Base. There is only one Base per incident.

**Incident Commander (IC):** The individual responsible for all incident activities, including the development of strategies and tactics and the ordering and the release of resources. The IC has overall authority and responsibility for conducting incident operations and is responsible for the management of all incident operations at the incident site.

**Incident Command Post (ICP):** The field location at which the primary tactical-level, on-scene incident command functions are performed. The ICP may be collocated with the incident Base or other incident facilities and is normally identified by a green rotating or flashing light.

**Incident Command System (ICS):** A standardized on-scene emergency management construct specifically designed to provide for the adoption of an integrated organizational structure that reflects the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. ICS is the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure, designed to aid in the management of resources during incidents. It is used for all kinds of emergencies and is applicable to small as well as large and complex incidents. ICS is used by various jurisdictions and functional agencies, both public and private, to organize field-level incident management operations.

**Incident Communications Center:** The location of the Communications Unit and the Message Center.

**Incident Complex:** See Complex.

**Incident Management Team (IMT):** The Incident Commander and appropriate Command and General Staff personnel assigned to an incident.

**Incident Objectives:** Statements of guidance and direction necessary for the selection of appropriate strategy(ies), and the tactical direction of resources. Incident objectives are based on realistic expectations of what can be accomplished when all allocated resources have been effectively deployed. Incident objectives must be achievable and measurable, yet flexible enough to allow for strategic and tactical alternatives.

**Incident Types:** Incidents are categorized by five types based on complexity. Type 5 incidents are the least complex and Type 1 the most complex.

**Incident Support Organization:** Includes any off-incident support provided to an incident. Examples would be Agency Dispatch Centers, Airports, Mobilization Centers, etc.

**Initial Action:** The actions taken by resources that are the first to arrive at an incident site.

**Initial Response:** Resources initially committed to an incident.

**Intelligence Officer:** The intelligence officer is responsible for managing internal information, intelligence, and operational security requirements supporting incident management activities. These may include information security and operational security activities, as well as the complex task of ensuring that sensitive information of all types (e.g., classified information, law enforcement sensitive information, proprietary information, or export-controlled information) is handled in a way that not only safeguards the information, but also ensures that it gets to those who need access to it to perform their missions effectively and safely.

## J

**Joint Information Center (JIC):** A facility established to coordinate all incident-related public information activities. It is the central point of contact for all news media at the scene of the incident. Public information officials from all participating agencies should collocate at the JIC.

**Joint Information System (JIS):** Integrates incident information and public affairs into a cohesive organization designed to provide consistent, coordinated, timely information during crisis or incident operations. The mission of the JIS is to provide a structure and system for developing and delivering coordinated interagency messages; developing, recommending, and executing public information plans and strategies on behalf of the Incident Commander; advising the Incident Commander concerning public affairs issues that could affect a response effort; and controlling rumors and inaccurate information that could undermine public confidence in the emergency response effort.

**Jurisdiction:** A range or sphere of authority. Public agencies have jurisdiction at an incident related to their legal responsibilities and authority. Jurisdictional authority at an incident can be political or geographical (e.g., city, county, tribal, State, or Federal boundary lines) or functional (e.g., law enforcement, public health).

**Jurisdictional Agency:** The agency having jurisdiction and responsibility for a specific geographical area, or a mandated function.

## K

**Kinds of Resources:** Describe what the resource is (e.g., medic, firefighter, Planning Section Chief, helicopters, ambulances, combustible gas indicators, bulldozers).

## L

**Landing Zone:** See Helispot.

**Leader:** The ICS title for an individual responsible for a Task Force, Strike Team, or functional unit.

**Liaison:** A form of communication for establishing and maintaining mutual understanding and cooperation.

**Liaison Officer (LNO):** A member of the Command Staff responsible for coordinating with representatives from cooperating and assisting agencies. The Liaison Officer may have Assistants.

**Logistics:** Providing resources and other services to support incident management.

**Logistics Section:** The Section responsible for providing facilities, services, and materials for the incident.

**Local Government:** A county, municipality, city, town, township, local public authority, school district, special district, intrastate district, council of governments (regardless of whether the council of governments is incorporated as a nonprofit corporation under State law), regional or interstate government entity, or agency or instrumentality of a local government; an Indian tribe or authorized tribal organization, or in Alaska a Native village or Alaska Regional Native Corporation; a rural community, unincorporated town or village, or other public entity. See Section 2 (10), Homeland Security Act of 2002, Public Law 107-296, 116 Stat. 2135 (2002).

## M

**Major Disaster:** As defined under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122), a major disaster is any natural catastrophe (including any hurricane, tornado, storm, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, or drought), or, regardless of cause, any fire, flood, or explosion, in any part of the United States, which in the determination of the President causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant major disaster assistance under this Act to supplement the efforts and available resources of States, tribes, local governments, and disaster relief organizations in alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused thereby.

**Management by Objective:** A management approach that involves a four-step process for achieving the incident goal. The Management by Objectives approach includes the following: establishing overarching objectives; developing and issuing assignments, plans, procedures, and protocols; establishing specific, measurable objectives for various incident management functional activities and directing efforts to fulfill them, in support of defined strategic objectives; and documenting results to measure performance and facilitate corrective action.

**Managers:** Individuals within ICS organizational Units that are assigned specific managerial responsibilities, e.g., Staging Area Manager or Camp Manager.

**Medical Unit:** Functional Unit within the Service Branch of the Logistics Section responsible for the development of the Medical Emergency Plan, and for providing emergency medical treatment of incident personnel.

**Message Center:** The Message Center is part of the Incident Communications Center and is collocated or placed adjacent to it. It receives, records, and routes information about resources reporting to the incident, resource status, and administrative and tactical traffic.

**Mitigation:** The activities designed to reduce or eliminate risks to persons or property or to lessen the actual or potential effects or consequences of an incident. Mitigation measures may be implemented prior to, during, or after an incident. Mitigation measures are often guided by lessons learned from prior incidents. Mitigation involves ongoing actions to reduce exposure to, probability of, or potential loss from hazards. Measures may include zoning and building codes, floodplain buyouts, and analysis of hazard-related data to determine where it is safe to build or locate temporary facilities. Mitigation can include efforts to educate governments, businesses, and the public on measures they can take to reduce loss and injury.

**Mobilization:** The process and procedures used by all organizations (Federal, State, and local) for activating, assembling, and transporting all resources that have been requested to respond to or support an incident.

**Mobilization Center:** An off-incident location at which emergency service personnel and equipment are temporarily located pending assignment, release, or reassignment.

**Multiagency Coordination (MAC):** The coordination of assisting agency resources and support to emergency operations.

**Multiagency Coordination Systems (MACS):** Multiagency coordination systems provide the architecture to support coordination for incident prioritization, critical resource allocation, communications systems integration, and information coordination. The components of multiagency coordination systems include facilities, equipment, emergency operations centers (EOCs), specific multiagency coordination entities, personnel, procedures, and communications. These systems assist agencies and organizations to fully integrate the subsystems of the NIMS.

**Multiagency Incident:** An incident where one or more agencies assist a jurisdictional agency or agencies. May be single or unified command.

**Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement:** Written agreement between agencies and/or jurisdictions that they will assist one another on request, by furnishing personnel, equipment, and/or expertise in a specified manner.

## N

**National Incident Management System (NIMS):** A system mandated by HSPD-5 that provides a consistent nationwide approach for Federal, State, local, and tribal governments; the private sector; and nongovernmental organizations to work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity. To provide for interoperability and compatibility among Federal, State, tribal, and local capabilities, the NIMS includes a core set of concepts, principles, and terminology. HSPD-5 identifies these as the ICS; multiagency coordination systems; training; identification and management of resources (including systems for classifying types of resources); qualification and certification; and the collection, tracking, and reporting of incident information and incident resources.

## O

**Officer:** The ICS title for the personnel responsible for the Command Staff positions of Safety, Liaison, and Public Information.

**Operational Period:** The period of time scheduled for execution of a given set of operation actions as specified in the Incident Action Plan. Operational periods can be of various lengths, although usually not over 24 hours.

**Operations Section:** The Section responsible for all tactical operations at the incident. Includes Branches, Divisions and/or Groups, Task Forces, Strike Teams, Single Resources, and Staging Areas.

**Out-of-Service Resources:** Resources assigned to an incident but unable to respond for mechanical, rest, or personnel reasons.

## P

**Planning Meeting:** A meeting held as needed throughout the duration of an incident, to select specific strategies and tactics for incident control operations, and for service and support planning. On larger incidents, the Planning Meeting is a major element in the development of the Incident Action Plan.

**Planning Section:** Responsible for the collection, evaluation, and dissemination of information related to the incident, and for the preparation and documentation of Incident Action Plans. The Section also maintains information on the current and forecasted situation, and on the status of resources assigned to the incident. Includes the Situation, Resources, Documentation, and Demobilization Units, as well as Technical Specialists.

**Preparedness:** The range of deliberate, critical tasks and activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the operational capability to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents. Preparedness is a continuous process. Preparedness involves efforts at all levels of government and between government and private-sector and nongovernmental organizations to identify threats, determine vulnerabilities, and identify required resources. Within the NIMS, preparedness is operationally focused on establishing guidelines, protocols, and standards for planning, training and exercises, personnel qualification and certification, equipment certification, and publication management.

**Preparedness Organizations:** The groups that provide interagency coordination for domestic incident management activities in a nonemergency context. Preparedness organizations can include all agencies with a role in incident management, for prevention, preparedness, response, or recovery activities. They represent a wide variety of committees, planning groups, and other organizations that meet and coordinate to ensure the proper level of planning, training, equipping, and other preparedness requirements within a jurisdiction or area.

**Prevention:** Actions to avoid an incident or to intervene to stop an incident from occurring. Prevention involves actions to protect lives and property. It involves applying intelligence and other information to a range of activities that may include such countermeasures as deterrence operations; heightened inspections; improved surveillance and security operations; investigations to determine the full nature and source of the threat; public health and agricultural surveillance and testing processes; immunizations, isolation, or quarantine; and, as appropriate, specific law enforcement operations aimed at deterring, preempting, interdicting, or disrupting illegal activity and apprehending potential perpetrators and bringing them to justice.

**Procurement Unit:** Functional Unit within the Finance/Administration Section responsible for financial matters involving vendor contracts.

**Public Information Officer (PIO):** A member of the Command Staff responsible for interfacing with the public and media or with other agencies with incident-related information requirements.

**R**

**Recorders:** Individuals within ICS organizational units who are responsible for recording information. Recorders may be found in Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration Units.

**Reinforced Response:** Those resources requested in addition to the initial response.

**Reporting Locations:** Location or facilities where incoming resources can check in at the incident. (See Check-In.)

**Resources:** Personnel and major items of equipment, supplies, and facilities available or potentially available for assignment to incident operations and for which status is maintained. Resources are described by kind and type and may be used in operational support or supervisory capacities at an incident or at an EOC.

**Recovery:** The development, coordination, and execution of service- and site-restoration plans; the reconstitution of government operations and services; individual, private-sector, nongovernmental, and public-assistance programs to provide housing and to promote restoration; long-term care and treatment of affected persons; additional measures for social, political, environmental, and economic restoration; evaluation of the incident to identify lessons learned; postincident reporting; and development of initiatives to mitigate the effects of future incidents.

**Resource Management:** Efficient incident management requires a system for identifying available resources at all jurisdictional levels to enable timely and unimpeded access to resources needed to prepare for, respond to, or recover from an incident. Resource management under the NIMS includes mutual aid agreements; the use of special Federal, State, tribal, and local teams; and resource mobilization protocols.

**Resources Unit:** Functional Unit within the Planning Section responsible for recording the status of resources committed to the incident. The Unit also evaluates resources currently committed to the incident, the impact that additional responding resources will have on the incident, and anticipated resource needs.

**Response:** Activities that address the short-term, direct effects of an incident. Response includes immediate actions to save lives, protect property, and meet basic human needs. Response also includes the execution of emergency operations plans and of mitigation activities designed to limit the loss of life, personal injury, property damage, and other unfavorable outcomes. As indicated by the situation, response activities include applying intelligence and other information to lessen the effects or consequences of an incident; increased security operations; continuing investigations into nature and source of the threat; ongoing public health and agricultural surveillance and testing processes; immunizations, isolation, or quarantine; and specific law enforcement operations aimed at preempting, interdicting, or disrupting illegal activity, and apprehending actual perpetrators and bringing them to justice.

**S**

**Safety Officer:** A member of the Command Staff responsible for monitoring and assessing safety hazards or unsafe situations, and for developing measures for ensuring personnel safety. The Safety Officer may have Assistants.

**Section:** The organizational level having responsibility for a major functional area of incident management, e.g., Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance/Administration, and Intelligence (if established). The section is organizationally situated between the Branch and the Incident Command.

**Segment:** A geographical area in which a Task Force/Strike Team Leader or Supervisor of a single resource is assigned authority and responsibility for the coordination of resources and implementation of planned tactics. A segment may be a portion of a Division or an area inside or outside the perimeter of an incident. Segments are identified with Arabic numbers.

**Service Branch:** A Branch within the Logistics Section responsible for service activities at the incident. Includes the Communications, Medical, and Food Units.

**Single Resource:** An individual, a piece of equipment and its personnel complement, or a crew or team of individuals with an identified work Supervisor that can be used on an incident.

**Situation Unit:** Functional Unit within the Planning Section responsible for the collection, organization, and analysis of incident status information, and for analysis of the situation as it progresses. Reports to the Planning Section Chief.

**Span of Control:** The number of individuals a supervisor is responsible for, usually expressed as the ratio of supervisors to individuals. (Under the NIMS, an appropriate span of control is between 1:3 and 1:7.)

**Staging Area:** Location established where resources can be placed while awaiting a tactical assignment. The Operations Section manages Staging Areas.

**State:** When capitalized, refers to any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and any possession of the United States. See Section 2 (14), Homeland Security Act of 2002, Public Law 107-296, 116 Stat. 2135 (2002).

**Strategy:** The general direction selected to accomplish incident objectives set by the Incident Commander.

**Strategic:** Strategic elements of incident management are characterized by continuous long-term, high-level planning by organizations headed by elected or other senior officials. These elements involve the adoption of long-range goals and objectives, the setting of priorities, the establishment of budgets and other fiscal decisions, policy development, and the application of measures of performance or effectiveness.

**Strike Team:** A specified combination of the same kind and type of resources with common communications and a Leader.

**Supervisor:** The ICS title for individuals responsible for a Division or Group.

**Supply Unit:** Functional Unit within the Support Branch of the Logistics Section responsible for ordering equipment and supplies required for incident operations.

**Support Branch:** A Branch within the Logistics Section responsible for providing personnel, equipment, and supplies to support incident operations. Includes the Supply, Facilities, and Ground Support Units.

**Supporting Materials:** Refers to the several attachments that may be included with an Incident Action Plan, e.g., Communications Plan, Map, Safety Plan, Traffic Plan, and Medical Plan.

**Support Resources:** Nontactical resources under the supervision of the Logistics, Planning, or Finance/Administration Sections, or the Command Staff.

**T**

**Tactical Direction:** Direction given by the Operations Section Chief that includes the tactics required to implement the selected strategy, the selection and assignment of resources to carry out the tactics, directions for tactics implementation, and performance monitoring for each operational period.

**Tactics:** Deploying and directing resources on an incident to accomplish incident strategy and objectives.

**Task Force:** A combination of single resources assembled for a particular tactical need with common communications and a Leader.

**Team:** See Single Resource.

**Technical Specialists:** Personnel with special skills that can be used anywhere within the ICS organization.

**Threat:** An indication of possible violence, harm, or danger.

**Time Unit:** Functional Unit within the Finance/Administration Section responsible for recording time for incident personnel and hired equipment.

**Type:** A classification of resources in the ICS that refers to capability. Type 1 is generally considered to be more capable than Types 2, 3, or 4, respectively, because of size, power, capacity, or, in the case of Incident Management Teams, experience and qualifications.

**Tools:** Those instruments and capabilities that allow for the professional performance of tasks, such as information systems, agreements, doctrine, capabilities, and legislative authorities.

**Tribal:** Any Indian tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community, including any Alaskan Native Village as defined in or established pursuant to the Alaskan Native Claims Settlement Act (85 Stat. 688) (43 U.S.C.A. and 1601 et seq.), that is recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians.

**U**

**Unified Area Command:** A Unified Area Command is established when incidents under an Area Command are multijurisdictional. (See Area Command and Unified Command.)

**Unified Command:** An application of ICS used when there is more than one agency with incident jurisdiction or when incidents cross political jurisdictions. Agencies work together through the designated members of the Unified Command, often the senior person from agencies and/or disciplines participating in the Unified Command, to establish a common set of objectives and strategies and a single Incident Action Plan.

**Unit:** The organizational element having functional responsibility for a specific incident Planning, Logistics, or Finance/Administration activity.

**Unity of Command:** The concept by which each person within an organization reports to one and only one designated person. The purpose of unity of command is to ensure unity of effort under one responsible commander for every objective.

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## Unit 2: ICS Overview

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## **Objectives**

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

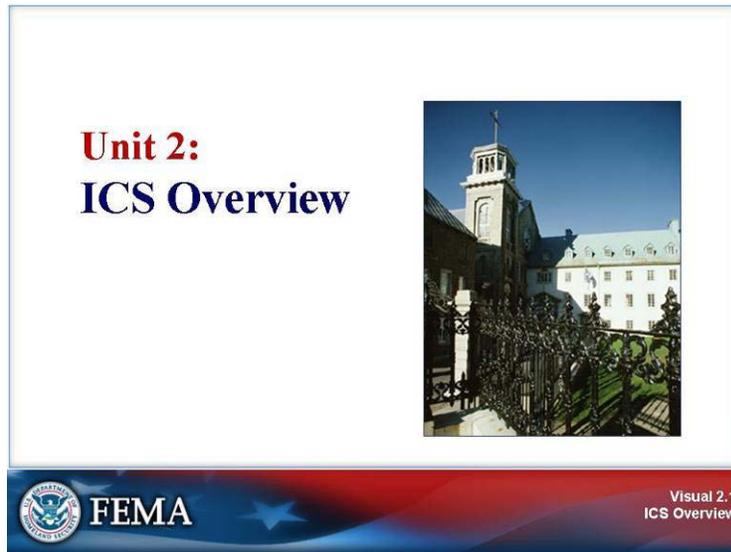
- Identify three purposes of the Incident Command System (ICS).
  - Identify requirements to use ICS.
- 

## **Scope**

- Unit Introduction
  - Unit Objectives
  - ICS Overview
    - What Is an Incident?
    - What Is ICS?
    - ICS Benefits
  - History of ICS
    - Video: History of ICS
    - Activity
    - Why Use ICS?
    - Voices of Experience
  - National Preparedness and ICS Requirements
  - Case Study: Management Challenges
  - Summary
-



Visual 2.1



**Visual Description:** Unit Introduction

### Key Points

Unit 2 provides a general overview of the Incident Command System, or ICS. The next visual will outline the objectives for this unit.



Visual 2.2

### Unit Objectives

- Identify three purposes of the Incident Command System (ICS).
- Identify requirements to use ICS.



Visual 2.2  
ICS Overview



**Visual Description:** Unit Objectives

### Key Points

By the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify three purposes of the Incident Command System (ICS).
  - Using management best practices, ICS helps to ensure:
    - The safety of responders and others.
    - The achievement of tactical objectives.
    - The efficient use of resources.
- Identify requirements to use ICS.
  - National Incident Management Systems (NIMS)
  - Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) – 1986
  - Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Rule 1910.120
  - State and Local Regulations



Visual 2.3

**What Is an Incident?**

An **incident** is . . .

. . . an occurrence or event, natural or human-caused, that requires a response to protect life or property.



 **FEMA** 

Visual 2.3  
ICS Overview

**Visual Description:** What Is an Incident?

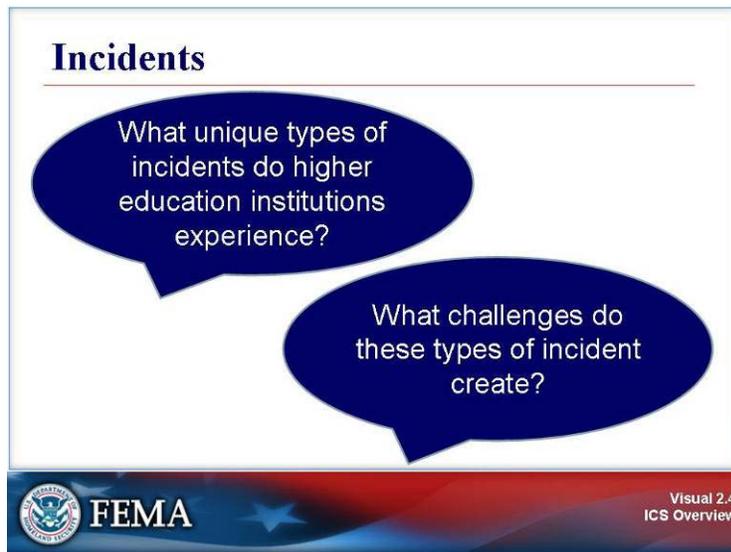
### Key Points

An incident is an occurrence or event, natural or human-caused, that requires a response to protect life or property.

**Use the space below to make note of examples of incidents that have occurred at higher education institutions.**



Visual 2.4



**Visual Description:** Discussion Questions: What unique types of incidents do higher education institutions experience? What challenges do these types of incident create?

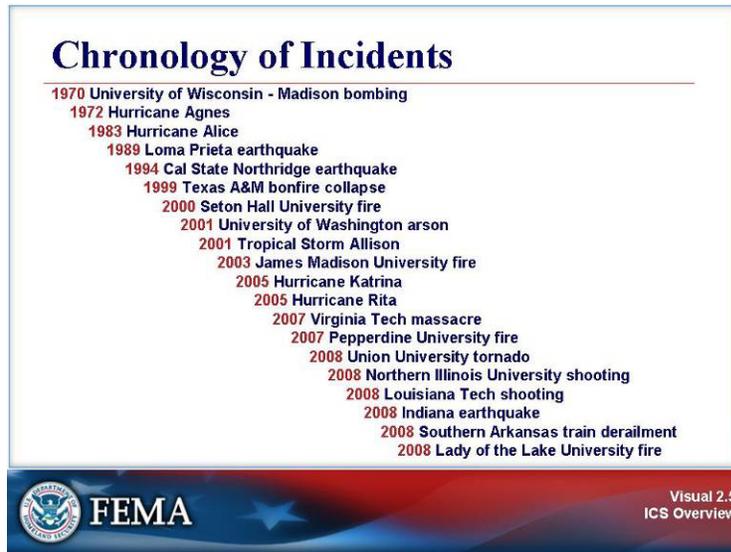
### Key Points

**What unique types of incidents do higher education institutions experience?**

**What challenges do these types of incident create?**



Visual 2.5



**Visual Description:** Chronology of Incidents

## Key Points

Review the chronology of campus incidents on the visual and the next pages in your Student Manual.

**8/24/1970 UW- Madison Bombing:** Four individuals detonated a bomb in Sterling Hall at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In protest of the Vietnam War the four perpetrators decided to destroy the Army Math Research Center located inside the building. The bomb was set to detonate in the early morning hours of August 24th in hopes of avoiding any human harm. A researcher who was working late hours was killed in the explosion. Severe damage was caused to surrounding buildings resulting in the injuries of four other people.

**6/1972 Hurricane Agnes:** King's College and Wilkes University were both affected by Hurricane Agnes in June of 1972. Flood levels reached waist high on the campus of King's College causing severe damage. A marker has been placed on the campus to show how high the flood levels reached. Wilkes University was also damaged by high flood waters and electrical wires were severed causing fires.

**8/1983 Hurricane Alicia:** Major power loss across Galveston, including University of Texas Medical Branch. Prompted new emergency power systems—generators, transfer switches, etc.

**9/17/1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake:** This earthquake occurred on the San Andreas Fault northeast of Santa Cruz, California. An estimated \$160 million in structural damages were incurred alone with several universities being affected. Stanford University, University of California (UC) Santa Cruz University, and UC Berkeley were all affected by this quake. Unlike Stanford and Santa Cruz, UC Berkeley held classes the following day after the earthquake. This incident prompted university officials to update and change their emergency plans to be able to care, feed and shelter students and employees in the event of such a disaster occurring again. Also, building plans would be changed to deal with strong earthquakes.

**1/17/1994 Cal State Northridge Earthquake:** California State University, Northridge suffered severe damage from an earthquake in 1994. Several buildings such as the Fine Arts Building, the South Library, and a large parking structure were damaged beyond repair. Other buildings such as the Art Building and Main Library were damaged but were later repaired.

**3/29/1998 Gustavus Adolphus Tornado:** In March of 1998 an F-3 tornado that was one-mile wide struck the campus of Gustavus Adolphus in St. Peter, MN. The tornado caused \$50 million dollars in damage. Fortunately no students were killed in the storm since the college was closed for spring break. The chapel on campus suffered major damage to its steeple, and many other buildings were damaged, forcing students to take classes in FEMA trailers for several weeks.

**11/18/1999 Texas A&M Bonfire Collapse:** A long-time tradition at Texas A&M has been the Aggie Bonfire. Students construct a large bonfire using large logs. On November 18, 1999, the 40-foot bonfire consisting of 5,000 logs collapsed during construction, resulting in 12 deaths and 27 injuries.

(Continued on next page.)

**1/19/2000 Seton Hall University Fire:** This university fire was a fatal fire in Boland Hall, a freshman dormitory on the Seton Hall University campus in South Orange, New Jersey. Three students died and many more were injured. Students were evacuated. The response to the incident was by the local fire department, which has indicated that there is a “difficult expectation placed on the small department to cover both the town and Seton Hall University.” It was one of the deadliest college fires in recent U.S. history and has caused many officials to consider harsher penalties for pranks to fire alarms and stricter fire safety measures. This fire was caused by two students playing a prank, who faced trial and sentences.

**5/21/2001 University of Washington Arson:** Merrill Hall, the Center for Urban Horticulture on the campus of the University of Washington, was attacked by arsonist from the ELF (Earth Liberation Front) which is a group of “Eco Terrorists” opposed the practice of genetically modifying plants. The arson caused millions of dollars worth of damage to the facility as well as the loss of valuable research.

**6/2001 Tropical Storm Allison:** When Tropical Storm Allison made landfall in Texas in June of 2001 the Texas Medical Center received damage estimated at over \$2 billion dollars. Important research facilities were severely damaged or completely lost. Many universities used the medical facility for research and education. The Baylor College of Medicine, Texas Woman’s University Institution of Health Sciences, and the Prairie View A&M College of Nursing are just a few of many educational institutes who call the medical center home.

**11/23/2003 James Madison University Fire:** An office, leased from the university by a doctor, was connected to the school offices, both of which caught on fire due to a bad extension cord. There were no injuries or deaths, but much of the school’s vital information and financial records were destroyed. The university’s EOP was credited for the school’s quick recovery.

**9/16/2004 Hurricane Ivan hits University of West Florida:** The University of West Florida was closed for 3 weeks after Hurricane Ivan caused damage to 95 percent of the campus buildings.

**8/25-29/2005 Hurricane Katrina:** This hurricane made two landfalls in both Florida and Louisiana. The City of New Orleans was tremendously damaged with breaks in levees. Universities along the entire gulf coast were affected by this particular hurricane. Tulane alone incurred a loss of \$200 million in damages, which resulted in a scale back of personnel and services. Tulane’s medical branch has also scaled back its clinics to simply engaging in research. An entire 4% of the university’s workforce has been laid off. The University of Southern Mississippi’s campus suffered an estimated \$57 million in damages. The total economic impact is estimated to be \$150 billion in damages across the gulf coast, making it the costliest natural disaster in US history.

**9/24/2005 Hurricane Rita:** The most intense tropical cyclone ever observed in the Gulf of Mexico, Rita caused \$11.3 billion in damage on the U.S. gulf coast. All patients at the University of Texas Medical Branch Hospital were transferred to other area hospitals, with minor damage to the facilities. The hurricane also caused a tornado to hit the campus of Mississippi State University, resulting in damage to many campus buildings.

(Continued on next page.)

**4/16/2007 Virginia Tech University Massacre:** Korean student Seung-Hui Cho killed 32 students and wounded 15 others, then shot himself. He was armed with a Glock model 19 handgun and a Walther P22 handgun. The university has come under attack for not giving proper notice in a timely manner. The university has more than 25,000 students on campus spread over 2,600 acres. This incident set the stage for all campuses to review behavioral assessment procedures.

**10/21/2007 Pepperdine University Fire:** The blaze consumed at least 250 acres and forced the closure of the Pacific Coast Highway. Students, faculty and staff were asked to evacuate due to the fire's proximity.

**2/06/2008 Union University Tornado:** A tornado damaged dormitories and other buildings including most vehicles. Nearly 50 students were sent to the hospital, nine with severe injuries. This has been the second time Union University has been hit by a tornado, lastly in 2001. The damage caused by the February 5th tornado is currently estimated at \$40 million. The university has a student body of about 3,300 students.

**2/14/2008 Northern Illinois University Shooting:** A man opened fire in lecture hall and began shooting, killing five students and wounding 16 others before killing himself. There were a total of 21 reported injured. The first campus warning went out within 20 minutes. Police reported that they responded to the scene within two minutes. The main campus has a population of 40,000 and spans 755 acres

**2/08/2008 Louisiana Tech University Shooting:** A female student killed herself and two others in a Baton Rouge classroom. Police immediately blocked off streets and students were ordered to stay in classrooms. Classes were cancelled for the remainder of the day. The university has an enrollment of 10,607 students.

**4/18/2008 Vincennes University, Indiana Earthquake:** Buildings shook for about 15 seconds as the temblor rumbled. The university immediately activated its Emergency Operations Plan. 1,489 students were evacuated from the school's residence halls into a field while building inspections occurred. They were allowed to return once the buildings were verified to be safe to re-enter.

**4/18/2008 Southern Arkansas University, Train Derailment:** A train hauling chlorine derailed Friday morning near Southern Arkansas University, leading authorities to evacuate the campus and nearby residents. No one was injured, and no chlorine leaked, but the threat of a chlorine leak during the cleanup prompted officials to clear the area as a precaution. Officials estimated the evacuation involved 300 to 400 people, and it was unclear when they would be able to return. Several temporary shelters were opened in town, and students were being sent to nearby churches.

**5/7/2008 Lady of the Lake University, San Antonio:** A four-alarm fire drew more than 30 fire trucks and 120 firefighters—more than half the city's available resources. No injuries or deaths were reported.



Visual 2.6

## What Is ICS?

### The Incident Command System:

- Is a standardized, on-scene, all-hazard incident management concept.
- Allows its users to adopt an integrated organizational structure that matches the complexities and demands of incidents.
- Permits seamless integration of responders from all jurisdictions.



**Visual Description:** What Is ICS?

## Key Points

The Incident Command System (ICS):

- Is based on proven incident management practices.
- Defines incident response organizational concepts and structures.
- Consists of procedures for managing personnel, facilities, equipment, and communications.
- Is used throughout the lifecycle on an incident (e.g., from threat to restoration of normal operations).



Visual 2.7

**Voices of Experience: ICS**

 <b>David Burns</b> Emergency Preparedness Manager University of California Los Angeles	 <b>Brendan McCluskey</b> Executive Director, Emergency Management University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey
 <b>Toni J. Rinaldi</b> Director of Public Safety Naugatuck Valley Community College	 <b>George Nuñez</b> Supervising Emergency Management Associate George Washington University

Click icons to play audio.

FEMA

Visual 2.7  
ICS Overview

**Visual Description:** Voices of Experience: ICS

## Key Points

Your instructor will play audio clips of “voices of experience” from campus personnel about ICS.

### Audio Transcripts:

David Burns  
Emergency Preparedness Manager  
University of California Los Angeles

ICS is a formal process for managing emergencies, tried, true, and tested for over three decades. I look at ICS as a toolbox. ICS has a set of tools and resources that almost anyone can draw from and ICS is unique and flexible enough that if I only draw off of the resources and tools that I need and I leave everything else in the box, but it’s nice to know that I can draw as little or as much as I need in any given circumstance.

(Continued on next page.)

**Audio Transcripts: (Continued)**

Toni J. Rinaldi  
Director of Public Safety  
Naugatuck Valley Community College

ICS stands for the Incident Command System, and it's a standardized approach to incident management that can be used in any situation under circumstances of a large-magnitude type of incident to a very, very small-scale contained incident.

Brendan McCluskey  
Executive Director, Emergency Management  
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey

ICS is a tool you can use to manage the incident whether it's small or large, simple or complex, or whatever type of nature it might be, if it's a terrorist incident or a natural disaster or something else, ICS really fits all of those different things because it's so flexible.

George Nuñez  
Supervising Emergency Management Associate  
George Washington University

ICS is a system to allow responders to be able to organize and respond to an incident. It is specifically useful during on-scene response. It is a format, a system of tools that allow police, fire, and other personnel to respond to that incident in a systematic way to facilitate the response but also meet the needs of those impacted.



Visual 2.8

### ICS Benefits

Using management best practices, ICS helps to ensure:

- The safety of responders, students, faculty, workers, and others.
- The achievement of response objectives.
- The efficient use of resources.



Visual 2.8  
ICS Overview



**Visual Description:** ICS Benefits

### Key Points

By using management best practices, ICS helps to ensure:

- The safety of responders, students, faculty, workers, and others.
- The achievement of response objectives.
- The efficient use of resources.



Visual 2.9



**Visual Description:** Video: History of ICS

### Key Points

Your instructor will play a video that provides a brief history of the development of ICS.

### Video Transcript:

[Narration]

The Incident Command System (ICS) was developed in the 1970s following a series of catastrophic fires in California. Property damage ran into the millions, and many people died or were injured. The personnel assigned to determine the causes of this disaster studied the case histories and discovered that response problems could rarely be attributed to lack of resources or failure of tactics.

What were the lessons learned?

Surprisingly, studies found that response problems were far more likely to result from inadequate management than from any other single reason.

(Continued on next page.)

**Video Transcript: (Continued)**

Weaknesses in incident management were often due to:

- Lack of accountability, including unclear chains of command and supervision.
- Poor communication, due to both inefficient uses of available communications systems and conflicting codes and terminology.
- Lack of an orderly, systematic planning process.
- No common, flexible, predesigned management structure that enables commanders to delegate responsibilities and manage workloads efficiently.
- No predefined methods to integrate interagency requirements into the management structure and planning process effectively.

A poorly managed incident response can be devastating to our economy and our health and safety.

[Richard Lee, Assistant Director of Public Safety, University of Massachusetts Boston]  
Campuses and universities have to be able to provide the same level of protection on that campus that these people enjoy when they're at home.

[Narration]

With so much at stake, we must be able to effectively manage our response efforts. The Incident Command System, or I-C-S, allows us to do so.

[Dorothy Miller, Emergency Management Coordinator, University of Texas at Dallas]  
It's not just for fire even though we all know that's where it was created. It gives us a structure. It gives us a management tool.

[Paul Dean, Deputy Chief of Police/Director of Emergency Management, University of New Hampshire]

ICS is critical, it's absolutely critical for any college campus to have. Those who do not embrace it will find themselves in difficulties when an emergency happens, and in today's day and age, no one can say anymore, "I didn't know."

[end of transcript]

## ICS Background

The concept of ICS was developed more than 30 years ago, in the aftermath of a devastating wildfire in California. During 13 days in 1970, 16 lives were lost, 700 structures were destroyed, and over one-half million acres burned. The overall cost and loss associated with these fires totaled \$18 million per day. Although all of the responding agencies cooperated to the best of their ability, numerous problems with communication and coordination hampered their effectiveness.

As a result, the Congress mandated that the U.S. Forest Service design a system that would "make a quantum jump in the capabilities of Southern California wildland fire protection agencies to effectively coordinate interagency action and to allocate suppression resources in dynamic, multiple-fire situations."

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection; the Governor's Office of Emergency Services; the Los Angeles, Ventura, and Santa Barbara County Fire Departments; and the Los Angeles City Fire Department joined with the U.S. Forest Service to develop the system. This system became known as FIRESCOPE (Firefighting RESources of California Organized for Potential Emergencies). In 1973, the first "FIRESCOPE Technical Team" was established to guide the research and development design. Two major components came out of this work, the ICS and the Multiagency Coordination System (MACS).

The FIRESCOPE ICS is primarily a command-and-control system delineating job responsibilities and organizational structure for the purpose of managing day-to-day operations for all types of emergency incidents. By the mid-seventies, the FIRESCOPE agencies had formally agreed on ICS common terminology and procedures and conducted limited field-testing of ICS. By 1980, parts of ICS had been used successfully on several major wildland and urban fire incidents. It was formally adopted by the Los Angeles Fire Department, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF), and the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES), and endorsed by the State Board of Fire Services.

Also during the 1970s, the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) was chartered to coordinate fire management programs of the various participating Federal and State agencies.

By 1980, FIRESCOPE ICS training was under development. Recognizing that in addition to the local users for which it was designed, the FIRESCOPE training could satisfy the needs of other State and Federal agencies, the NWCG conducted an analysis of FIRESCOPE ICS for possible national application.

By 1981, ICS was widely used throughout Southern California by the major fire agencies. In addition, the use of ICS in response to nonfire incidents was increasing. Although FIRESCOPE ICS was originally developed to assist in the response to wildland fires, it was quickly recognized as a system that could help public safety responders provide effective and coordinated incident management for a wide range of situations, including floods, hazardous materials accidents, earthquakes, and aircraft crashes. It was flexible enough to manage catastrophic incidents involving thousands of emergency response and management personnel.

In 1982, all FIRESCOPE ICS documentation was revised and adopted as the National Interagency Incident Management System (NIIMS). In the years since FIRESCOPE and the NIIMS were blended, the FIRESCOPE agencies and the NWCG have worked together to update and maintain the Incident Command System Operational System Description (ICS 120-1). This document would later serve as the basis for the National Incident Management System (NIMS) ICS.

By introducing relatively minor terminology, organizational, and procedural modifications to FIRESCOPE ICS, the NIIMS ICS became adaptable to an all-hazards environment. While tactically each type of incident may be handled somewhat differently, the overall incident management approach still utilizes the major functions of the Incident Command System. The FIRESCOPE board of directors and the NWCG recommended national application of ICS.

### ICS Variations

In the early 1970s, the Phoenix Fire Department developed the Fire Ground Command System (FGC). The concepts of FGC were similar to FIRESCOPE ICS but there were differences in terminology and in organizational structure. The FGC system was developed for structural firefighting and was designed for operations of 25 or fewer companies.

There were several efforts to "blend" the various incident command systems. One early effort was in 1987 when the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) undertook the development of NFPA 1561, then called Standard on Fire Department Incident Management System. The NFPA committee quickly recognized that the majority of the incident command systems in existence at the time were similar.

The differences among the systems were mostly due to variations in terminology for similar components. That NFPA standard, later revised to its present title: Standard on Emergency Services Incident Management, provides for organizations to adopt or modify existing systems to suit local requirements or preferences as long as they meet specific performance measurements. Recognizing the continuing challenges occurring in the fire service in applying a common approach to incident command, the National Fire Service Incident Management System (IMS) Consortium was created in 1990. Its purpose was to evaluate an approach to developing a single command system. The consortium consisted of many individual fire service leaders, representatives of most major fire service organizations, and representatives of Federal, State, and local agencies, including FIRESCOPE and the Phoenix Fire Department. One of the significant outcomes of the consortium's work was an agreement on the need to develop operational protocols within ICS, so that fire and rescue personnel would be able to apply the ICS as one common system.

In 1993, the IMS consortium completed its first document: Model Procedures Guide for Structural Firefighting. As a result, FIRESCOPE incorporated the model procedures, thereby enhancing its organizational structure with operational protocols. These changes enabled the Nation's fire and rescue personnel to apply the ICS effectively regardless of what region of the country they were assigned to work. The National Fire Academy (NFA), having already adopted the FIRESCOPE ICS in 1980, incorporated this material into its training curriculum as well.

Source: National Integration Center



Visual 2.10

### Activity: ICS & Planned Events

#### Instructions: Working as a team . . .

- Briefly describe one example where ICS could be used to manage planned events (e.g., sporting events) on your campus.
- Identify the benefits of using ICS for the selected event.
- Select a spokesperson and be prepared to present your example.



**Visual Description:** Activity: ICS & Planned Events

### Key Points

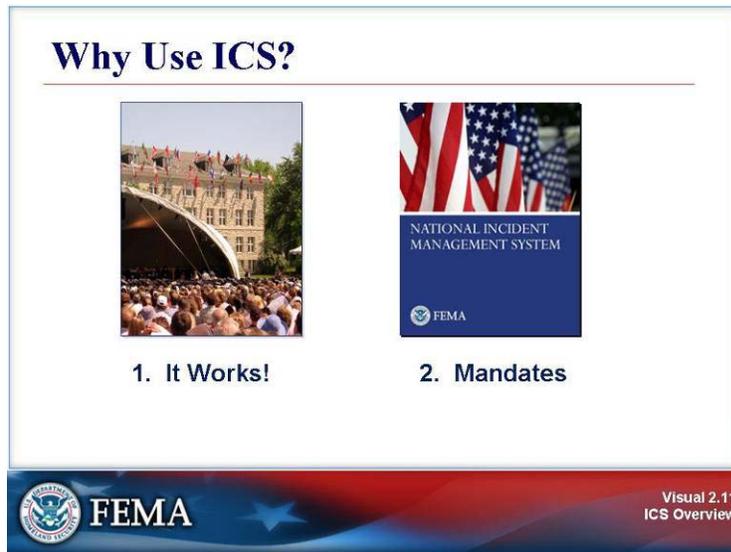
**Purpose:** The purpose of this activity is to illustrate how ICS can be used to address incident management issues, using planned events as an example.

#### **Instructions:**

1. Your instructor will assign you to a team. Work with your teammates to develop a brief description of one example where ICS could be used to manage planned events on campus. You should also identify the benefits of using ICS for the selected event.
2. Write your example on chart paper.
3. Select a spokesperson to present your group's response.
4. You will have 5 minutes to complete this activity.



Visual 2.11



**Visual Description:** Why Use ICS?

### Key Points

Read the following points about the value of using ICS:

- It works! In the next part of this unit, you'll hear about several ICS success stories.
- The use of ICS is mandated by the National Incident Management System (NIMS). NIMS provides a systematic, proactive approach guiding departments and agencies at all levels of government, the private sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work seamlessly to prepare for, prevent, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of incidents, regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity, in order to reduce the loss of life and property, and harm to the environment.



Visual 2.12

### ICS Successes

 <p><b>Toni J. Rinaldi</b> Director, Public Safety Naugatuck Valley Community College</p> 	 <p><b>Paul H. Dean</b> Deputy Police Chief/ Director, Emergency Management University of NH</p> 
 <p><b>Richard Lee</b> Assistant Director, Public Safety University of Mass Boston</p> 	 <p><b>Dorothy Miller</b> Emergency Management Coordinator University of Texas at Dallas</p> 

Click icons to play audio.


Visual 2.12  
ICS Overview

**Visual Description:** ICS Successes

## Key Points

Your instructor will play audio clips of “voices of experience” from campus personnel about the successful use of ICS on their campuses.

### Audio Transcripts:

Toni J. Rinaldi  
Director of Public Safety  
Naugatuck Valley Community College

We had a very suspicious package that was possibly an explosive device that was placed near a trash can on the second floor of a two-story parking garage facility that sits under a fourth floor academic building. It was reported to public safety and immediately all the players went into action. The initial responder who became the original incident commander took control of the situation and started delegating functional roles that were needed. . . Fortunately, the whole incident was brought to a successful conclusion after about an hour and a half or two hours.

(Continued on next page.)

**Audio Transcripts: (Continued)**

Paul H. Dean  
Deputy Chief of Police/Director of Emergency Management  
University of New Hampshire

We hosted the Republican debates at the University of New Hampshire. That brought in a variety of the academic world, the support services world, as well as State, county, and Federal assets into the system. ICS allowed all of us to work together as a team and for a successful event.

Richard Lee  
Assistant Director of Public Safety  
University of Massachusetts Boston

We had what was called a straight-lined thunderstorm come through with a microburst in it which tore the roof off of one of our buildings, and we used our incident command system. We had appointed an incident commander who happened to be our facilities director who then started giving orders about how to make sure power was shut down, what needed to be covered up, and all the other incidents that needed to be in there such as monitoring alarms and everything else, and it eventually settled back down from then and we worked it into then where our public safety director took over and was charged with working the perimeters and everything else until the incident was resolved.

Dorothy Miller  
Emergency Management Coordinator  
University of Texas at Dallas

During a hazmat incident at one of our buildings that houses chemistry labs, when I got to the scene there was already an incident command post set up, the fire chief was in charge, and there of course was the hazmat teams called out, environmental health and safety, the police chief. I talked to the police and fire chiefs because I know who they are. I had ahead of time made that relationship establishment. That's incredibly important that when you train, you can't just have your classes in a vacuum. You have to include all the responders in your community also and possibly other campuses because everyone has a different perspective but also you may need them in the future so you need to know who they are ahead of time.



Visual 2.13

**National Incident Management System (NIMS)**



**What?** . . . NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template . . .

**Who?** . . . to enable Federal, State, tribal, and local governments, the private sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work together . . .

**How?** . . . to prepare for, prevent, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of incidents regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity . . .

**Why?** . . . in order to reduce the loss of life and property, and harm to the environment.



Visual 2.13  
ICS Overview

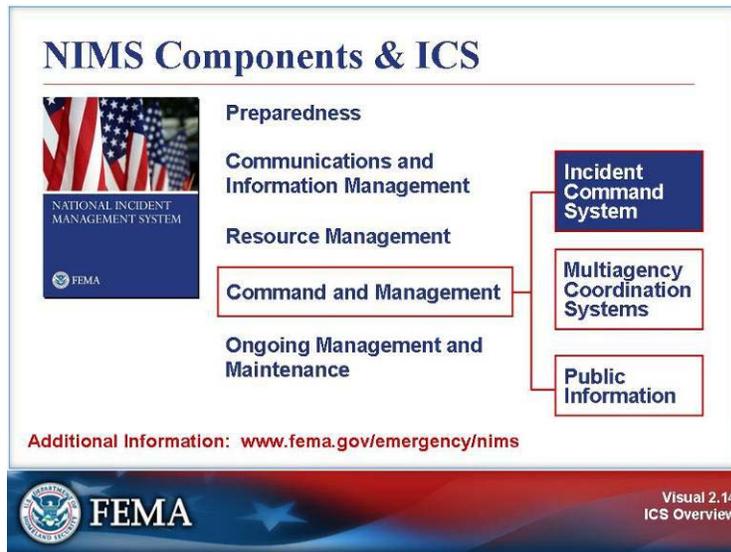
**Visual Description:** National Incident Management System (NIMS)

### Key Points

**The National Incident Management System (NIMS) provides a consistent framework for incident management at all jurisdictional levels regardless of the cause, size, or complexity of the incident.** NIMS is not an operational incident management or resource allocation plan.



Visual 2.14



**Visual Description:** NIMS Components & ICS

## Key Points

NIMS represents a core set of doctrine, concepts, principles, terminology, and organizational processes that enables effective, efficient, and collaborative incident management.

- **Preparedness:** Effective emergency management and incident response activities begin with a host of preparedness activities conducted on an ongoing basis, in advance of any potential incident. Preparedness involves an integrated combination of planning, procedures and protocols, training and exercises, personnel qualifications and certification, and equipment certification.
- **Communications and Information Management:** Emergency management and incident response activities rely upon communications and information systems that provide a common operating picture to all command and coordination sites. NIMS describes the requirements necessary for a standardized framework for communications and emphasizes the need for a common operating picture. NIMS is based upon the concepts of interoperability, reliability, scalability, portability, and the resiliency and redundancy of communications and information systems.
- **Resource Management:** Resources (such as personnel, equipment, and/or supplies) are needed to support critical incident objectives. The flow of resources must be fluid and adaptable to the requirements of the incident. NIMS defines standardized mechanisms and establishes the resource management process to: identify requirements, order and acquire, mobilize, track and report, recover and demobilize, reimburse, and inventory resources.

(Continued on next page.)

- **Command and Management:** The Command and Management component within NIMS is designed to enable effective and efficient incident management and coordination by providing flexible, standardized incident management structures. The structures are based on three key organizational constructs: **the Incident Command System, Multiagency Coordination Systems, and Public Information.**
- **Ongoing Management and Maintenance:** Within the auspices of Ongoing Management and Maintenance, there are two components: the National Integration Center (NIC) and Supporting Technologies.



Visual 2.15

### ICS Mandates

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NIMS requires all levels of government to:

- Prepare for and use ICS for all domestic responses.
- Adopt ICS as a condition of receiving Federal preparedness funding including U.S. Department of Education Emergency Management for Higher Education (EMHE) grants.



FEMA

Visual 2.15  
ICS Overview

**Visual Description:** ICS Mandates

## Key Points

Adopting ICS and NIMS is a condition of receiving Federal preparedness funding and certain grants.

ICS will help you implement Federal, State, and local mandates, such as Clery Act regulations for campus security and crime statistics. The Clery Act, named for a college freshman who was raped and murdered in a campus residence hall, requires colleges and universities to maintain and disclose information about crime on and around their campuses.

According to the National Integration Center, “institutionalizing the use of ICS” means that government officials, incident managers, and emergency response organizations at all jurisdictional levels must adopt the Incident Command System. Actions to institutionalize the use of ICS take place at two levels:

**Policy Level:** At the policy level, institutionalizing the ICS means government officials (i.e., Governors, mayors, county and city managers, tribal leaders, and others) must:

- Adopt the ICS through executive order, proclamation, or legislation as the jurisdiction's official incident response system; and
- Direct that incident managers and response organizations in their jurisdictions train, exercise, and use the ICS in their response operations.

**Organizational Level:** At the organizational/operational level, evidence that incident managers and emergency response organizations are institutionalizing the ICS would include the following:

- ICS is being integrated into functional and system-wide emergency operations policies, plans, and procedures.
- ICS training is planned or underway for responders, supervisors, and command-level officers.
- Responders at all levels are participating in and/or coordinating ICS-oriented exercises that involve responders from multiple disciplines and jurisdictions.



Visual 2.16

### Other ICS Mandates

- Hazardous Materials Incidents
  - Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) – 1986
  - Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Rule 1910.120
- State and Local Regulations



**Visual Description:** Other ICS Mandates

### Key Points

In addition to the NIMS mandate, the following laws require the use of ICS:

- The Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986 established Federal regulations for handling hazardous materials. SARA directed the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to establish rules for operations at hazardous materials incidents.
- OSHA rule 1910.120, effective March 6, 1990, requires all organizations that handle hazardous materials to use ICS. The regulation states: “The Incident Command System shall be established by those employers for the incidents that will be under their control and shall interface with other organizations or agencies who may respond to such an incident.”

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires States to use ICS at hazardous materials incidents.



Visual 2.17

## Case Study: Management Challenges

### Instructions:

1. Working as a team, review the case study presented in your Student Manuals.
2. Identify the top three challenges in managing this incident. Write these challenges on chart paper.
3. Using what you have learned so far, describe how ICS could be used to address these challenges.
4. Select a spokesperson. Be prepared to present in 5 minutes.



**Visual Description:** Case Study: Management Challenges

### Key Points

**Purpose:** The purpose of this activity is to illustrate how ICS can be used to address incident management issues.

### Instructions:

1. Work with your team to review the scenario presented on the next page.
2. Identify the top three challenges for officials to manage this incident. Write the challenges on chart paper. Discuss with your group how ICS could be used to address these challenges.
3. Select a group spokesperson.
4. You will have 5 minutes to complete this activity.

**Scenario:** During freshman move-in, a dangerous worm has spread rapidly through the university computer network. The worm, which is consuming massive amounts of bandwidth, also includes a “payload” code designed to delete files on affected computers. The effects have essentially crippled the university computer network, including systems for course registration and emergency notification. The network is also used when students swipe their identification cards to enter residence halls and fitness facilities, and to pay for meals at campus dining halls. It remains unclear whether the incident poses a threat to sensitive information, such as student and employee Social Security numbers.

**Discussion Questions:**

**What are the priorities?**

**What are the incident management challenges? (Think about how ICS may address these challenges!)**

**Who needs to be involved?**



Visual 2.18

**Summary**

ICS . . .

- Is a standardized management tool for meeting the demands of small or large emergency and nonemergency situations.
- Represents best practices, and has become the standard for emergency management across the country.
- May be used for planned events, natural disasters, and acts of terrorism.
- Is a key feature of NIMS.

 **FEMA**  Visual 2.18  
ICS Overview

**Visual Description:** Summary

## Key Points

Remember that ICS:

- Is a standardized management tool for meeting the demands of small or large emergency and nonemergency situations.
- Represents best practices, and has become the standard for emergency management across the country.
- May be used for planned events, natural disasters, and acts of terrorism.
- Is a key feature of NIMS.

**Your Notes:**

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## Unit 3: ICS Features and Principles

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## Objectives

At the end of this unit, you should be able to describe the basic features and principles of the Incident Command System (ICS).

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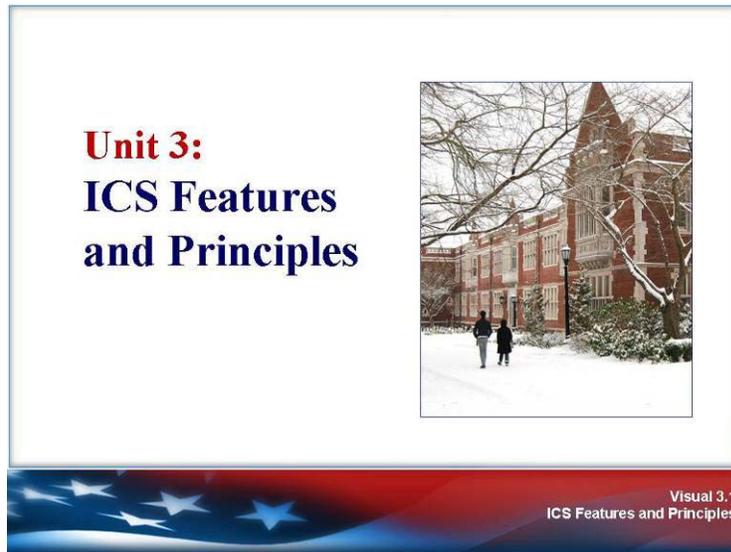
## Scope

- Unit Introduction
  - Unit Objective
  - ICS Features
    - Video: ICS Features
  - Standardization
    - Common Terminology – No Codes
    - Use of Plain English
  - Command
    - Command: Definition
    - Transfer of Command
    - Chain of Command
    - Unity of Command
    - Incident Management Roles
    - Activity: Command
  - Planning/Organizational Structure
    - Management by Objectives
    - ICS Organization
    - Modular Organization
    - Incident Action Planning (IAP)
      - Activity: IAP
    - Manageable Span of Control
      - Activity: Span of Control
  - Facilities and Resources
    - Video: Incident Facilities Virtual Tour
    - Incident Facility Map Symbols
    - Resources: Definition
    - Resource Management
    - Activity: Staging Area
  - Communications/Information Management
    - Integrated Communications
    - Information & Intelligence Management
    - Case Study: Incident Management
  - Professionalism
    - Accountability
    - Dispatch/Deployment
    - Activity: Deployment
  - Summary
-

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Visual 3.1



**Visual Description:** Unit Introduction

### Key Points

This unit will provide an overview of the basic features and principles of the Incident Command System:

- ICS management principles
- ICS core system features



Visual 3.2

**Unit Objective**

**Describe the basic features of the Incident Command System (ICS).**



 **FEMA** 

Visual 3.2  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Unit Objective

### Key Points

By the end of this unit, you should be able to describe the basic features of the Incident Command System (ICS).



Visual 3.3

### ICS Features: Overview

- Standardization
  - Common terminology
- Command
  - Establishment and transfer of command
  - Chain of command and unity of command
- Planning/Organizational Structure
  - Management by objectives
  - Incident Action Plan (IAP)
  - Modular organization
  - Manageable span of control
- Facilities and Resources
  - Comprehensive resource management
  - Incident locations and facilities
- Communications/Information Management
  - Integrated communications
  - Information and intelligence management
- Professionalism
  - Accountability
  - Dispatch/Deployment

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Visual 3.3  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** ICS Features: Overview

### Key Points

The visual outlines the features of ICS that will be covered in this unit. Refer to the next two pages in your Student Manual for more detail about each feature.

The essential ICS features are listed below:

**Standardization:**

- **Common Terminology:** Using common terminology helps to define organizational functions, incident facilities, resource descriptions, and position titles.

**Command:**

- **Establishment and Transfer of Command:** The command function must be clearly established from the beginning of an incident. When command is transferred, the process must include a briefing that captures all essential information for continuing safe and effective operations.
- **Chain of Command and Unity of Command:** Chain of command refers to the orderly line of authority within the ranks of the incident management organization. Unity of command means that every individual has a designated supervisor to whom he or she reports at the scene of the incident. These principles clarify reporting relationships and eliminate the confusion caused by multiple, conflicting directives. Incident managers at all levels must be able to control the actions of all personnel under their supervision.

**Planning/Organizational Structure:**

- **Management by Objectives:** Includes establishing overarching objectives; developing and issuing assignments, plans, procedures, and protocols; establishing specific, measurable objectives for various incident management functional activities; and directing efforts to attain the established objectives.
- **Modular Organization:** The Incident Command organizational structure develops in a top-down, modular fashion that is based on the size and complexity of the incident, as well as the specifics of the hazard environment created by the incident.
- **Incident Action Planning:** Incident Action Plans (IAPs) provide a coherent means of communicating the overall incident objectives in the contexts of both operational and support activities.
- **Manageable Span of Control:** Span of control is key to effective and efficient incident management. Within ICS, the span of control of any individual with incident management supervisory responsibility should range from three to seven subordinates.

**Facilities and Resources:**

- **Incident Locations and Facilities:** Various types of operational locations and support facilities are established in the vicinity of an incident to accomplish a variety of purposes. Typical predesignated facilities include Incident Command Posts, Bases, Camps, Staging Areas, Mass Casualty Triage Areas, and others as required.
- **Comprehensive Resource Management:** Resource management includes processes for categorizing, ordering, dispatching, tracking, and recovering resources. It also includes processes for reimbursement for resources, as appropriate. Resources are defined as personnel, teams, equipment, supplies, and facilities available or potentially available for assignment or allocation in support of incident management and emergency response activities.

**Communications/Information Management:**

- **Integrated Communications:** Incident communications are facilitated through the development and use of a common communications plan and interoperable communications processes and architectures.
- **Information and Intelligence Management:** The incident management organization must establish a process for gathering, sharing, and managing incident-related information and intelligence.

**Professionalism:**

- **Accountability:** Effective accountability at all jurisdictional levels and within individual functional areas during incident operations is essential. To that end, the following principles must be adhered to:
  - **Check-In:** All responders, regardless of agency affiliation, must report in to receive an assignment in accordance with the procedures established by the Incident Commander.
  - **Incident Action Plan:** Response operations must be directed and coordinated as outlined in the IAP.
  - **Unity of Command:** Each individual involved in incident operations will be assigned to only one supervisor.
  - **Span of Control:** Supervisors must be able to adequately supervise and control their subordinates, as well as communicate with and manage all resources under their supervision.
  - **Resource Tracking:** Supervisors must record and report resource status changes as they occur. (This topic is covered in a later unit.)
- **Dispatch/Deployment:** Personnel and equipment should respond only when requested or when dispatched by an appropriate authority.



Visual 3.4



**Visual Description:** Video: ICS Features

## Key Points

Your instructor will show a video that introduces this lesson on ICS features and principles.

### Video Transcript:

[Narrator]

As you learned in the previous lesson, ICS is based on proven management principles, which contribute to the strength and efficiency of the overall system.

ICS incorporates a wide range of management features, beginning with the use of common terminology and clear text.

[David Burns, Emergency Preparedness Manager, University of California Los Angeles]  
Communication is probably one of the most essential elements of ICS. It's important that we know how to communicate.

[Narrator]

ICS uses a flexible, modular organizational structure.

(Continued on next page.)

**Video Transcript: (Continued)**

[Brendan McCluskey, Executive Director of Emergency Management, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey]

You can use it to manage the incident whether it's small or large, simple or complex or whatever type of nature. ICS really fits all of those different things because it's so flexible.

[Narrator]

ICS emphasizes effective planning, including management by objectives and reliance on an Incident Action Plan.

[George Nuñez, Supervising Emergency Management Associate, George Washington University]

One benefit of ICS is organization. It allows responders to come together regardless of their role or responsibilities and be able to organize and respond to the incident.

[Narrator]

The ICS features related to command structure include chain of command and unity of command.

[Toni Rinaldi, Director of Public Safety, Naugatuck Valley Community College]

Internally it defines everybody's role in incident management. It defines a standard set of rules that everyone is going to follow regardless of who is working on a given day, regardless of who happens to be in charge administratively that day and regardless of who's on your campus.

[Narrator]

ICS helps ensure full utilization of all incident resources by:

- Maintaining a manageable span of control,
- Establishing predesignated incident locations and facilities,
- Implementing resource management practices.,
- And ensuring integrated communications.

ICS supports responders and decisionmakers through effective information and intelligence management.

[James Hamrick, Assistant Chief of Police, University of Maryland]

ICS can help manage the large amount of information that is inherent in a large event, whether that's a critical incident or a large planned event.

[Narrator]

ICS counts on each of us taking personal accountability for our own actions.

[David Burns]

Accountability is basically a process where individuals know their responsibilities, they know their role, they know what process they contribute to.

(Continued on next page.)

**Video Transcript: (Continued)**

[Narrator]

The mobilization process helps ensure that incident objectives can be achieved while responders and students remain safe.

[Richard Lee]

ICS gives us a common language, a common background, and a common way of doing things so that we're all working on the best, on the same page, and can best provide for the safety and security of our campuses.

[Narrator]

This lesson presents the ICS features that promote effective, team-based incident response.

[end of transcript]



Visual 3.5

### Common Terminology – No Codes!

Using common terminology helps to define:

- Organizational functions.
- Incident facilities.
- Resource descriptions.
- Position titles.

**Common terminology allows campus personnel to integrate seamlessly with community responders.**



 **FEMA**

Visual 3.5  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Common Terminology – No Codes!

### Key Points

The ability to communicate within the ICS is absolutely critical. An essential method for ensuring the ability to communicate is by using common terminology and clear text.

A critical part of an effective multiagency incident management system is for all communications to be in plain English. That is, use clear text. Do not use radio codes, departmental codes, or jargon.

ICS establishes common terminology allowing diverse incident management and support entities to work together. Common terminology helps to define:

- **Organizational Functions.** Major functions and functional units with domestic incident management responsibilities are named and defined. Terminology for the organizational elements involved is standard and consistent.
- **Incident Facilities.** Common terminology is used to designate the facilities in the vicinity of the incident area that will be used in the course of incident management activities.
- **Resource Descriptions.** Major resources—including personnel, facilities, and major equipment and supply items—used to support incident management activities are given common names and are "typed" with respect to their capabilities, to help avoid confusion and to enhance interoperability.
- **Position Titles.** At each level within the ICS organization, individuals with primary responsibility have distinct titles. Titles provide a common standard for all users, and also make it easier to fill ICS positions with qualified personnel. ICS titles often do NOT correspond to the titles used on a daily basis.



Visual 3.6

### Use of Plain English

- Communications should be in plain English or clear text.
- Do not use codes, institution-specific acronyms, or jargon.

Even if you use codes on a daily basis, why should you use plain English during an incident response?



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Visual 3.6  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Use of Plain English

### Key Points

Even if you use codes on a daily basis, why should you use plain English during an incident response?



Visual 3.7

### Why Plain English?

EMT = Emergency Medical Treatment  
EMT = Emergency Medical Technician  
EMT = Emergency Management Team  
EMT = Eastern Mediterranean Time (GMT+0200)  
EMT = Effective Methods Team  
EMT = Effects Management Tool  
EMT = El Monte, CA (airport code)  
EMT = Electron Microscope Tomography  
EMT = Email Money Transfer



**Visual Description:** Why Plain English?

### Key Points

Read the following examples of different meanings of a common acronym.

EMT = Emergency Medical Treatment  
EMT = Emergency Medical Technician  
EMT = Emergency Management Team  
EMT = Eastern Mediterranean Time (GMT+0200)  
EMT = Effective Methods Team  
EMT = Effects Management Tool  
EMT = El Monte, CA (airport code)  
EMT = Electron Microscope Tomography  
EMT = Email Money Transfer

Use the space below to note examples of other codes or jargon that could be misunderstood by responders from different agencies.



Visual 3.8

### ICS Features: Overview

- Standardization
  - Common terminology
- Command**
  - Establishment and transfer of command
  - Chain of command and unity of command
- Planning/Organizational Structure
  - Management by objectives
  - Incident Action Plan (IAP)
  - Modular organization
  - Manageable span of control
- Facilities and Resources
  - Comprehensive resource management
  - Incident locations and facilities
- Communications/Information Management
  - Integrated communications
  - Information and intelligence management
- Professionalism
  - Accountability
  - Dispatch/Deployment

 **FEMA** 

Visual 3.8  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** ICS Features Overview: Command

## Key Points

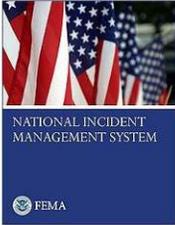
The next part of this unit covers command, including:

- Establishment and transfer of command.
- Chain of command and unity of command.



Visual 3.9

**Command: Definition**



**Command:** The act of directing, ordering, or controlling, by virtue of **explicit** statutory, regulatory, or delegated authority.

**At an incident scene, the Incident Commander has the authority to assume command!**



**Visual Description:** Command: Definition

### Key Points

NIMS defines command as the act of directing, ordering, or controlling by virtue of explicit statutory, regulatory, or delegated authority.

At an incident scene, the Incident Commander has the authority to assume command.

The Incident Commander should have the level of training, experience, and expertise to serve in this capacity. It is quite possible that the Incident Commander may not be the highest ranking official on scene.



Visual 3.10

### Transfer of Command

- Moves the responsibility for incident command from one Incident Commander to another.
- Must include a transfer of command briefing (which may be oral, written, or both).



Visual 3.10  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Transfer of Command

### Key Points

The next ICS feature is transfer of command.

- The process of moving the responsibility for incident command from one Incident Commander to another is called transfer of command.
- The transfer of command process always includes a transfer of command briefing, which may be oral, written, or a combination of both.
- When a transfer of command takes place, it is important to announce the change to the rest of the incident staff.



Visual 3.11

### When Command Is Transferred

Command is transferred when:

- A more qualified Incident Commander arrives.
- A jurisdiction or agency is legally required to take command.
- Incident complexity changes.
- The current Incident Commander needs to rest.



Visual 3.11  
ICS Features and Principles



**Visual Description:** When Command Is Transferred

### Key Points

There are several possible reasons that command might be transferred. Transfer of command may take place when:

- A more qualified Incident Commander arrives and assumes command. For example, a faculty member might act as the initial incident commander for an explosion in a science lab, but would then relinquish command to a more qualified Incident Commander when firefighters arrive.
- A jurisdiction or agency is legally required to take command. For example, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is legally required to take the lead for investigations of terrorist incidents.
- The incident changes in complexity. For example, an incident might start on campus, but spread into the surrounding community, affecting multiple jurisdictions, institutions, or agencies.
- The current Incident Commander needs to rest. On long or extended incidents, there is normally turnover of personnel to accommodate work/rest requirements.



Visual 3.12

### Transfer of Command Briefing

The transfer of command process always includes a thorough transfer of command briefing, which may be oral, written, or a combination of both.

What would you include in a transfer of command briefing?

Visual 3.12  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Transfer of Command Briefing

### Key Points

The transfer of command process always includes a thorough transfer of command briefing, which may be oral, written, or a combination of both.

It is also important to remember that the rest of the incident staff should be notified of the transfer of command.

**What would you include in a transfer of command briefing?**

→ **Hint: Refer to the additional information on the next page!**

The process of moving the responsibility for incident command from one Incident Commander to another is called “transfer of command.” It should be recognized that transition of command on an expanding incident is to be expected. It does not reflect on the competency of the current Incident Commander.

There are five important steps in effectively assuming command of an incident in progress.

**Step 1:** The incoming Incident Commander should, if at all possible, personally perform an assessment of the incident situation with the existing Incident Commander.

**Step 2:** The incoming Incident Commander must be adequately briefed.

This briefing must be by the current Incident Commander, and take place face-to-face if possible. The briefing must cover the following:

- Incident history (what has happened)
- Priorities and objectives
- Current plan
- Resource assignments
- Incident organization
- Resources ordered/needed
- Facilities established
- Status of communications
- Any constraints or limitations
- Incident potential
- Delegation of authority

**Step 3:** After the incident briefing, the incoming Incident Commander should determine an appropriate time for transfer of command.

**Step 4:** At the appropriate time, notice of a change in incident command should be made to:

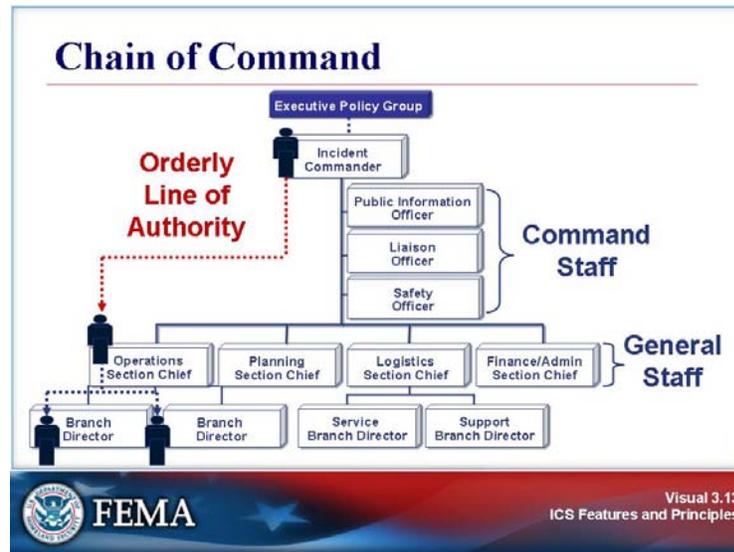
- Agency headquarters.
- General Staff members (if designated).
- Command Staff members (if designated).
- All incident personnel.

**Step 5:** The incoming Incident Commander may give the previous Incident Commander another assignment on the incident. There are several advantages to this strategy:

- The initial Incident Commander retains first-hand knowledge at the incident site.
- This strategy allows the initial Incident Commander to observe the progress of the incident and to gain experience.



Visual 3.13



**Visual Description:** Chain of Command

## Key Points

Chain of command is an orderly line of authority within the ranks of the incident management organization. Chain of command:

- Allows incident managers to direct and control the actions of all personnel under their supervision.
- Avoids confusion by requiring that orders flow from supervisors.

Chain of command does not prevent personnel from directly communicating with each other to ask for or share information.

The features and principles used to manage an incident differ from day-to-day management approaches. Effective incident management relies on a tight command and control structure. Although information is exchanged freely through the ICS structure, strict adherence must be paid to top-down direction.

**To make ICS work, each of us must commit to following this command and control approach.**



Visual 3.14

### Unity of Command

Under unity of command, personnel during an incident:

- Report to only one incident supervisor.
- Receive work assignments only from the assigned supervisor.



Visual 3.14  
ICS Features and Principles



**Visual Description:** Unity of Command

### Key Points

Under unity of command, personnel:

- Report to only one ICS supervisor.
- Receive work assignments only from their ICS supervisors.



Visual 3.15

### Incident Management Roles (1 of 2)

The Incident Commander's role is to:

- Manage the incident at the scene.
- Keep officials in the Executive Policy Group informed on all important matters pertaining to the incident.



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Visual 3.15  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Incident Management Roles – Incident Commander

### Key Points

The Incident Commander is the primary person in charge at the incident. In addition to managing the incident scene, he or she must keep officials in the Executive Policy Group informed and up to date on all important matters pertaining to the incident.

The ICS hierarchy of command must be maintained and not even executives and senior officials can bypass the system.



Visual 3.16

### Incident Management Roles (2 of 2)

The Executive Policy Group provides the Incident Commander with:

- Policy and Mission Guidance
- Overall Direction
- Delegation of Authority



To maintain the unity of command and safety of responders, the chain of command must NOT be bypassed.

 **FEMA** Visual 3.16  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Incident Management Roles – Executive Policy Group

## Key Points

The executives/senior officials (Provost, Chancellor, President, etc.) are accountable for the incident. Along with this responsibility, by virtue of their position, these individuals have the authority to make policy decisions, commit resources, obligate funds, and obtain the resources necessary to protect the students and facilities. They delegate authority to the Incident Commander.

Having the responsibility does not mean that the Executive Policy Group assumes a command role over the on-scene incident operation. Rather, the Executive Policy Group:

- Provides policy guidance on priorities and objectives based on situational needs and the Emergency Operations Plan.
- Oversees resource coordination and support to the on-scene command from an Operations Center.



Visual 3.17

### Emergency Operations Center (EOC)



A central location that supports Incident Command by:

- Making executive/policy decisions
- Coordinating interagency relations
- Dispatching and tracking requested resource
- Collecting, analyzing, and disseminating information

The EOC does not command the on-scene level of the incident.

FEMA

Visual 3.17  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

## Key Points

### An EOC is activated:

- To support the on-scene response during an escalating incident by relieving the burden of external coordination and securing additional resources.

### An EOC is:

- A physical location.
- Staffed with personnel trained for and authorized to represent their agency/discipline.
- Equipped with mechanisms for communicating with the incident site and obtaining resources and potential resources.
- Managed through protocols.
- Applicable at different levels of government.

### An EOC consists of:

- Personnel and equipment appropriate to the level of incident.

### An EOC is used:

- In varying ways within all levels of government and the private sector.
- To provide coordination, direction, and support during emergencies.

### An EOC does not:

- Command the on-scene level of the incident.



Visual 3.18

**Voices of Experience**

Paul H. Dean	Toni J. Rinaldi	Frank Zebedis
Deputy Chief of Police/ Director of Emergency Management University of New Hampshire	Director of Public Safety Naugatuck Valley Community College	Chief of Police Winthrop University

Click icons to play audio.

FEMA Visual 3.18  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Voices of Experience

## Key Points

Your instructor will play audio clips of “voices of experience” from three campus personnel about the relationship between the Incident Commander and the Executive Policy Group.

### Audio Transcripts:

Paul H. Dean  
Deputy Chief of Police/Director of Emergency Management  
University of New Hampshire

When it comes to the scene there, the Incident Commander is in charge of his or her scene on the ground; however, we all have a reporting line to report to. The CEO, the policy group, the EOC all require information to do their job and any Incident Commander knows that they're there to support his or her operation on the ground. Providing them accurate, timely information allows them to get you the things that you need to do to be successful on the ground. A properly, well-trained organization of people will know what their roles are. The president will know that he is, in the end, ultimately responsible for the safety on his college campus but he also knows that it's his job to trust his Incident Commander on the street that's making those decisions and those relationships need to be done well before an incident takes place and training such as this is the train that needed to be in place so that confidence is built and that people have those good conversations well in advance.

**Audio Transcripts: (Continued)**

Toni J Rinaldi  
Director of Public Safety  
Naugatuck Valley Community College

The Incident Commander is the person who takes control and command of the incident as the incident unfolds and that is the person that's in charge of the incident at the scene. On a college campus we cannot neglect the fact that our college president or provost or chancellor is obviously in charge of the campus and will never be asked to give that up; however, he or she will be in charge of the impact of the incident on the campus versus the incident itself.

Frank Zebedis  
Chief of Police  
Winthrop University

Well, the Executive Policy Group, they're responsible for managing what goes on at the institution. They're looking at the outcome: How they're going to get classes back in session? How are they going to get the word out? The Operations Section in a command post or in ICS—they're responsible for resolving the scene, the incident as it unfolds. They're not worried about how the president or how the executive officers are going to, you know, notify parents, how they're going to bring classes back in sessions or if they're going to cancel classes. Their responsibility is making sure that the scene is contained, the scene is resolved, and minimize as much damages as possible and to mitigate as much life loss or property loss as possible.



Visual 3.19

**Activity**

**Scenario:** Several minutes ago, a tornado struck the campus without warning. You were not injured but are isolated in a damaged part of the building with students and no other faculty or staff. You have taken command of the response.

What is the first action you would take?

 **FEMA**  Visual 3.19  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Activity: What is the first action that you would take?

### Key Points

Review the following scenario on assuming command:

**Scenario:** Several minutes ago, a tornado struck the campus without warning. You were not injured but are isolated in a damaged part of the building with students and no other faculty or staff personnel. You have taken command of the response.

**Question:** What is the first action that you would take?



Visual 3.20

### ICS Features: Overview

- Standardization
  - Common terminology
- Command
  - Establishment and transfer of command
  - Chain of command and unity of command
- Facilities and Resources
  - Comprehensive resource management
  - Incident locations and facilities
- Communications/Information Management
  - Integrated communications
  - Information and intelligence management
- Professionalism
  - Accountability
  - Dispatch/Deployment

**Planning/Organizational Structure**

- Management by objectives
- Incident Action Plan (IAP)
- Modular organization
- Manageable span of control

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Visual 3.20  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** ICS Features Overview: Planning/Organizational Structure

## Key Points

The next part of this lesson covers planning and organizational structure, including:

- Management by objectives.
- Incident Action Plan (IAP).
- Modular organization.
- Manageable span of control.



Visual 3.21

**Management by Objectives**

Priorities for incident objectives are:

- #1: Life Safety
- #2: Incident Stabilization
- #3: Property/Environmental Preservation

What additional priorities are critical for managing campus incidents?

FEMA Visual 3.21 ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Management by Objectives

### Key Points

Incident objectives are used to ensure that everyone within the ICS organization has a clear understanding of what needs to be accomplished.

Priorities for incident objectives are:

- 1: Life Safety
- 2: Incident Stabilization
- 3: Property/Environmental Preservation

**What additional priorities are critical for managing campus incidents?**

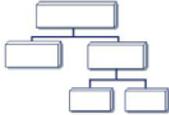


Visual 3.22

### ICS Organization

Differs from day-to-day organizational structures and positions by:

- Using unique ICS position titles and organizational structures.
- Assigning personnel based on expertise, not rank. For example, a director may not hold that title when deployed under an ICS structure.



Visual 3.22  
ICS Features and Principles



**Visual Description:** ICS Organization

### Key Points

The ICS organization is unique but easy to understand. There is no correlation between the ICS organization and the administrative structure of any single agency or jurisdiction. This is deliberate, because confusion over different position titles and organizational structures has been a significant stumbling block to effective incident management in the past.

For example, someone who serves as a director every day may not hold that title when deployed under an ICS structure.



Visual 3.23

### Modular Organization

Incident command organizational structure is based on:

- Size, type, and complexity of the incident.
- Specifics of the hazard environment created by the incident.
- Incident planning process and incident objectives.

Visual 3.23  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Modular Organization

### Key Points

The ICS organizational structure develops in a top-down, modular fashion that is based on the size and complexity of the incident, as well as the specifics of the hazard environment created by the incident. As incident complexity increases, the organization expands from the top down as functional responsibilities are delegated.

The ICS organizational structure is flexible. When needed, separate functional elements can be established and subdivided to enhance internal organizational management and external coordination. As the ICS organizational structure expands, the number of management positions also expands to adequately address the requirements of the incident.

In a later unit, we'll look at how the Operations Section expands and contracts based on span of control.



Visual 3.24

### Incident Action Planning

Every incident must have an Incident Action Plan (IAP) that:

- Specifies the incident objectives.
- States the activities.
- Covers a specified timeframe, called an operational period.
- May be **oral or written**.

Visual 3.24  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Incident Action Planning

### Key Points

Every response has a strategy—like a lesson plan—called an Incident Action Plan (IAP). The Incident Commander must ensure that the IAP:

- Specifies the incident objectives.
- States the activities to be completed.
- Covers a specified timeframe, called an operational period.
- May be **oral or written**—except for hazardous materials incidents, which require a written IAP.

Even the smallest of incidents are managed by incident objectives and plans. The plan can be as simple as the next steps the Incident Commander plans to do. The steps can be orally communicated to the rest of the ICS organization.



Visual 3.25

### Elements of an Incident Action Plan

Every IAP must have four elements:

- What do we want to do?
- Who is responsible for doing it?
- How do we communicate with each other?
- What is the procedure if someone is injured?



 **FEMA** 

Visual 3.25  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Elements of an Incident Action Plan

### Key Points

Every IAP must answer the following four questions:

- What do we want to do?
- Who is responsible for doing it?
- How do we communicate with each other?
- What is the procedure if someone is injured?



Visual 3.26

### Activity: Incident Action Plan

#### Instructions:

- Working as a team, identify four items you would include in an IAP for the computer worm scenario in Unit 2.
- Write these items on chart paper.
- Select a spokesperson. Be prepared to present in 5 minutes.

#### Scenario:

During freshman move-in, a dangerous worm has rapidly spread through the university computer system, consuming massive amounts of bandwidth, deleting files, and crippling the network.



**Visual Description:** Activity: Incident Action Plan

### Key Points

**Purpose:** The purpose of this activity is to illustrate how to develop an IAP.

#### **Instructions:**

1. Work with your team to identify four items you would include in an Incident Action Plan for the computer worm scenario from Unit 2.
2. Record the IAP elements on chart paper and select a team spokesperson to report back to the class.
3. You will have 5 minutes to complete this activity.

**Scenario:** During freshman move-in, a dangerous worm has spread rapidly through the university computer network. The worm, which is consuming massive amounts of bandwidth, also includes a “payload” code designed to delete files on affected computers. The effects have essentially crippled the university computer network, including systems for course registration and emergency notification. The network is also used when students swipe their identification cards to enter residence halls and fitness facilities, and to pay for meals at campus dining halls. It remains unclear whether the incident poses a threat to sensitive information, such as student and employee Social Security numbers.



Visual 3.27

### Manageable Span of Control

**Span of control:**

- Pertains to the number of individuals or resources that one supervisor can manage effectively during an incident.
- Is key to effective and efficient incident management.

```
graph TD; Supervisor[Supervisor] --- Resource1[Resource 1]; Supervisor --- Resource2[Resource 2]; Supervisor --- Resource3[Resource 3];
```

FEMA Visual 3.27 ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Manageable Span of Control

### Key Points

Another basic ICS feature concerns the supervisory structure of the organization. Maintaining adequate span of control throughout the ICS organization is very important.

Span of control pertains to the number of individuals or resources that one supervisor can manage effectively during an incident.

Maintaining an effective span of control is important at incidents where safety and accountability are a top priority.

Supervisors must be able to adequately supervise and control their subordinates, as well as communicate with and manage all resources under their supervision.



Visual 3.28

### ICS Management: Span of Control

ICS span of control for any supervisor:

- Is between 3 and 7 subordinates.
- Optimally does not exceed 5 subordinates.

Visual 3.28  
ICS Features and Principles

FEMA

**Visual Description:** ICS Management: Span of Control

## Key Points

Read the following key points:

- Another basic ICS feature concerns the supervisory structure of the organization. Maintaining adequate span of control throughout the ICS organization is very important.
- Span of control pertains to the number of individuals or resources that one supervisor can manage effectively during an incident.
- The type of incident, nature of the task, hazards and safety factors, and distances between personnel and resources all influence span of control considerations. **Maintaining an effective span of control is particularly important on incidents where safety and accountability are a top priority.**
- Effective span of control on incidents may vary from three (3) to seven (7), and a ratio of one (1) supervisor to five (5) reporting elements is recommended.

**What types of incidents warrant a low span-of-control ratio?**



Visual 3.29

**Activity**

**Instructions:** Determine if the span of control is consistent with ICS guidelines.

**Situation:** A water main has broken on campus. Resources are provided for public safety, facilities management, and traffic control.

```
graph TD; IC[Incident Command] --- R1_1[Resource]; IC --- R1_2[Resource]; IC --- R1_3[Resource]; IC --- R1_4[Resource]; R1_1 --- R2_1[Resource]; R1_2 --- R2_2[Resource]; R1_3 --- R2_3[Resource]; R1_4 --- R2_4[Resource];
```

FEMA

Visual 3.29  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Activity

### Key Points

Review the situation and the chart presented on the visual.

**Situation:** A water main has broken on campus. Resources are provided for public safety, facilities management, and traffic control.

**Is the span of control consistent with ICS guidelines?**



Visual 3.30



**Visual Description:** ICS Features Overview: Facilities and Resources

### Key Points

The next part of this unit covers facilities and resources, including:

- Comprehensive resource management.
- Incident locations and facilities.



Visual 3.31



**Visual Description:** Video: Incident Facilities Virtual Tour

## Key Points

Read the following key points:

- Incident activities may be accomplished from a variety of operational locations and support facilities.
- The Incident Commander identifies and establishes needed facilities depending on incident needs. Standardized names are used to identify types of facilities.
- In order to integrate with community responders, it is important to be familiar with the standard ICS facilities.
- Some or all of these facilities may be used in some campus incidents and in other incidents in the community.

Your instructor will play a video that introduces the different ICS facilities.

## Video Transcript:

This presentation introduces the ICS facilities. In less complex incidents you most likely will not need many of the standard ICS facilities. However, in large incidents, such as Hurricane Katrina, undamaged campuses are often converted into ICS facilities.

(Continued on next page.)

**Video Transcript (Continued):**

The Incident Command Post, or ICP, is the location from which the Incident Commander oversees all incident operations. There is generally only one ICP for each incident, but it may change locations during the event. Every incident must have some form of an Incident Command Post. The ICP may be located outside; in a vehicle, trailer, or tent; or within a building. The ICP will be positioned outside of the present and potential hazard zone but close enough to the incident to maintain command.

Staging Areas are temporary locations at an incident where personnel and equipment wait to be assigned. Staging Areas should be located close enough to the incident for a timely response, but far enough away to be out of the immediate impact zone. In large complex incidents, there may be more than one Staging Area at an incident. Staging Areas can be collocated with other ICS facilities.

A Base is the location from which primary logistics and administrative functions are coordinated and administered.

A Camp is the location where resources may be kept to support incident operations if a Base is not accessible to all resources. Camps are equipped and staffed to provide food, water, sleeping areas, and sanitary services. A gym or dining hall could be used as a Camp for a community-wide incident.

A Helibase is the location from which helicopter-centered air operations are conducted. Helibases are generally used on a more long-term basis and include such services as fueling and maintenance.

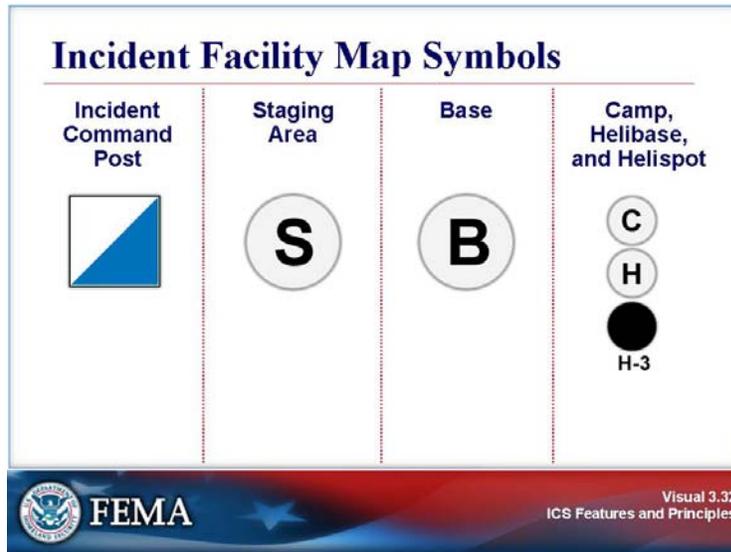
Helispots are more temporary locations at the incident, where helicopters can safely land and take off. Multiple Helispots may be used. Think about your campus. Could you use a parking lot or athletic field for a temporary Helispot?

Let's review the different ICS facilities covered in this video.

- The **Incident Command Post** is the location from which the Incident Commander oversees all incident operations.
- **Staging Areas** are where personnel and equipment are gathered while waiting to be assigned.
- A **Base** is the location from which primary logistics and administrative functions are coordinated and administered.
- A **Helibase** is the location from which helicopter-centered air operations are conducted.
- **Helispots** are more temporary locations at the incident, where helicopters can safely land and take off.



Visual 3.32



**Visual Description:** Incident Facility Map Symbols

### Key Points

In ICS, it is important to be able to identify the map symbols associated with the basic incident facilities.

The map symbols used to represent each of the six basic ICS facilities are shown in the illustration.

**Helicopters were taking off and landing at a football field after a tornado severely damaged the campus. What map symbol would indicate this ICS facility?**

**Have you pre-identified locations for incident facilities?**



Visual 3.33

### Incident Facilities: Summary

- A single Incident Command Post should be established on all incidents—even small ones!
- Campus incidents may require additional facilities (e.g., a student call center).
- Areas on campus may be predesignated incident facilities for the surrounding community (e.g., shelters, staging areas, helibases, medical centers).



**Visual Description:** ICS Facilities: Summary

### Key Points

Read the following points:

- A single Incident Command Post should be established on all incidents, even on a small incident.
- Campus incidents may require additional facilities beyond those that are standard ICS facilities.

**Example:** For example, if you need a Student-Parent Reunification Area, a Media Center, or a Call Center for students to use, add those sites to your incident facilities. It is preferable to add needed facilities rather than to use a standard ICS facility, such as a Staging Area, for a campus-unique function. A Staging Area is intended only for responders waiting for assignments, not parents waiting for their students.

Note that higher education institutions often play a support role in the community, and areas on campus might be predesignated as incident facilities for the surrounding area. This might include medical centers, shelters, helibases, staging areas, and storage for historic artifacts/archives.

**Do you know if areas of your campus have been designated as incident facilities for the surrounding community?**



Visual 3.34

**Resources: Definition**

**Resources** are personnel and major items of equipment, supplies, and facilities available or potentially available for assignment to incident operations and for which status is maintained.



 **FEMA**

Visual 3.34  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Resources: Definition

### Key Points

In ICS, resources include personnel and major items of equipment, supplies, and facilities available or potentially available for assignment to incident operations and for which status is maintained.



Visual 3.35

### Resource Management

Resource management includes processes for:

- Categorizing resources.
- Ordering resources.
- Dispatching resources.
- Tracking resources.
- Recovering resources.
- Reimbursing other organizations, as appropriate.



 FEMA  Visual 3.35  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Resource Management

### Key Points

Resources at an incident must be managed effectively. Maintaining an accurate and up-to-date picture of resource utilization is a critical component of incident management. Resource management includes processes for:

- Categorizing, credentialing, and pre-identifying resources.
- Ordering resources.
- Dispatching resources.
- Tracking resources.
- Recovering resources.

Resource management also includes processes for reimbursement for resources, as appropriate.

**Credentialing** is providing documentation that can authenticate and verify the certification and identity of designated incident managers and emergency responders.



Visual 3.36

### Activity

**Instructions:** Review the following scenario and answer the questions that follow.

**Scenario:** During finals week, a fire burns down an academic building on campus. The cause of the fire is unknown, although arson is suspected.

**Question:** Where on your campus would you establish a staging area?



**Visual Description:** Activity

### Key Points

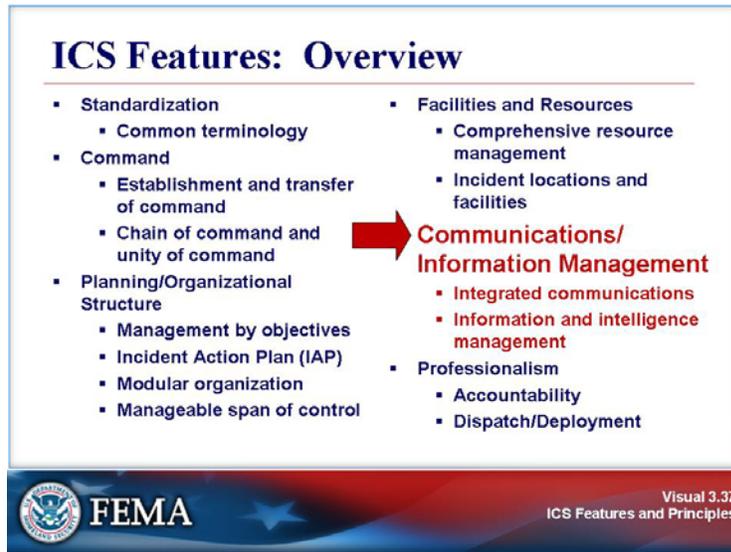
Review the scenario and answer the question that follows.

**Scenario:** During finals week, a fire burns down an academic building on campus. The cause of the fire is unknown, although arson is suspected.

**Question:** Where on your campus would you establish a Staging Area?



Visual 3.37



**Visual Description:** ICS Features Overview: Communications/Information Management

### Key Points

The next part of this unit covers communications and information management, including:

- Integrated communications.
- Information and intelligence management.



Visual 3.38

### Integrated Communications

Incident communications are facilitated through:

- The development and use of a common communications plan.
- The interoperability of communication equipment, procedures, and systems.



Before an incident, it is critical to develop an integrated voice and data communications system (equipment, systems, and protocols).



Visual 3.38  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Integrated Communications

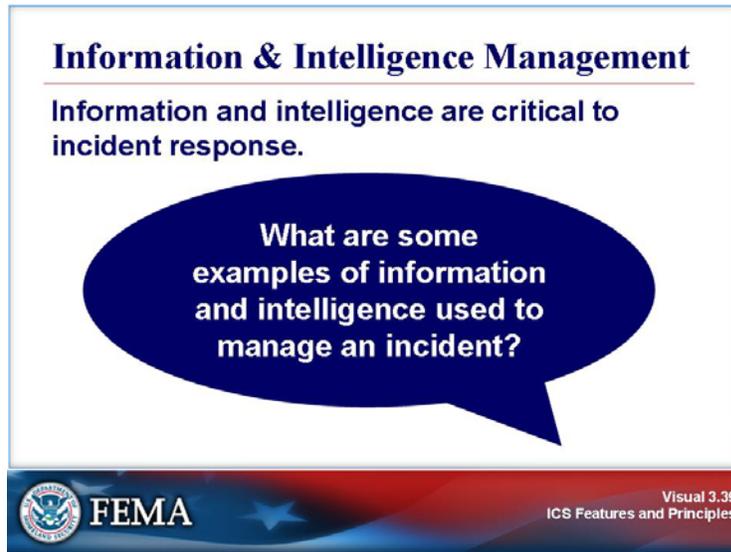
### Key Points

Read the following points:

- A common communications plan is essential for ensuring that responders can communicate with one another during an incident.
- The response to the Columbine school shooting incident was hampered by response agencies operating on radios set to different frequencies.
- Prior to an incident, higher education institutions must work with local responders to ensure that communications equipment, procedures, and systems can operate together during a response (interoperable).



Visual 3.39



**Visual Description:** Information & Intelligence Management: What are some examples of information and intelligence used to manage an incident?

### Key Points

The analysis and sharing of information and intelligence is an important component of ICS. Incident management must establish a process for gathering, sharing, and managing incident-related information and intelligence.

**What are some examples of information and intelligence used to manage an incident?**



Visual 3.40

### Case Study: Incident Management

**Instructions:**

1. Working individually, review the case study presented in your Student Manuals.
2. Identify the lessons learned from the incident that you would apply to managing incident information and intelligence.
3. Be prepared to discuss the lessons you identify with the class in 5 minutes.

FEMA

Visual 3.40  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Case Study: Incident Management

### Key Points

Read the scenario below and identify lessons learned from the scenario that you would apply to managing incident information and intelligence. Although this scenario took place at a high school, the lessons learned are nonetheless important for all educational institutions.

**Scenario:** At the Columbine school shooting incident, police and emergency response crews arrived within minutes of 911 calls. One of the first functions of a SWAT incident is to acquire intelligence. The SWAT team commander found some students, who quickly sketched a layout of the school. As the situation evolved, officers received a lot of false information including: there were as many as eight gunmen, snipers were on the roof, and killers were hiding in ceilings or in heating ducts or trying to mingle with escaping students. The lack of reliable information hampered the operation.



Visual 3.41

### ICS Features: Overview

- Standardization
  - Common terminology
- Command
  - Establishment and transfer of command
  - Chain of command and unity of command
- Planning/Organizational Structure
  - Management by objectives
  - Incident Action Plan (IAP)
  - Modular organization
  - Manageable span of control
- Facilities and Resources
  - Comprehensive resource management
  - Incident locations and facilities
- Communications/Information Management
  - Integrated communications
  - Information and intelligence management

**Professionalism**

- Accountability
- Dispatch/Deployment

**Visual Description:** ICS Features Overview: Professionalism

### Key Points

The last part of this unit covers professionalism, including:

- Accountability.
- Dispatch/deployment.



Visual 3.42

### Accountability (1 of 2)

The following principles must be adhered to:

- **Check-In.** All responders must report in to receive an assignment in accordance with the procedures established by the Incident Commander.
- **Incident Action Plan.** Response operations must be coordinated as outlined in the IAP.
- **Unity of Command.** Each individual will be assigned to only one supervisor.



 **FEMA**  Visual 3.42  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Accountability (1 of 2)

### Key Points

Effective accountability during incident operations is essential. Individuals must abide by their institutional policies and guidelines and any applicable local, State, or Federal rules and regulations.

The following principles must be adhered to:

- **Check-In.** All responders must report in to receive an assignment in accordance with the procedures established by the Incident Commander.
- **Incident Action Plan.** Response operations must be coordinated as outlined in the IAP.
- **Unity of Command.** Each individual will be assigned to only one supervisor.

The next page includes additional principles that must be adhered to.



Visual 3.43

### Accountability (2 of 2)

- **Span of Control.** Supervisors must be able to adequately supervise and control their subordinates, as well as communicate with and manage all resources under their supervision.
- **Resource Tracking.** Supervisors must record and report resource status changes as they occur.



Visual 3.43  
ICS Features and Principles



**Visual Description:** Accountability (2 of 2)

### Key Points

The following principles must also be adhered to:

- **Span of Control.** Supervisors must be able to adequately supervise and control their subordinates, as well as communicate with and manage all resources under their supervision.
- **Resource Tracking.** Supervisors must record and report resource status changes as they occur.



Visual 3.44

### Dispatch/Deployment

At any incident:

- The situation must be assessed and the response planned.
- Managing resources safely and effectively is the most important consideration.
- Personnel and equipment should respond only when requested or when dispatched by an appropriate authority.



Visual 3.44  
ICS Features and Principles



**Visual Description:** Dispatch/Deployment

## Key Points

Another key feature of ICS is the importance of managing resources to adjust to changing conditions.

When an incident occurs, you must be dispatched or deployed to become part of the incident response. In other words, until you are deployed to the incident organization, you remain in your everyday role.

After being deployed, your **first task is to check in and receive an assignment.**

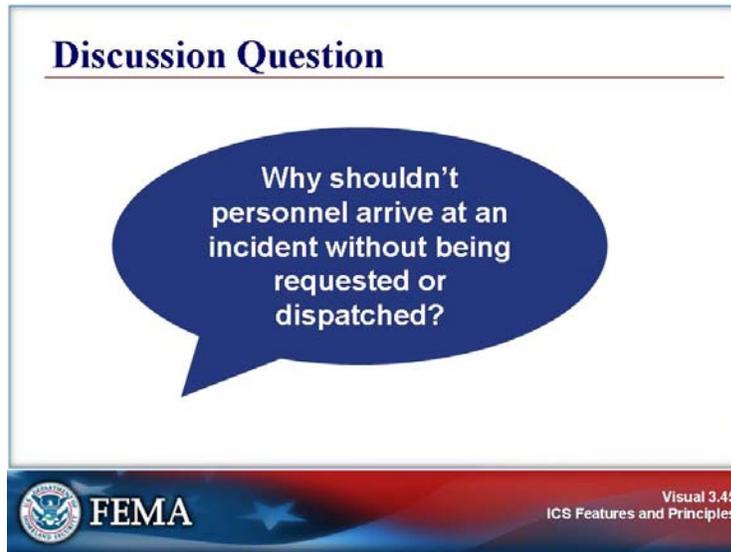
**As campus personnel, you should be mobilized or activated to join the incident response.** Unless you must take an immediate life-saving action, you should not start responding without being deployed. The deployment process improves safety and cuts down on chaos.

After check-in, you will locate your incident supervisor and obtain your initial briefing. The briefings you receive and give should include:

- Current assessment of the situation.
- Identification of your specific job responsibilities.
- Identification of coworkers.
- Location of work area.
- Identification of break areas, as appropriate.
- Procedural instructions for obtaining needed resources.
- Operational periods/work shifts.
- Required **safety procedures** and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), as appropriate.



Visual 3.45



**Visual Description:** Discussion Question: Why shouldn't personnel arrive at an incident without being requested or dispatched?

### Key Points

Why shouldn't personnel arrive at an incident without being requested or dispatched?



Visual 3.46

**Activity: Deployment**

**Situation:** Rosa is near the athletics complex when she hears that the gymnasium roof has collapsed. Rosa has her advanced first-aid certification.

What should Rosa do?

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Visual 3.46  
ICS Features and Principles

**Visual Description:** Activity: Deployment

### Key Points

**Review the following situation:** Rosa is near the athletics complex when she hears that the gymnasium roof has collapsed. Rosa has her advanced first-aid certification.

**What should Rosa do?**



Visual 3.47

### Summary (1 of 2)

#### ICS:

- Utilizes management features including the use of common terminology and a modular organizational structure.
- Emphasizes effective planning through the use of management by objectives and Incident Action Plans.
- Supports responders by providing data they need through effective information and intelligence management.



**Visual Description:** Summary (1 of 2)

### Key Points

#### ICS:

- Utilizes management features including the use of common terminology and a modular organizational structure.
- Emphasizes effective planning through the use of management by objectives and Incident Action Plans.
- Supports responders by providing data they need through effective information and intelligence management.



Visual 3.48

### Summary (2 of 2)

#### ICS:

- Utilizes the principles of chain of command, unity of command, and transfer of command.
- Ensures full utilization of incident resources by maintaining a manageable span of control, establishing predesignated incident facilities, implementing resource management practices, and ensuring integrated communications.



**Visual Description:** Summary (2 of 2)

### Key Points

#### ICS:

- Utilizes the principles of chain of command, unity of command, and transfer of command.
- Ensures full utilization of incident resources by maintaining a manageable span of control, establishing predesignated incident facilities, implementing resource management practices, and ensuring integrated communications.

**Your Notes:**



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## Unit 4: Incident Commander and Command Staff Functions

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## Objectives

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify the five major ICS management functions.
  - Describe the role and function of the Incident Commander.
  - Describe the role and function of the Command Staff.
- 

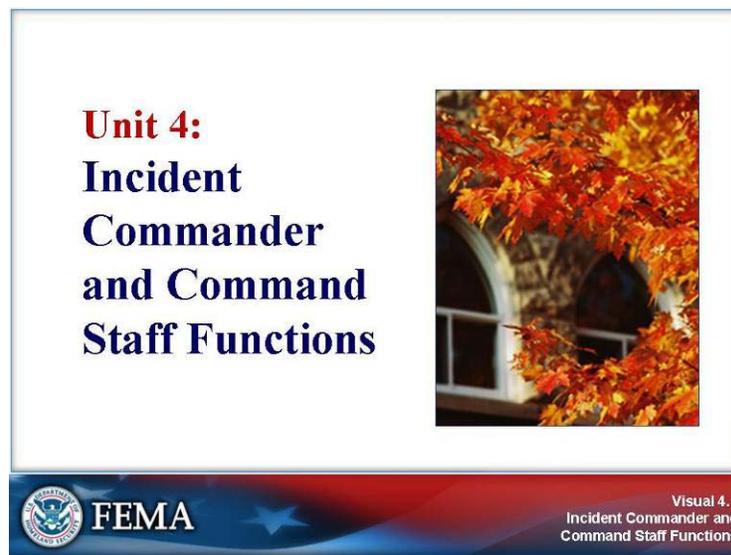
## Scope

- Unit Introduction
  - Unit Objectives
  - Management Functions
  - Incident Commander
    - Establishing Command
    - Audio Clips: Voices of Experience
    - Delegating Incident Management Functions
    - Audio Clip: Incident Commander Role
    - Incident Commander Responsibilities
    - Audio Clip: Incident Commander Responsibilities
    - Deputy Incident Commander
  - Command Staff
    - Expanding the Organization
    - Public Information Officer (PIO)
    - Safety Officer
    - Liaison Officer
    - Audio Clips: Meet the Command Staff
    - Command Staff Qualifications
  - Activity: Command Staff Roles
  - Summary
-

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Visual 4.1



**Visual Description:** Unit Introduction

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### Key Points

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This unit will provide an overview of the role of the Incident Commander and Command Staff, including these topics:

- Five major management functions
- Incident Commander roles and responsibilities
- Command Staff roles and responsibilities



Visual 4.2

### Unit Objectives

- Identify the five major ICS management functions.
- Identify the position titles associated with the Command Staff.
- Describe the role and function of the Incident Commander.
- Describe the role and function of the Command Staff.



Visual 4.2  
Incident Commander and  
Command Staff Functions

**Visual Description:** Unit Objectives

### Key Points

By the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify the five major ICS management functions.
- Identify the position titles associated with the Command Staff.
- Describe the role and function of the Incident Commander.
- Describe the role and function of the Command Staff.



Visual 4.3

Function	Description
Incident Command	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishes incident objectives, strategies, and priorities.</li> <li>Assume overall responsibility for the incident.</li> </ul>
Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determines tactics and resources for achieving objectives.</li> <li>Directs the tactical response.</li> </ul>
Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collects and analyzes information.</li> <li>Tracks resources</li> <li>Maintains documentation.</li> </ul>
Logistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides resources and needed services.</li> </ul>
Finance/ Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accounts for expenditures, claims, and compensation.</li> <li>Procures needed resources.</li> </ul>

Visual 4.3  
Incident Commander and  
Command Staff Functions

**Visual Description:** Management Function Descriptions

## Key Points

Read the following points:

Every incident requires that certain management functions be performed. The problem must be identified and assessed, a plan to deal with it developed and implemented, and the necessary resources procured and paid for.

Regardless of the size of the incident, these management functions still will apply.

There are five major management functions that are the foundation upon which the ICS organization develops. These functions include:

<b>Incident Command</b>	Sets the incident objectives, strategies, and priorities and has overall responsibility for the incident.
<b>Operations</b>	Conducts operations to reach the incident objectives. Establishes the tactics and directs all operational resources.
<b>Planning</b>	Supports the incident action planning process by tracking resources, collecting/analyzing information, and maintaining documentation.
<b>Logistics</b>	Provides resources and needed services to support the achievement of the incident objectives.
<b>Finance &amp; Administration</b>	Monitors costs related to the incident. Provides accounting, procurement, time recording, and cost analyses.



Visual 4.4



**Visual Description:** Incident Commander

### Key Points

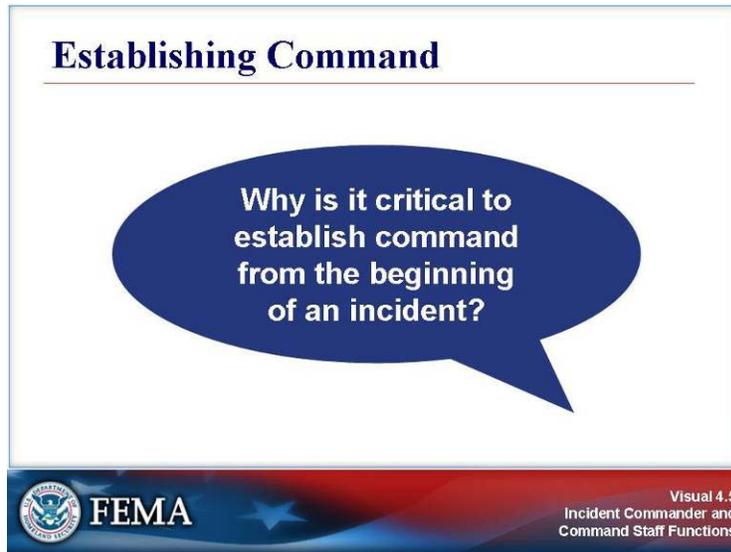
The Incident Commander has overall responsibility for managing the incident by establishing objectives, planning strategies, and implementing tactics.

The **Incident Commander is the only position that is always staffed in ICS applications.** On small incidents and events, one person, the Incident Commander, may accomplish all management functions.

Remember that the Incident Commander is responsible for all ICS management functions until he or she delegates the function.



Visual 4.5



**Visual Description:** Establishing Command: Why is it critical to establish command from the beginning of an incident?

### Key Points

Why is it critical to establish command from the beginning of an incident?



Visual 4.6

**Voices of Experience**

 <b>Richard W. Lee</b> Assistant Director Public Safety University of Massachusetts Boston	 <b>Frank Zebedis</b> Chief of Police Winthrop University	 <b>Brendan McCluskey</b> Executive Director, Emergency Management University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey
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Click icons to play audio.

FEMA

Visual 4.6  
Incident Commander and  
Command Staff Functions

**Visual Description:** Voices of Experience

## Key Points

Your instructor will play audio clips of “voices of experience” from campus personnel about the role of the Incident Commander in campus incidents.

### Audio Transcripts:

Richard W. Lee  
Assistant Director of Public Safety  
University of Massachusetts Boston

Who's in charge? Well, that's a complex question. It'll depend on the incident. It'll depend on the location. It'll depend on the jurisdiction. There's a lot of things that come into it but basically the best qualified person who's at the scene when the incident becomes, starts will be in charge and then it will move up the line as more qualified or better qualified or other people show up on the scene. It's very flexible in that respect and ICS and who's in charge doesn't, it's more of a function than it is a person. It's going to be the best person to do the job at the time as opposed to looking around for an arbitrary figure that has a title.

**Audio Transcripts: (Continued)**

Frank Zebedis  
Chief of Police  
Winthrop University

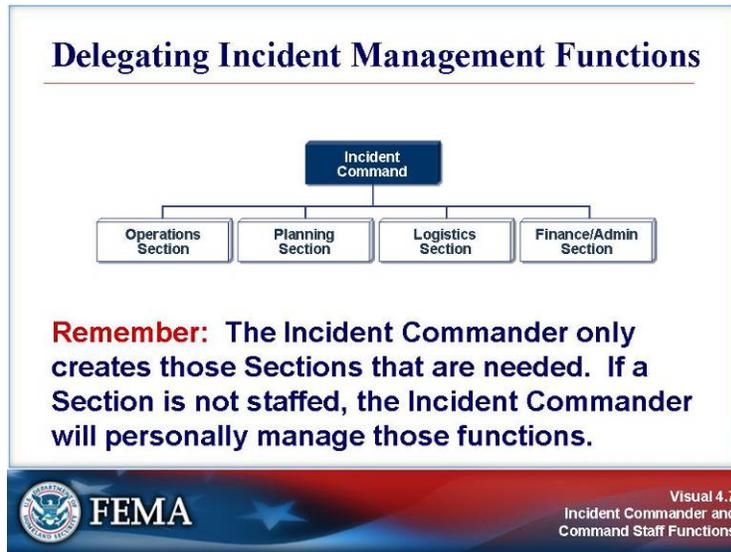
Who's in charge initially, on the onset of an incident, it could be the first, first responder which could be a professor; it could be a faculty member, a staff member, a coach, a citizen, or the first emergency responder who shows up on the scene is in charge, but as the event grows and more qualified people arrive to the scene, whoever is in charge then gets passed off to the more qualified person till eventually you have yourself an Incident Commander who is in position to manage the scene but until that time it takes a while for these responders to get there. It doesn't happen in a matter of seconds or minutes, so that initial person is actually in charge until the scene grows.

Brendan McCluskey  
Executive Director, Emergency Management  
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey

The Incident Commander is in charge and that's a principle of ICS that makes it clear who has the authority or who has the responsibility for overseeing what goes on at an incident scene, and regardless of where you come from, whether you are from the outside or the inside of the institution, whether you are police or fire or public works or public health or student services, the Incident Commander is the one who is going to be running the show. So it doesn't really matter where you're from, what your title is, what level of responsibility you have on a day-to-day basis, once you become part of that incident response, then you look up to that Incident Commander to be the one who is in charge.



Visual 4.7



**Visual Description:** Delegating Incident Management Functions

### Key Points

Remember that the ICS organization is modular and has the capability to expand or contract to meet the needs of the incident. On a larger incident, the Incident Commander may create Sections and delegate the Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration functions.



Visual 4.8

## Incident Commander Role

Listen to one Incident Commander talk about his role.



Incident Commander

 Click icon to play.

**Audio Key Points:**  
The Incident Commander:

- Provides overall leadership and accountability at the incident scene.
- Delegates authority to others.
- Takes policy direction from the Executive Policy Group.

 **FEMA** 

Visual 4.8  
Incident Commander and  
Command Staff Functions

**Visual Description:** Incident Commander Role

### Key Points

Your instructor will play an audio clip in which an Incident Commander talks about his role.

### Audio Transcript:

My job is to provide the overall leadership and accountability at the incident scene. I am able to delegate my authority to others to manage the ICS organization. I take policy direction and receive support from the Executive Policy Group. However, at the incident scene, I am in charge.



Visual 4.9

### Incident Commander Responsibilities

The Incident Commander is specifically responsible for:

- Ensuring incident safety.
- Providing information to internal and external stakeholders.
- Establishing and maintaining liaison with other agencies participating in the incident.



 **FEMA**

Visual 4.9  
Incident Commander and  
Command Staff Functions

**Visual Description:** Incident Commander Responsibilities

### Key Points

The Incident Commander is specifically responsible for:

- Ensuring incident safety.
- Providing information to internal and external stakeholders.
- Establishing and maintaining liaison with other agencies participating in the incident.

These are critical functions and, until delegated, are the responsibility of the Incident Commander.

The Incident Commander may appoint one or more Deputies. **Deputy Incident Commanders must be as qualified as the Incident Commander.**



Visual 4.10

### Incident Commander Responsibilities

Listen to the Incident Commander talk more about his responsibilities.



Incident Commander

 Click icon to play.

**Audio Key Points:**

**The Incident Commander:**

- Is responsible for all activities and functions until delegated and assigned to staff.
- Assesses need for staff.
- Establishes incident objectives.
- Directs staff to develop the Incident Action Plan.

 **FEMA**

Visual 4.10  
Incident Commander and  
Command Staff Functions

**Visual Description:** Incident Commander Responsibilities

### Key Points

Your instructor will play an audio clip in which an Incident Commander talks about his responsibilities.

### Audio Transcript:

As the Incident Commander, I am responsible for all activities and functions until I delegate them. So, one of the first things I do is assess my need for staff. I know that for an incident that is both complex and long term, I will need more staff. In addition, I may decide that I need a Deputy.

Also, I establish incident objectives for the organization based on the situation and direction given by the campus administration. The type of plan depends on the magnitude of the incident. Most simple incidents don't require written plans. If it were a complex incident, I would direct my staff to develop a written Incident Action Plan. The benefit of ICS is that the organization can be tailored to match the need.



Visual 4.11

**Discussion Questions**

Who has overall responsibility at an incident scene?

What is the role of the Executive Policy Group?

 **FEMA**

Visual 4.11  
Incident Commander and  
Command Staff Functions

**Visual Description:** Discussion Questions: Who has overall responsibility at an incident scene? What is the role of the Executive Policy Group?

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### Key Points

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**Who has overall responsibility at an incident scene?**

**What is the role of the Executive Policy Group?**



Visual 4.12

### Deputy Incident Commander

A Deputy Incident Commander may be designated to:

- Perform specific tasks as requested by the Incident Commander.
- Perform the incident command function in a relief capacity.
- Represent an assisting agency that shares jurisdiction.



Visual 4.12  
Incident Commander and  
Command Staff Functions



**Visual Description:** Deputy Incident Commander

### Key Points

A Deputy Incident Commander may be designated to:

- Perform specific tasks as requested by the Incident Commander.
- Perform the incident command function in a relief capacity.
- Represent an assisting agency that shares jurisdiction.

If a Deputy is assigned, he or she must be fully qualified to assume the Incident Commander's position.



Visual 4.13

**Discussion Question**

The Deputy Incident Commander is assuming control for the next operational period. What needs to occur before he or she can do so?

 **FEMA** 

Visual 4.13  
Incident Commander and  
Command Staff Functions

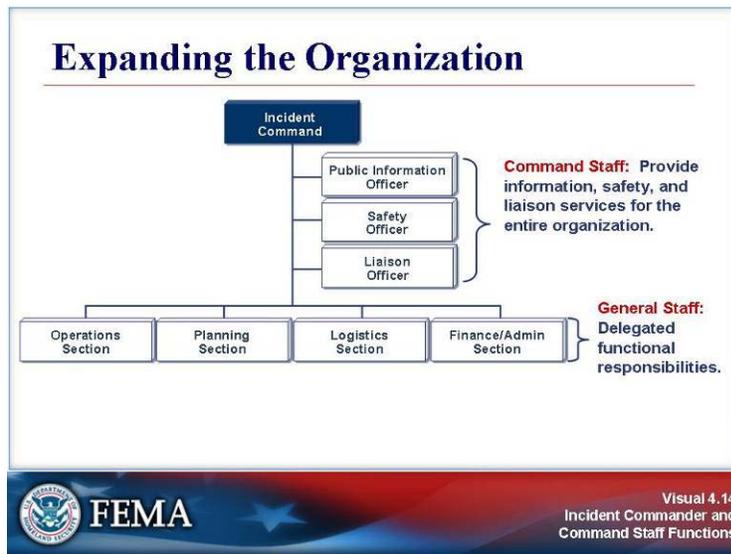
**Visual Description:** Discussion Question: The Deputy Incident Commander is assuming control for the next operational period. What needs to occur before he or she can do so?

### Key Points

**The Deputy Incident Commander is assuming control for the next operational period. What needs to occur before he or she can do so?**



Visual 4.14



**Visual Description:** Expanding the Organization

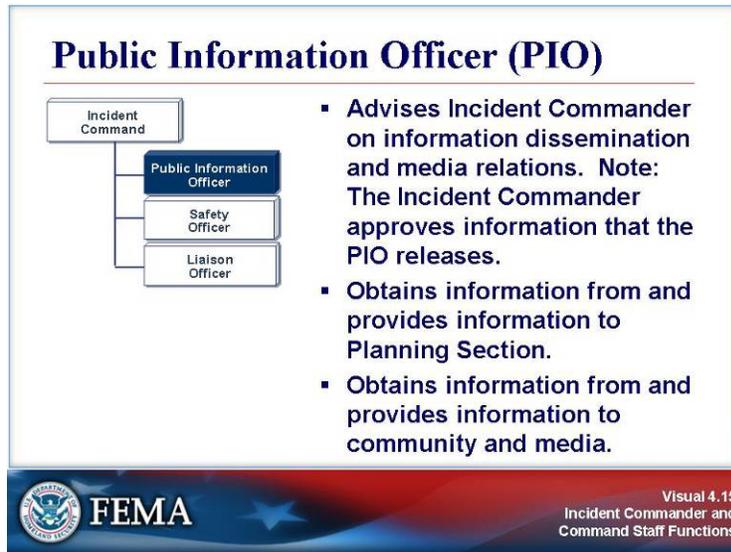
### Key Points

As incidents grow, the Incident Commander may delegate authority for performance of certain activities to the Command Staff and the General Staff.

The Incident Commander will add positions only as needed.



Visual 4.15



**Visual Description:** Public Information Officer (PIO)

## Key Points

The Public Information Officer (PIO):

- Advises the Incident Commander on information dissemination and media relations. Note that the Incident Commander approves information that the PIO releases.
- Obtains information from and provides information to the Planning Section.
- Obtains information from and provides information to the community and media.



Visual 4.16



**Visual Description:** Safety Officer

## Key Points

The Safety Officer:

- Advises the Incident Commander on issues regarding incident safety.
- Works with the Operations Section to ensure safety of field personnel.
- Ensures the safety of all incident personnel.



Visual 4.17



**Visual Description:** Liaison Officer

## Key Points

The Liaison Officer:

- Assists the Incident Commander by serving as a point of contact for representatives from other response organizations.
- Provides briefings to and answer questions from supporting organizations.



Visual 4.18



**Visual Description:** Meet the Command Staff

## Key Points

Your instructor will play audio clips in which the Public Information Officer, Safety Officer, and Liaison Officer explain their roles as part of the Command Staff.

### Audio Transcript:

#### Public Information Officer

I report directly to the Incident Commander. I am the primary contact for anyone who wants information about the incident and our response to it. I provide information to the media, public, and the campus community. Campus incidents attract a lot of media attention. Without me, media requests would overwhelm the Incident Commander. I also coordinate communications to our internal audiences including both incident staff and campus personnel. It's very important for me to coordinate with other public information staff in the policy group to ensure that we do not issue confusing or conflicting information.

Accurate information is essential. In the end, the Incident Commander will approve all information released at the scene. Other information may be released by the Executive Policy Group. During a complex incident, I may need an assistant to help me.

**Audio Transcript: (Continued)**

## Safety Officer

My job is to ensure the safety of responders. I advise the Incident Commander on issues regarding incident safety, but I would like to emphasize that safety is everyone's responsibility. I work very closely with responders to make sure they are as safe as possible under the circumstances. I conduct risk analyses and implement safety measures. I have the authority to stop any unsafe activity that I observe. During a complex incident, I may need quite a few assistants to be my eyes and ears.

## Liaison Officer

I'm the go-between. I assist the Incident Commander by serving as the point of contact for other response organizations providing resources at the scene. I facilitate coordination with the Executive Policy Group, adjacent jurisdictions, and nongovernmental organizations. I respond to requests from incident personnel for contacts among the assisting and cooperating agencies. I also monitor incident operations in order to identify any current or potential problems between the institution and response agencies.



Visual 4.19



**Visual Description:** Command Staff Qualifications: Who within your organization is qualified to serve as Command Staff?

### Key Points

Depending upon the size and type of incident or event, the Incident Commander may designate personnel to provide information, safety, and liaison services. In ICS, the following personnel comprise the Command Staff:

- Public Information Officer, who serves as the conduit for information to internal and external stakeholders, including the media or parents.
- Safety Officer, who monitors safety conditions and develops measures for assuring the safety of all response personnel.
- Liaison Officer, who serves as the primary contact for supporting agencies assisting at an incident.

**Who within your organization is qualified to serve as Command Staff?**



Visual 4.20

### Case Study: Command Staff Roles

#### Instructions:

1. Working as a team, review the case study presented in your Student Manuals.
2. Identify which Command Staff positions would be assigned.
3. Next, determine what specific activities the Incident Commander would delegate to each Command Staff member.
4. Select a spokesperson. Be prepared to present in 10 minutes.



**Visual Description:** Case Study: Command Staff Roles

### Key Points

**Purpose:** The purpose of this activity is to illustrate how ICS can be used to address incident management issues.

#### Instructions:

1. Working as a team, review the case study presented on the next page of your Student Manual.
2. Identify which Command Staff positions would be assigned.
3. Next, if you were the Incident Commander, what specific activities would you delegate to each Command Staff member?
4. Select a spokesperson. Be prepared to present in 10 minutes.





Visual 4.21

**Summary**

**Are you now able to:**

- Identify the five major ICS management functions?
- Identify the position titles associated with the Command Staff?
- Describe the role and function of the Incident Commander?
- Describe the role and function of the Command Staff?

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Visual 4.21  
Incident Commander and  
Command Staff Functions

**Visual Description:** Summary

### Key Points

Are you now able to:

- Identify the five major ICS management functions?
- Identify the position titles associated with the Command Staff?
- Describe the role and function of the Incident Commander?
- Describe the role and function of the Command Staff?

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## Unit 5: General Staff Functions

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## Objective

At the end of this unit, you should be able to describe the roles and functions of the General Staff, including:

- Operations Section.
  - Planning Section.
  - Logistics Section.
  - Finance/Administration Section.
- 

## Scope

- Unit Introduction
  - Unit Objective
  - General Staff Overview
    - Expanding Incidents
    - ICS Supervisory Position Titles
    - Activity: ICS Section Chiefs and Deputies
    - Increasing Interagency Coordination
  - Operations Section
    - Operations Section: Major Activities
    - Audio: Operations Section Chief
    - Video: Operations Section: Expanding and Contracting
    - Operations: Single Resources
    - Operations: Teams
    - Sample Strike Teams and Task Forces
    - Activity
    - Operations: Too Many Teams!
    - The Solution: Add Functional Groups
    - Geographic Divisions & Groups
    - Complex Incidents
    - Activity: What Is the Correct Title?
  - Planning Section
    - Planning Section: Major Activities
    - Audio: Planning Section Chief
    - Planning Section: Units
    - Knowledge Review
  - Logistics Section
    - Logistics Section: Major Activities
    - Audio: Logistics Section Chief
    - Logistics Section: Branches and Units
  - Finance/Administration Section
    - Finance/Administration Section: Major Activities
    - Audio: Finance/Administration Section Chief
    - Finance/Administration Section: Units
  - Review Activity: Which Section Chief?
  - Case Study: General Staff Functions
  - Summary
-

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Visual 5.1



**Visual Description:** Unit Introduction

### Key Points

This unit will provide an overview of ICS General Staff functions, including the following topics:

- Operations Section
- Planning Section
- Logistics Section
- Finance/Administration Section

The unit concludes with a case study exercise in which you will apply what you have learned about the General Staff.



Visual 5.2

**Unit Objective**

Describe the roles and functions of the General Staff including:

- Operations Section
- Planning Section
- Logistics Section
- Finance/  
Administration  
Section



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Visual 5.2  
General Staff Functions

**Visual Description:** Unit Objective

### Key Points

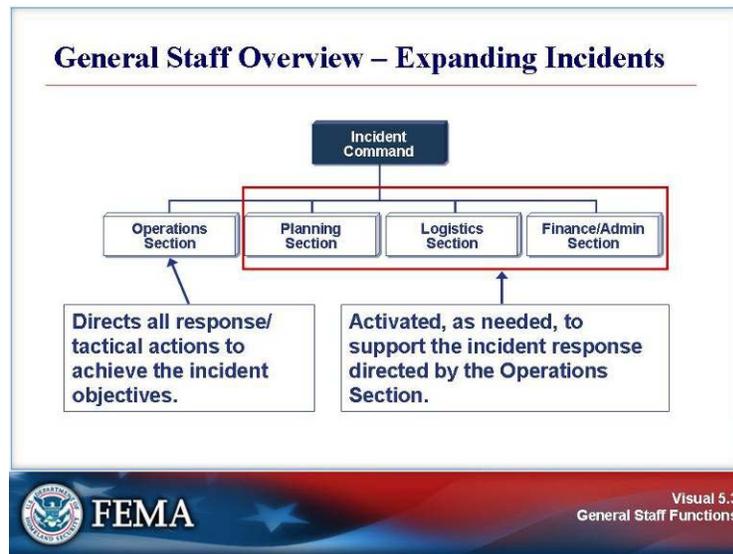
By the end of this unit, you should be able to describe the roles and functions of the General Staff including:

- Operations Section
- Planning Section
- Logistics Section
- Finance/Administration Section

Remember that most incidents usually are small, managed in a short period of time, and require few outside response resources. However, an institution may become involved in a larger incident affecting the whole community and may be isolated. In such cases, a larger ICS organization may be required to manage the incident.



Visual 5.3

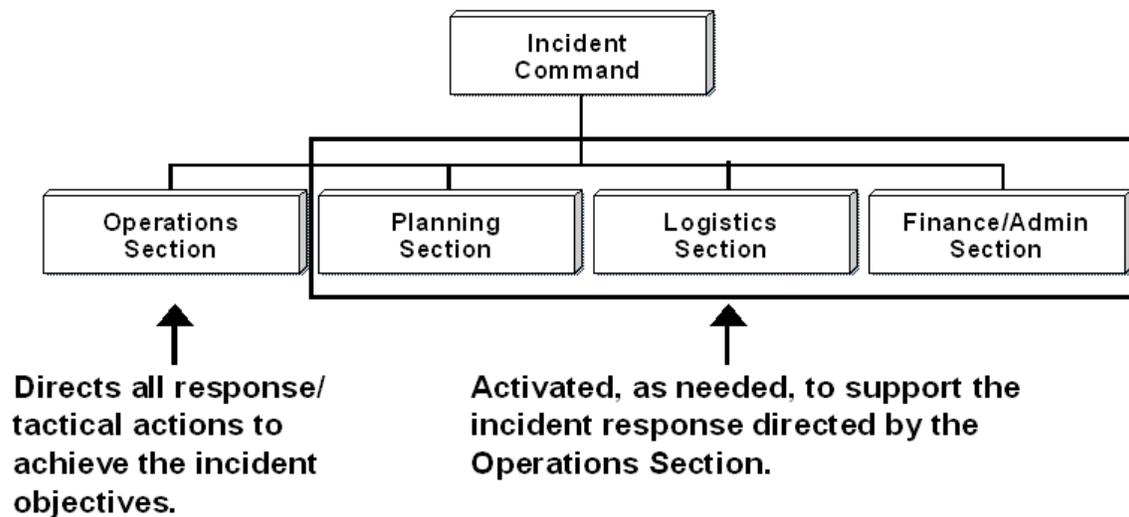


**Visual Description:** General Staff Overview – Expanding Incidents

### Key Points

The General Staff overall responsibilities are summarized in the graphic.

In an expanding incident, the Incident Command first establishes the Operations Section. The remaining Sections are established as needed to support the operation.





Visual 5.4



**Visual Description:** Expanding Incidents

## Key Points

Review the following definitions of ICS organizational components:

- **Sections:** The organizational levels with responsibility for a major functional area of the incident (e.g., Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance/Administration). The person in charge of each Section is designated as a Chief.
- **Divisions:** Used to divide an incident geographically. The person in charge of each Division is designated as a Supervisor.
- **Groups:** Used to describe functional areas of operations. The person in charge of each Group is designated as a Supervisor.
- **Branches:** Used when the number of Divisions or Groups exceeds the span of control. Can be either geographical or functional. The person in charge of each Branch is designated as a Director.
- **Task Forces:** A combination of mixed resources with common communications operating under the direct supervision of a Task Force Leader.
- **Strike Teams:** A set number of resources of the same kind and type with common communications operating under the direct supervision of a Strike Team Leader.
- **Single Resources:** May be individuals, a piece of equipment and its personnel complement, or a crew or team of individuals with an identified supervisor that can be used at an incident.



Visual 5.5

### ICS Supervisory Position Titles

Organizational Level	Supervisor Title	Support Position Title
Incident Command	Incident Commander	Deputy
Command Staff	Officer	Assistant
General Staff (Section)	Chief	Deputy
Branch	Director	Deputy
Division/Group	Supervisor	N/A
Unit	Leader	Manager
Strike Team/Task Force	Leader	Single Resource Boss

Visual 5.5  
General Staff Functions

**Visual Description:** ICS Supervisory Position Titles

### Key Points

Additional levels of supervision are added as the ICS organization expands.

The ICS supervisory titles are shown in the graphic.

Organizational Level	Supervisor Title	Support Position Title
Incident Command	Incident Commander	Deputy
Command Staff	Officer	Assistant
General Staff (Section)	Chief	Deputy
Branch	Director	Deputy
Division/Group	Supervisor	N/A
Unit	Leader	Manager
Strike Team/Task Force	Leader	Single Resource Boss

## Topic

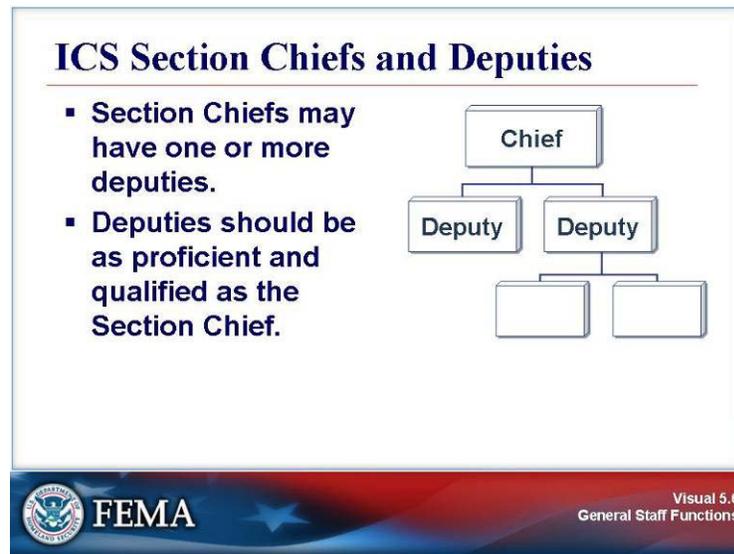
## Activity

**Instructions:** Match the title below with the correct description by placing the correct description number in the box.

- |                          |            |   |
|--------------------------|------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Commander  | 1. Responsible for supervision of a Branch.                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Chief      | 2. Responsible for a Task Force, Strike Team, or functional Unit. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Director   | 3. Responsible for a Division or Group.                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Supervisor | 4. Responsible for the overall management of the incident.        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Leader     | 5. Responsible for a functional Section, such as Operations.      |



Visual 5.6



**Visual Description:** ICS Section Chiefs and Deputies

## Key Points

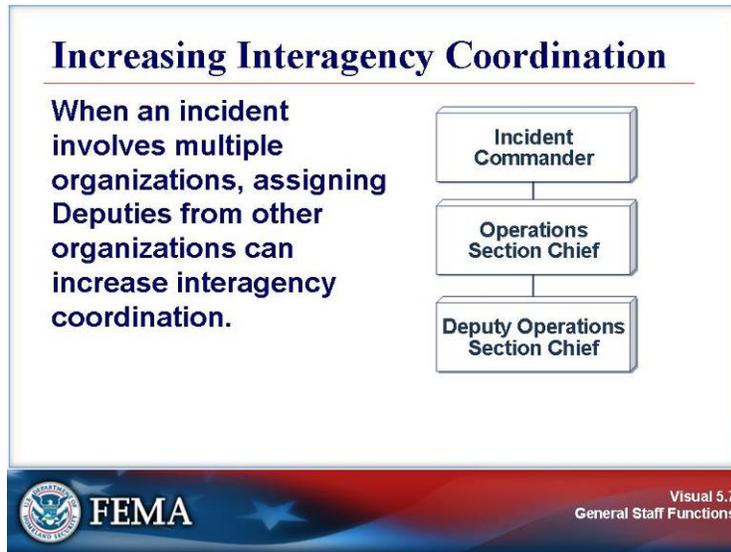
The person in charge of each Section is designated as a Chief. Section Chiefs have the ability to expand their Sections to meet the needs of the situation.

Each of the Section Chiefs may have a Deputy, or more than one, if necessary. The Deputy:

- May assume responsibility for a specific portion of the primary position, work as relief, or be assigned other tasks.
- Should always be as proficient as the person for whom he or she works.



Visual 5.7



**Visual Description:** Increasing Interagency Coordination

### Key Points

When an incident involves multiple organizations, assigning Deputies from other organizations can increase interagency coordination.

For example, in the case of a bomb threat on campus, command may be transferred to a first response organization while a campus public safety officer may serve as a Deputy. When first responders and campus personnel are integrated into the same ICS organizational structure, valuable information can be shared and crisis decisionmaking improved.



Visual 5.8

### Operations Section: Major Activities

- Directs and coordinates all incident tactical operations.
- Is typically one of the first organizations to be assigned to the incident.
- Expands from the bottom up.
- Has the most incident resources.
- May have Staging Areas and special organizations.



**Visual Description:** Operations Section: Major Activities

### Key Points

The Operations Section is responsible for directing and coordinating all incident tactical operations.

#### The Operations Section:

- Is typically one of the first organizations to be assigned to the incident.
- Develops from the bottom up.
- Has the most incident resources.
- May have Staging Areas and special organizations.



Visual 5.9

### Audio: Operations Section Chief



Operations  
Section  
Chief

 Click icon to play.

**Audio Key Points:**  
The Operations Section Chief:

- Develops and implements strategy and tactics to carry out the incident objectives.
- Organizes, assigns, and supervises the tactical field resources.
- Supervises air operations and those resources in a Staging Area.

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Visual 5.9  
General Staff Functions

**Visual Description:** Audio: Operations Section Chief

## Key Points

Typically, the Operations Section Chief is the person with the greatest technical and tactical expertise in dealing with the problem at hand. The Operations Section Chief:

- Develops and implements strategy and tactics to carry out the incident objectives.
- Organizes, assigns, and supervises the response resources.

Your instructor will play an audio clip of an Operations Section Chief explaining her role.

## Audio Transcript:

I take direction from the Incident Commander. I'm responsible for developing and implementing strategy and tactics to accomplish the incident objectives. This means that I organize, assign, and supervise all the tactical or response resources assigned to the incident. I would also manage the Staging Area, if one were established.



Visual 5.10



**Visual Description:** Video: Operations Section: Expanding and Contracting

## Key Points

Your instructor will play a short video that explains how the Section Chief manages the Operations Section. The video summarizes the expansion and contraction of an Operations Section.

### Video Transcript:

The Operations Section Chief at an incident may work initially with only a few single resources or staff members.

The Operations Section usually develops from the bottom up. The organization will expand to include needed levels of supervision as more and more resources are deployed.

Single resources may be grouped into Strike Teams or Task Forces who report to a Leader. Remember, Strike Teams are comprised of similar resources while Task Forces combine different types of resources.

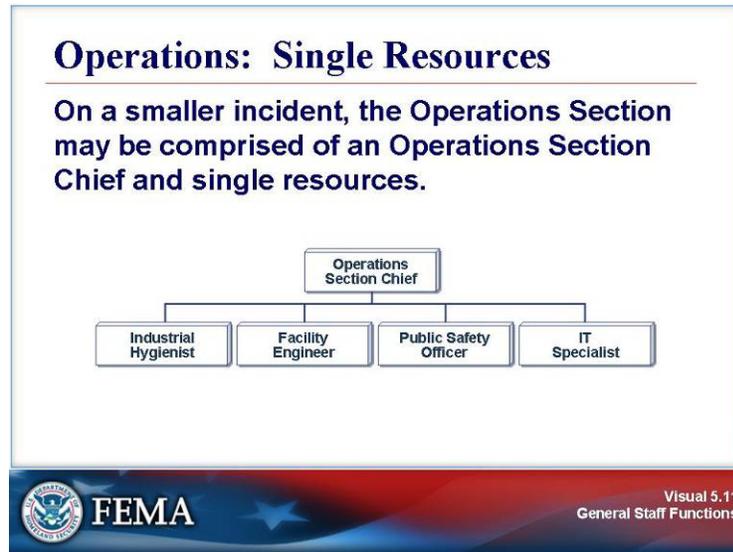
Groups may be added to supervise the growing number of resources, Teams, or Task Forces. Or, geographic Divisions along with Groups may be used. The Operations Section Chief may add Branches to supervise the Groups and Divisions and further reduce his or her span of control.

At some point, the Operations Section and the rest of the ICS organization will contract. The decision to contract will be based on the achievement of incident objectives.

Demobilization planning begins upon activation of the first personnel and continues until the ICS organization ceases operation.



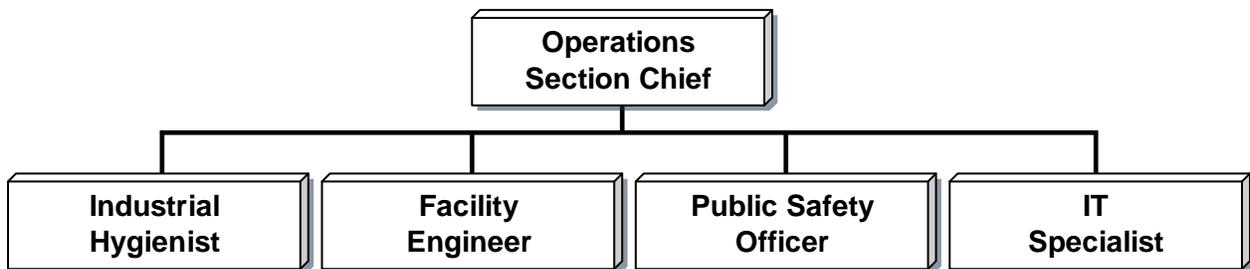
Visual 5.11



**Visual Description:** Operations: Single Resources

### Key Points

Single Resources are individuals, a piece of equipment and its personnel complement, or a crew or team of individuals with an identified supervisor. On a smaller incident, the Operations Section may be comprised of an Operations Section Chief and single resources.





Visual 5.12

### Operations: Teams

Single resources may be organized into teams. Using standard ICS terminology, the two types of team configurations are:

- **Task Forces**, which are a combination of mixed resources with common communications supervised by a Leader.
- **Strike Teams**, which include all similar resources with common communications supervised by a Leader.



**Visual Description:** Operations: Teams

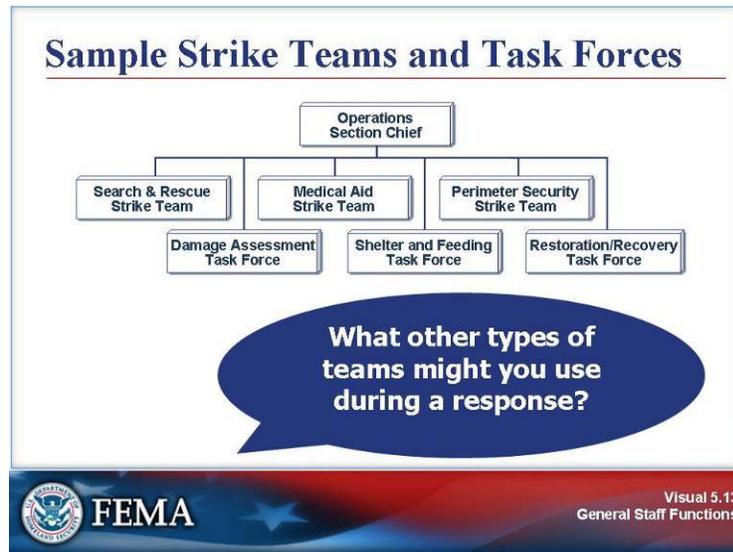
### Key Points

Single resources may be organized into teams. Using standard ICS terminology, the two types of team configurations are:

- **Task Forces**, which are a combination of mixed resources with common communications operating under the direct supervision of a Leader.
- **Strike Teams**, which include all similar resources with common communications operating under the direct supervision of a Leader.



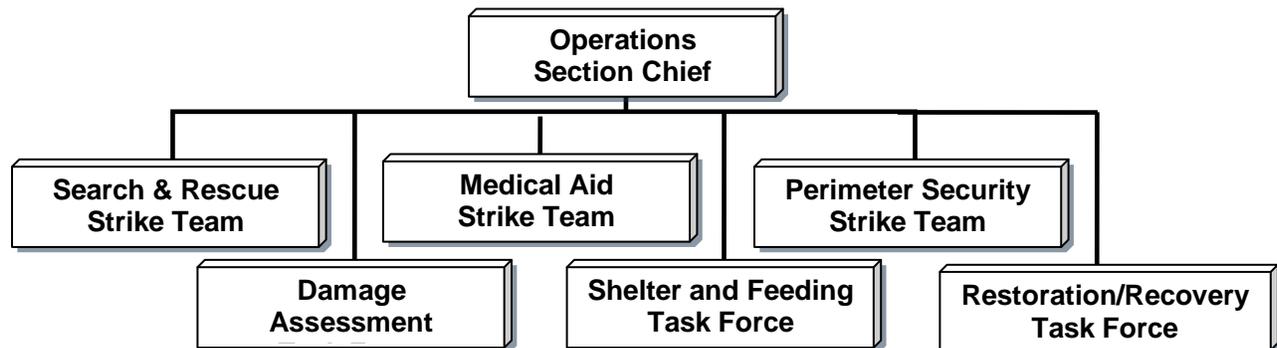
Visual 5.13



**Visual Description:** Sample Strike Teams and Task Forces

### Key Points

The Operations Section organization chart shows possible team assignments in a campus incident. Each team would have a Team Leader reporting to the Operations Section Chief.



Note that these are examples of possible teams. Teams should be established based on the type of incident and unique requirements of the campus.

**What other types of teams might you use during a response?**



Visual 5.14

### Activity

**Scenario:** Heavy rains have caused flash flooding. Your campus is isolated, and students and staff cannot leave. Help may not arrive for several hours.

**Instructions:** In your table groups:

1. Develop an organizational chart depicting how the Operations Section could be organized into teams.
2. List the responsibilities of each team.
3. Be prepared to present in 15 minutes.



**Visual Description:** Activity

### Key Points

Review the following scenario: Heavy rains have caused flash flooding. Your campus is isolated and students and staff cannot leave. Help may not arrive for several hours.

**Instructions:** In your table groups:

1. Develop an organizational chart depicting how the Operations Section could be organized into teams. Draw the team structure on chart paper as large as possible.
2. List the responsibilities of each team.
3. Be prepared to present in 15 minutes.



Visual 5.15

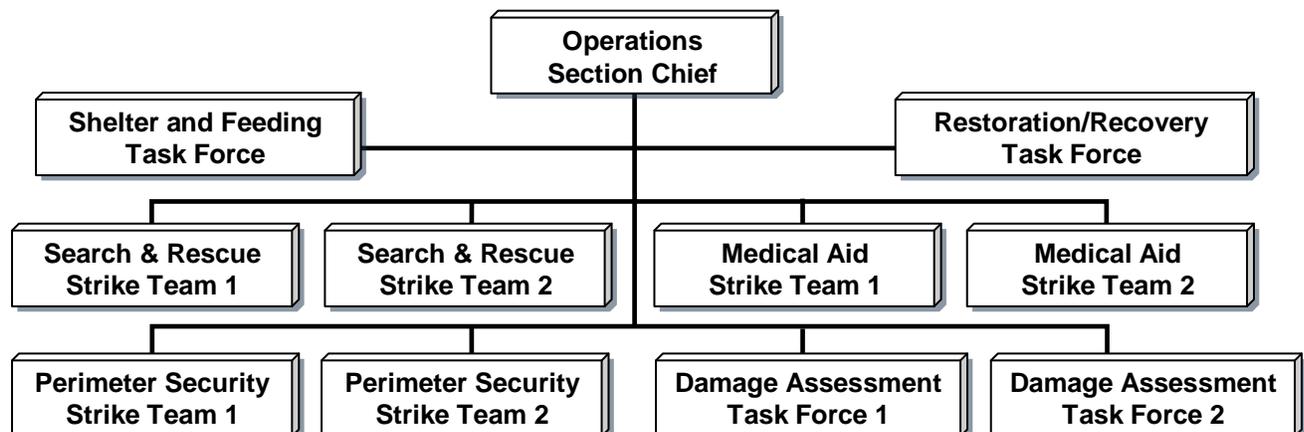


**Visual Description:** Operations: Too Many Teams!

### Key Points

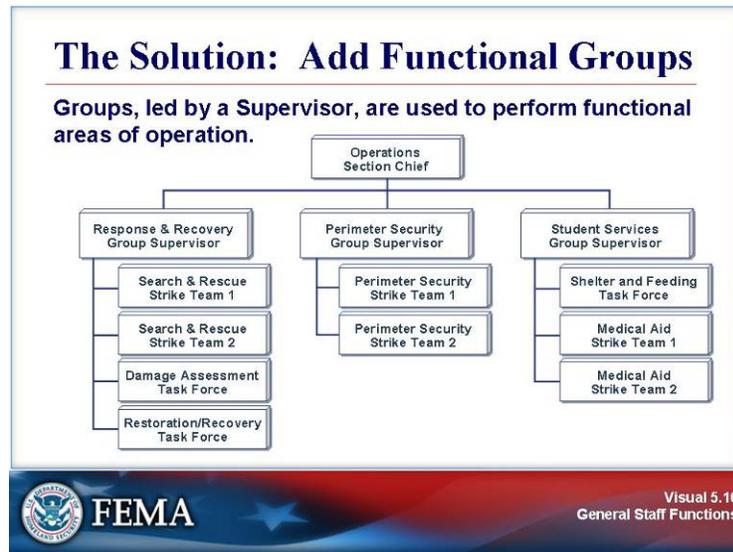
To maintain span of control, each team should be comprised of a Team Leader and no more than 5 to 7 team members.

**As teams are added, what happens to the Operations Section Chief's span of control?**





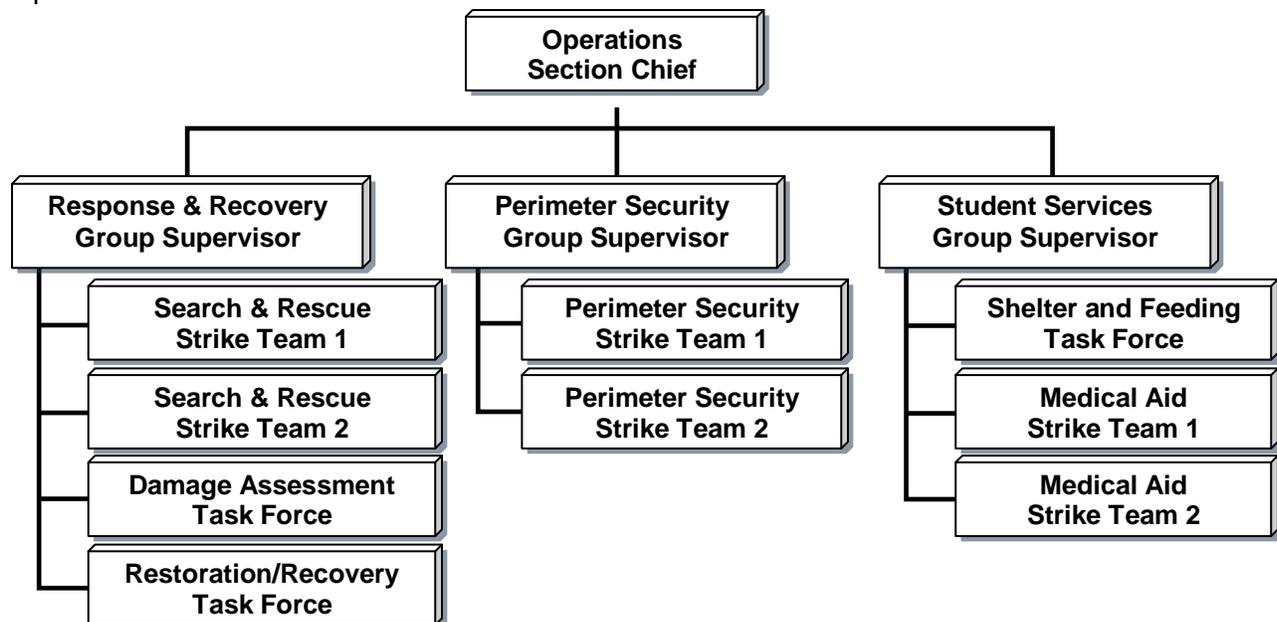
Visual 5.16



**Visual Description:** The Solution: Add Functional Groups

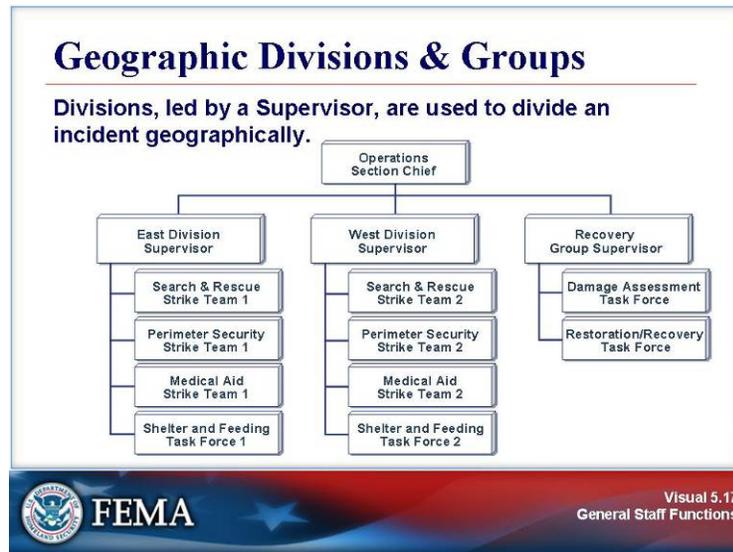
### Key Points

On a large, complex incident the Operations Section may become very large. Using the ICS principle of modular organization, the Operations Section may add elements to manage span of control. **Groups are used to perform functional areas of operation.** The organizational chart below illustrates how Groups can be used to maintain span of control within the Operations Section.





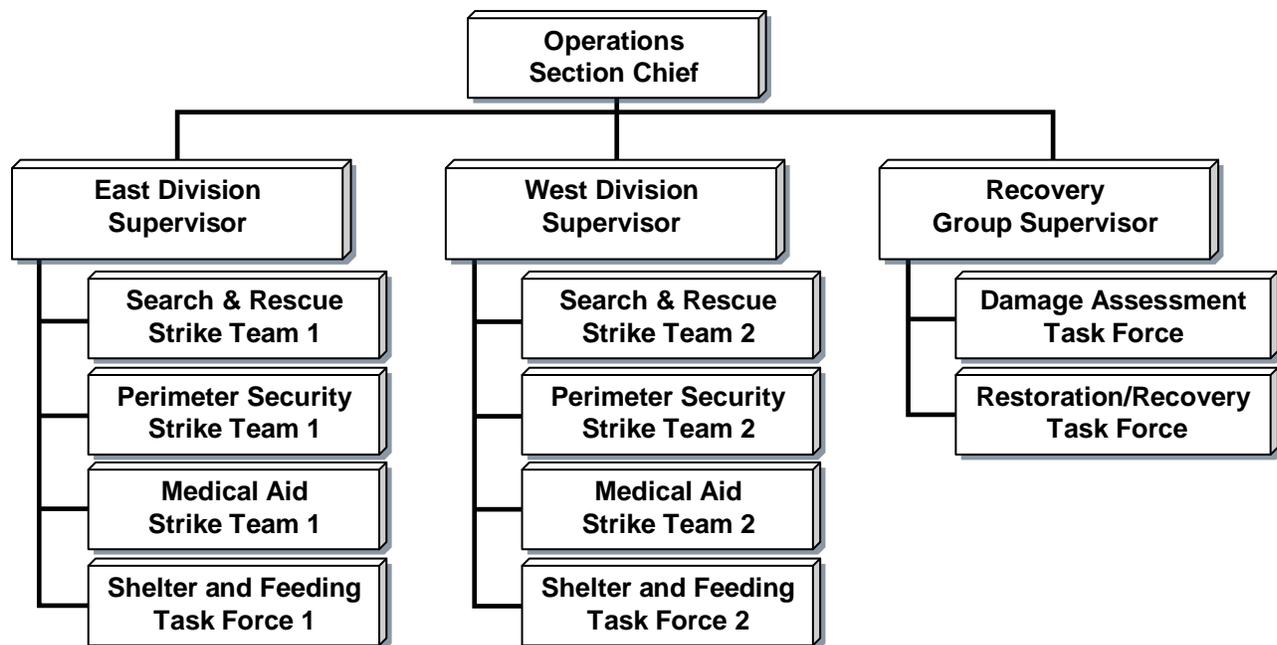
Visual 5.17



**Visual Description:** Geographic Divisions & Groups

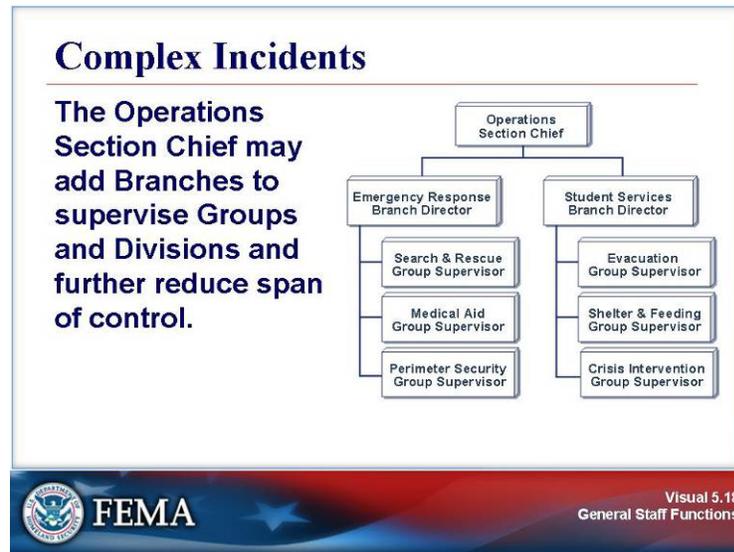
### Key Points

**Divisions** can be used to add a level of supervision. Divisions are used to divide an incident geographically. The organizational chart below illustrates how Groups and Divisions can be used together to maintain span of control within the Operations Section. The use of Divisions would be effective if the incident covered a large or isolated area of the campus.





Visual 5.18

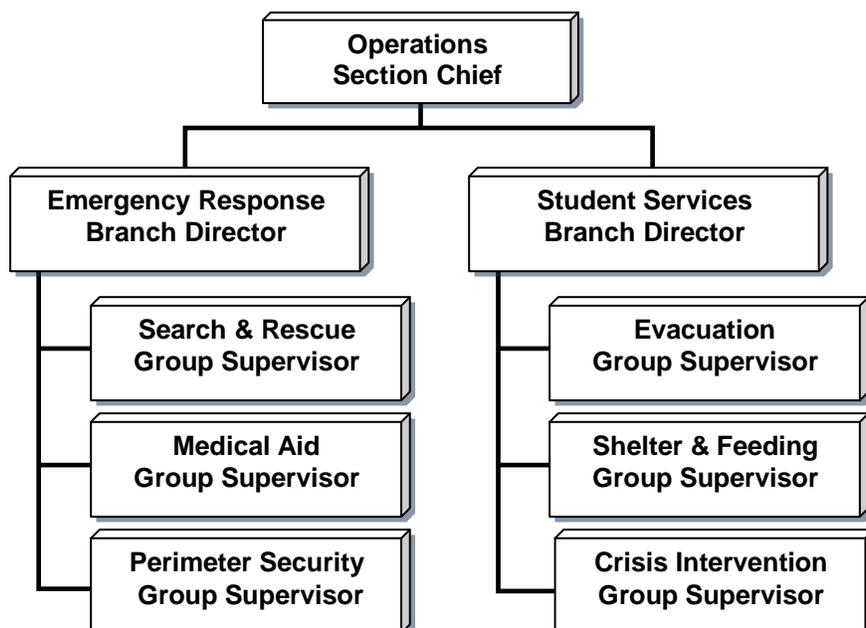


**Visual Description:** Complex Incidents

### Key Points

The Operations Section Chief may add Branches to supervise Groups and Divisions and further reduce his or her span of control. The person in charge of each Branch is designated as a Director.

**What are the advantages of reducing the Operations Section Chief's span of control?**





Visual 5.19

**Activity: What Is the Correct Title? (1 of 3)**

**Instructions:** Read each scenario and question. Mark the answer in your Student Manual.

**Scenario:** As incident objectives and resources expand, the Operations Section Chief begins organizing resources into functional areas.

What title is the correct addition to the organizational chart?



Visual 5.19  
General Staff Functions

**Visual Description:** Activity: What Is the Correct Title? (1 of 3)

**Key Points**

**Instructions:** Read each scenario and question. Mark the answers in your Student Manual.

**Scenario:** As incident objectives and resources expand, the Operations Section Chief begins organizing resources into functional areas. What title is the correct addition to the organizational chart?

- Unit Supervisor
- Team Supervisor
- Group Supervisor



Visual 5.20

**Activity: What Is the Correct Title? (2 of 3)**

**Scenario:** The incident has isolated part of the campus. Given this isolation, the Operations Section Chief has decided to organize resources by geographical areas.

What title is the correct addition to the organizational chart?



**Visual Description:** Activity: What Is the Correct Title? (2 of 3)

**Key Points**

**Scenario:** The incident has isolated part of the campus. Given this isolation, the Operations Section Chief has decided to organize resources by geographical areas. What title is the correct addition to the organizational chart?

- Task Force Supervisor
- Division Supervisor
- Sector Supervisor



Visual 5.21

**Activity: What Is the Correct Title? (3 of 3)**

**Scenario:** As the incident expands even further, the Operations Section Chief determines that there is a need to add another level of supervisor to manage the Groups.

**What title is the correct addition to the organizational chart?**

Visual 5.21  
General Staff Functions

**Visual Description:** Activity: What Is the Correct Title? (3 of 3)

**Key Points**

**Scenario:** As the incident expands even further, the Operations Section Chief determines that there is a need to add another level of supervisor to manage the Groups. What title is the correct addition to the organizational chart?

- Branch Director
- Department Director
- Field Director



Visual 5.22

### Planning Section: Major Activities

- Collecting, evaluating, and displaying incident intelligence and information.
- Preparing and documenting Incident Action Plans.
- Tracking resources assigned to the incident.
- Maintaining incident documentation.
- Developing plans for demobilization.



**Visual Description:** Planning Section: Major Activities

### Key Points

The major activities of the Planning Section may include:

- Collecting, evaluating, and displaying incident intelligence and information.
- Preparing and documenting Incident Action Plans.
- Tracking resources assigned to the incident.
- Maintaining incident documentation.
- Developing plans for demobilization.



Visual 5.23

### Audio: Planning Section Chief

---



Planning Section Chief

 Click icon to play.

Audio Key Points:

The Planning Section Chief:

- Helps provide accurate information.
- Provides resources such as maps and floor plans.
- Develops Incident Action Plans.
- Maintains chronology of events.

Visual 5.23  
General Staff Functions

**Visual Description:** Audio: Planning Section Chief

## Key Points

Read the following key points:

- The Incident Commander will determine if there is a need for a Planning Section and if so, will designate a Planning Section Chief.
- If no Planning Section is established, the Incident Commander will perform all planning functions.
- It is up to the Planning Section Chief to activate any needed additional staffing.

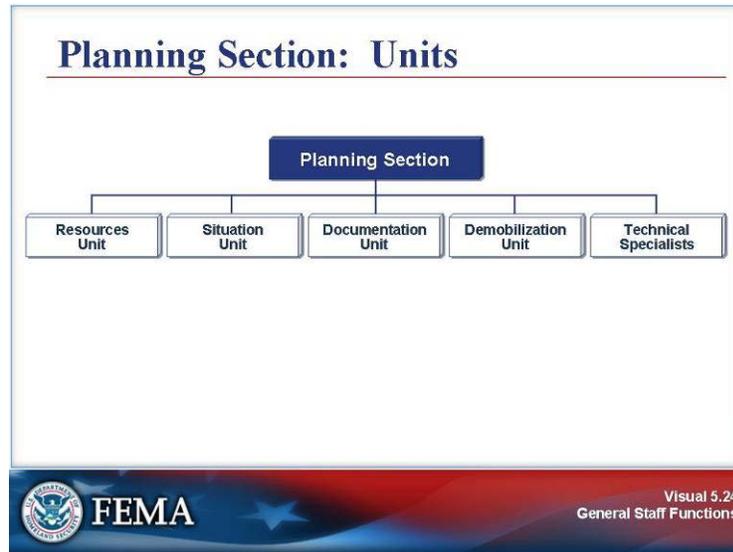
Your instructor will play a short audio clip of a Planning Section Chief describing the role of the Planning Section in the ICS organization.

### Audio Transcript:

The Incident Commander will determine if there is a need for a Planning Section, and if so, will designate a Planning Section Chief. In a campus incident, the Planning Section helps ensure responders have accurate information, such as the number of students remaining in the building. We can also provide resources such as maps and floor plans. In addition to developing plans, we can provide an invaluable service by recording a chronology of incident events for legal, analytical, fiscal, and historical purposes.



Visual 5.24

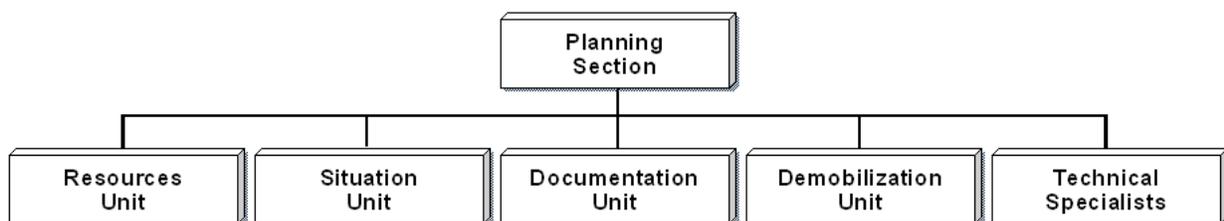


**Visual Description:** Planning Section: Units

### Key Points

Read the following key points:

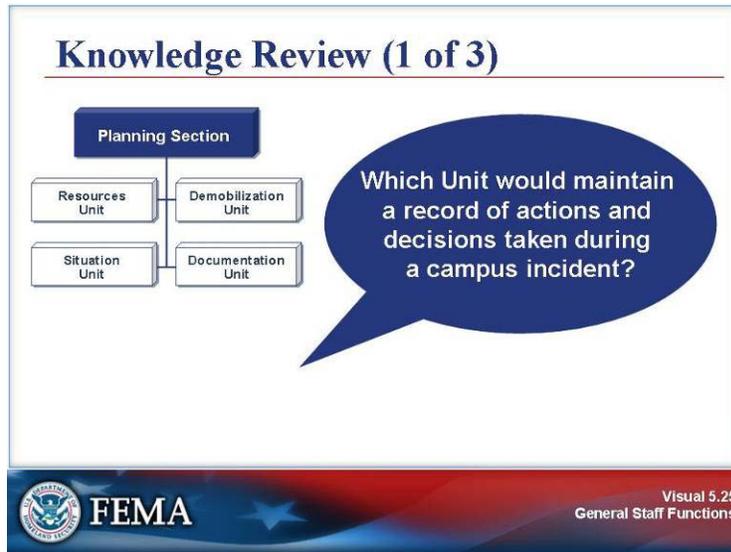
The Planning Section can be further staffed with four Units. In addition, Technical Specialists who provide special expertise useful in incident management and response may also be assigned to work in the Planning Section. Depending on the needs, Technical Specialists may also be assigned to other Sections in the organization.



- **Resources Unit:** Conducts all check-in activities and maintains the status of all incident resources. The Resources Unit plays a significant role in preparing the written Incident Action Plan.
- **Situation Unit:** Collects and analyzes information on the current situation, prepares situation displays and situation summaries, and develops maps and projections.
- **Documentation Unit:** Provides duplication services, including the written Incident Action Plan. Maintains and archives all incident-related documentation.
- **Demobilization Unit:** Assists in ensuring that resources are released from the incident in an orderly, safe, and cost-effective manner.



Visual 5.25



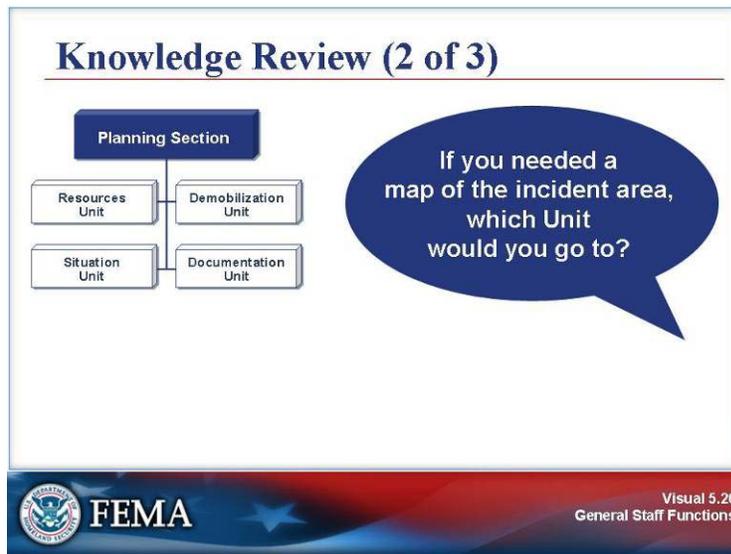
**Visual Description:** Knowledge Review (1 of 3) – Which Unit would maintain a record of actions taken during a campus incident? The options are Resources Unit, Demobilization Unit, Situation Unit, or Documentation Unit.

### Key Points

Which Planning Section Unit would maintain a record of actions taken during a campus incident?



Visual 5.26



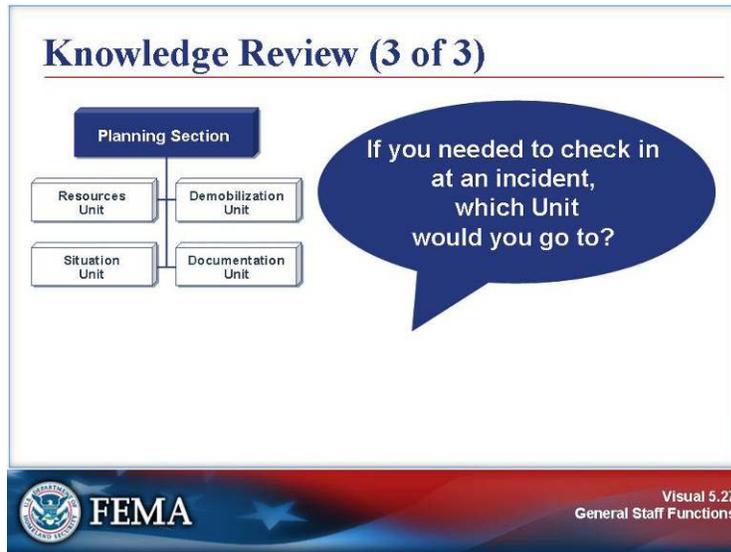
**Visual Description:** Knowledge Review (2 of 3) – If you needed a map of the incident area, which Unit would you go to? The options are Resources Unit, Demobilization Unit, Situation Unit, or Documentation Unit.

### Key Points

If you needed a map of the incident area, which Planning Section Unit would you go to?



Visual 5.27



**Visual Description:** Knowledge Review (3 of 3) – If you needed to check in at an incident, which Unit would you go to? The options are Resources Unit, Demobilization Unit, Situation Unit, or Documentation Unit.

### Key Points

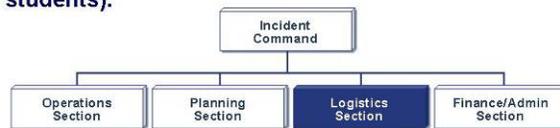
If you needed to check in at an incident, which Planning Section Unit would you go to?



Visual 5.28

### Logistics Section: Major Activities

- Ordering, obtaining, maintaining, and accounting for essential personnel, equipment, and supplies.
- Providing communication planning and resources.
- Setting up food services for responders.
- Setting up and maintaining incident facilities.
- Providing support transportation.
- Providing medical services for responders (not injured students).



**Visual Description:** Logistics Section: Major Activities

### Key Points

The Logistics Section is responsible for all of the services and support needs, including:

- Ordering, obtaining, maintaining, and accounting for essential personnel, equipment, and supplies.
- Providing communication planning and resources.
- Setting up food services for responders.
- Setting up and maintaining incident facilities.
- Providing support transportation.
- Providing medical services to **incident personnel (not injured students)**.



Visual 5.29

### Audio: Logistics Section Chief



Logistics Section Chief



Click icon to play.

**Audio Key Points:**

**The Logistics Section Chief:**

- Provides resources and services required to support incident activities.
- Develops portions of Incident Action Plan and forwards them to the Planning Section.
- Contracts for and purchases goods and services needed at the incident.

 **FEMA** 

Visual 5.29  
General Staff Functions

**Visual Description:** Audio: Logistics Section Chief

## Key Points

Summarize the following key points:

- The Incident Commander will determine if there is a need for a Logistics Section at the incident, and if so, will designate an individual to fill the position of the Logistics Section Chief.
- The Logistic Section Chief helps make sure that there are adequate resources (personnel, supplies, and equipment) for meeting the incident objectives.

Your instructor will play a short audio clip of a Logistics Section Chief describing his role in the ICS organization.

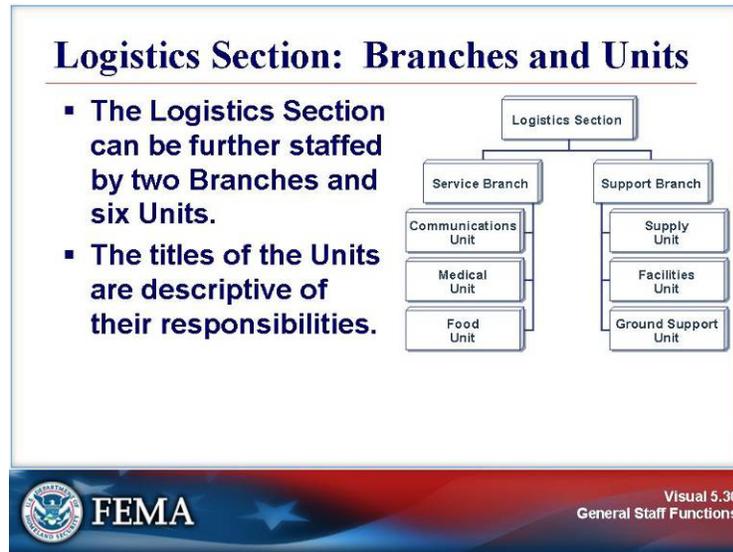
### Audio Transcript:

Logistics can make or break an incident response. I assist the Incident Commander and Operations Section Chief by providing the resources and services required to support incident activities. During an incident, Logistics is responsible for ensuring that there are sufficient food, water, and sanitation supplies. We are also responsible for arranging buses for evacuations and communication equipment.

Logistics and Finance have to work closely to contract for and purchase goods and services needed at the incident.



Visual 5.30



**Visual Description:** Logistics Section: Branches and Units

## Key Points

Read the following key points:

- The Logistics Section can be further staffed by two Branches and six Units.
- The titles of the Units are descriptive of their responsibilities.

### Service Branch

The Logistics Service Branch can be staffed to include a:

- **Communications Unit:** Prepares and implements the Incident Communications Plan (ICS-205), distributes and maintains communications equipment, supervises the Incident Communications Center, and establishes adequate communications over the incident.
- **Medical Unit:** Develops the Medical Plan (ICS-206), provides first aid and light medical treatment for personnel assigned to the incident, and prepares procedures for a major medical emergency.
- **Food Unit:** Supplies the food and potable water for all incident facilities and personnel, and obtains the necessary equipment and supplies to operate food service facilities at Bases and Camps.

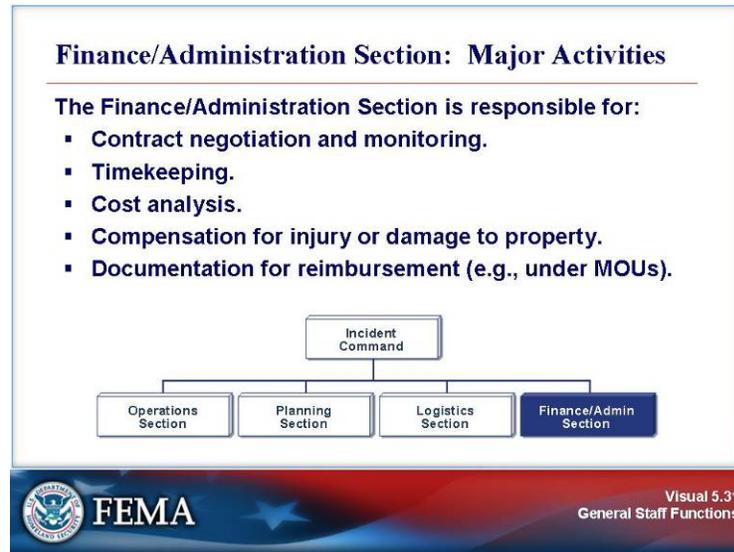
**Support Branch**

The Logistics Support Branch can be staffed to include a:

- **Supply Unit:** Determines the type and amount of supplies needed to support the incident. The Unit orders, receives, stores, and distributes supplies, services, and nonexpendable equipment. All resource orders are placed through the Supply Unit. The Unit maintains inventory and accountability of supplies and equipment.
- **Facilities Unit:** Sets up and maintains required facilities to support the incident. Provides managers for the Incident Base and Camps. Also responsible for facility security and facility maintenance services such as sanitation, lighting, and cleanup.
- **Ground Support Unit:** Prepares the Transportation Plan. Arranges for, activates, and documents the fueling, maintenance, and repair of ground resources. Arranges for the transportation of personnel, supplies, food, and equipment.



Visual 5.31



**Visual Description:** Finance/Administration Section: Major Activities

### Key Points

The Finance/Administration Section is set up for any incident that requires incident-specific financial management. The Finance/Administration Section is responsible for:

- Contract negotiation and monitoring.
- Timekeeping.
- Cost analysis.
- Compensation for injury or damage to property.
- Documentation for reimbursement (e.g., under Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs)).



Visual 5.32

**Audio: Finance/Administration Section Chief**



Finance/Administration  
Section Chief



Click icon to play.

**Audio Key Points:**

**The Finance/Admin Section Chief:**

- Is responsible for financial and cost analysis.
- Oversees contract negotiations.
- Tracks personnel and equipment time.
- Processes claims for accidents and injuries.
- Works with Logistics to ensure resources are procured.



Visual 5.32  
General Staff Functions

**Visual Description:** Audio: Finance/Administration Section Chief

## Key Points

The Incident Commander will determine if there is a need for a Finance/Administration Section at the incident, and if so, will designate an individual to fill the position of the Finance/Administration Section Chief.

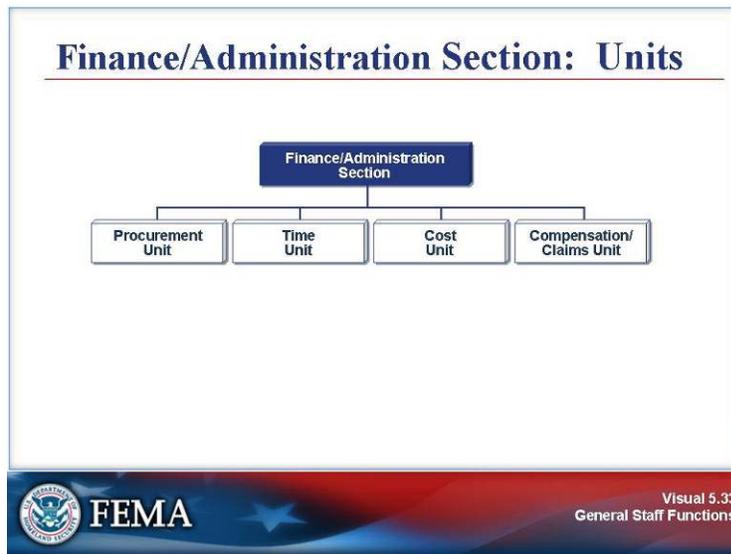
Your instructor will play a short audio clip of a Finance/Administration Section Chief describing her role in the ICS organization.

## Audio Transcript:

I'm the one who worries about paying for the response efforts. I'm responsible for all of the financial and cost analysis aspects of an incident. These include contract negotiation, tracking personnel and equipment time, documenting and processing claims for accidents and injuries occurring at the incident, and keeping a running tally of the costs associated with the incident. I work most closely with Logistics to be sure that we are able to contract for and procure the resources necessary to manage an incident.



Visual 5.33



**Visual Description:** Finance/Administration Section: Units

### Key Points

Read the following key points:

- **Procurement Unit:** Responsible for administering all financial matters pertaining to vendor contracts, leases, and fiscal agreements.
- **Time Unit:** Responsible for incident personnel time recording.
- **Cost Unit:** Collects all cost data, performs cost effectiveness analyses, provides cost estimates, and makes cost savings recommendations.
- **Compensation/Claims Unit:** Responsible for the overall management and direction of all administrative matters pertaining to compensation for injury-related and claims-related activities kept for the incident.



Visual 5.34

### Review Activity

**Instructions:** Read the following statements and identify the correct Section Chief. Write your answers in your Student Manual.

- My Section is working on getting 50 buses for an immediate evacuation of the campus in advance of floodwaters.
- When SWAT responders appeared on the scene of a hostile intruder incident, we provided campus maps and class schedules for the day.
- Teams within my Section are providing triage, treatment, and psychological first aid services to injured students.
- We oversee the documenting and processing of claims for accidents and injuries occurring at the incident.



**FEMA**

Visual 5.34  
 General Staff Functions

**Visual Description:** Review Activity

### Key Points

**Instructions:** Identify the correct Section Chief.

	Statement	Which Section?
<b>A</b>	My Section is working on getting 50 buses for an immediate evacuation of the campus in advance of floodwaters.	
<b>B</b>	When SWAT responders appeared on the scene of a hostile intruder incident, we provided campus maps and class schedules for the day.	
<b>C</b>	Teams within my Section are providing triage, treatment, and psychological first-aid services to injured students.	
<b>D</b>	We oversee the documenting and processing of claims for accidents and injuries occurring at the incident.	



Visual 5.35

**Case Study: General Staff Functions**

**Instructions:**

1. Working as a team, review the case study presented in your Student Manuals.
2. Use what you've learned to answer the questions in your Student Manuals. Write your answers on chart paper.
3. Select a spokesperson and be prepared to discuss with the class in 15 minutes.

 **FEMA**  Visual 5.35  
General Staff Functions

**Visual Description:** Case Study: General Staff Functions

## Key Points

### **Instructions:**

1. Working as a team, review the case study presented in your Student Manuals.
2. Use what you've learned to answer the questions for each part of the case study before proceeding to the next page. Write your answers on chart paper.
3. When you've answered each set of questions, move on to the next page.
4. Select a spokesperson and be prepared to discuss your answers to all the questions in 15 minutes.

**Scenario Part 1:** A graduate student discovers a package leaking mercury in a campus laboratory classroom. The label on the box indicates it was shipped from another local university, but no one is sure how long the box has been there, or how long it has been leaking. The student notifies a faculty member, who establishes the initial ICS organization.

### **Question:**

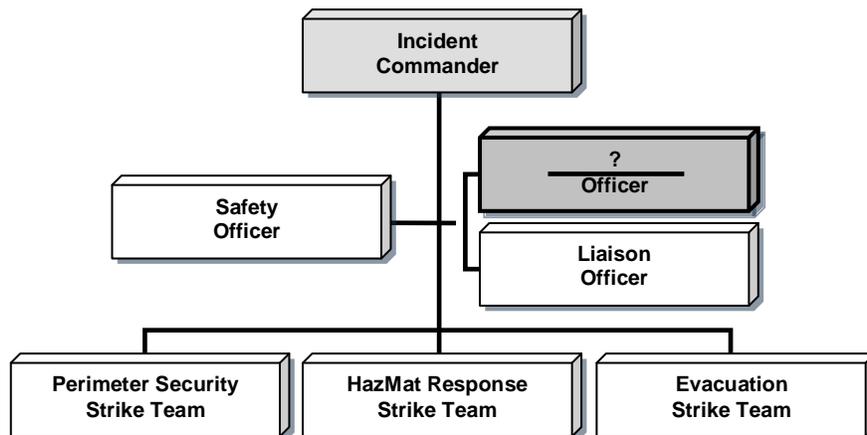
In the ICS organization described above, the faculty member has assumed which role?



**Scenario Part 3:** A transfer of command occurs and the police chief assumes the Incident Commander role. The Command and General Staff positions are filled as shown on the chart.

**Questions:**

- Does the Incident Commander have a manageable span of control?
- What is the title of the person in charge of the Perimeter Security Strike Team?
- What member of the Command Staff would go in the box with the question mark?



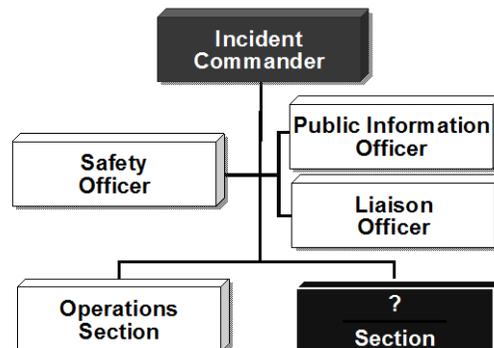
Caption: Organizational chart with Incident Commander, Safety Officer, [?] Officer, Liaison Officer, Perimeter Security Strike Team, HazMat Response Strike Team, and Evacuation Strike Team.



**Scenario Part 5:** After the first hour, the Incident Commander establishes a second Section that will develop the Incident Action Plan and track the status of resources on the scene.

**Question:**

- What is the correct title of this Section?



Caption: Organizational chart with Incident Commander, Command Staff, and Operations Section. A second Section has been added.

**Scenario Part 6:** Because it remains unclear how long the package has been leaking, there is a need to find students and staff who may have come in contact with the mercury. Given the number of personnel on the scene, there is a need to provide meals, food, first aid, and rest areas for responders.

**Question:**

**Which Section is responsible for providing these support resources?**

**Scenario Part 7:** It is determined that the package was delivered through the campus mail service several hours earlier, and the spill was discovered during the first class of the day. No traces of mercury are found in the campus mail facility. Cleanup in the lab is complete, and the few exposed students and staff have been located and are undergoing treatment.

**Question:**

**Which resources would you demobilize first? Why?**



Visual 5.36

**Summary**

Are you able to describe the roles and functions of the:

- Operations Section?
- Planning Section?
- Logistics Section?
- Finance/Administration Section?



Visual 5.36  
General Staff Functions



**Visual Description:** Summary

### Key Points

Are you now able to describe the roles and functions of the:

- Operations Section?
- Planning Section?
- Logistics Section?
- Finance/Administration Section?

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## Unit 6: Unified Command

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## **Objectives**

At the end of this unit, the you should be able to:

- Define Unified Command.
  - List the advantages of Unified Command.
  - Identify the primary features of Unified Command.
  - Describe the roles and reporting relationships between campus personnel and emergency responders under a Unified Command.
- 

## **Scope**

- Unit Introduction
  - Unit Overview
  - Activity: Optimal Strategy
  - Unified Command Definition and Benefits
  - Unified Command Features
  - Unified Command Organization
  - Unified Command Strategies
  - Case Study: Unified Command
  - Quick Reference Guide: ICS Organization
  - Quick Reference Guide: Position Titles
  - Summary
-

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Visual 6.1



**Visual Description:** Unit Introduction

### Key Points

The previous units covered the Incident Command Systems (ICS) fundamentals. This unit introduces you to a more advanced concept, called **Unified Command**.

Unified Command:

- Applies ICS in incidents involving multiple jurisdictions or agencies.
- Enables institutions and agencies with different legal, geographic, and functional responsibilities to coordinate, plan, and interact effectively.



Visual 6.2

### Unit Objectives

- Define Unified Command.
- List the advantages of Unified Command.
- Identify the primary features of Unified Command.
- Describe the roles and reporting relationships between campus personnel and emergency responders under a Unified Command.



Visual 6.2  
Unified Command



**Visual Description:** Unit Objectives

### Key Points

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to:

- Define Unified Command.
- List the advantages of Unified Command.
- Identify the primary features of Unified Command.
- Describe the roles and reporting relationships between campus personnel and emergency responders under a Unified Command.



Visual 6.3

### Activity: Optimal Strategy

**Instructions:** Read the scenario below and select the optimal strategy in your Student Manual.

**Scenario:** A political protest started on campus and has spread into the surrounding community, with student and nonstudent demonstrators defacing campus, city, and private property, setting fires, and disrupting traffic. Protestors have overturned a vehicle at the entrance to the campus, and taken hostages in a building that contains a bank on the first floor and campus administrative offices on upper floors.



**Visual Description:** Activity: Optimal Strategy

### Key Points

**Instructions:** Read the scenario below and select the optimal strategy that provides the best solution.

**Scenario:** A political protest started on campus and has spread into the surrounding community, with student and nonstudent demonstrators defacing campus, city, and private property, setting fires, and disrupting traffic. Protestors have overturned a vehicle at the entrance to the campus, and have taken hostages in a building that contains a bank on the first floor and campus administrative offices on upper floors.

Select the optimal strategy.

- Divide the incident along geographic and functional lines so that each county, the State, and the institution can establish its own ICS organization with well-defined areas of responsibilities.
- Create a single ICS incident structure that allows for an effective multijurisdictional or multiagency approach.



Visual 6.4



**Visual Description:** Unified Command

## Key Points

Unified Command:

- Applies ICS in incidents involving multiple jurisdictions or organizations.
- Enables institutions and agencies with different legal, geographic, and functional responsibilities to coordinate, plan, and interact effectively.

The Incident Commanders within the Unified Command make joint decisions and speak as one voice. Any differences are worked out within the Unified Command.

Unity of command is maintained. Each responder reports to a single supervisor within his or her area of expertise. Within a Unified Command the police officer would not tell the firefighters how to do their job nor would the police tell campus personnel how to notify students of a campus incident.



Visual 6.5

### Unified Command Benefits

- A shared understanding of priorities and restrictions.
- A single set of incident objectives.
- Collaborative strategies.
- Improved internal and external information flow.
- Less duplication of efforts.
- Better resource utilization.



**Visual Description:** Unified Command Benefits

### Key Points

In a Unified Command, institutions and responding agencies blend into an integrated, unified team. A unified approach results in:

- A shared understanding of priorities and restrictions.
- A single set of incident objectives.
- Collaborative strategies.
- Improved internal and external information flow.
- Less duplication of efforts
- Better resource utilization.



Visual 6.6

### Unified Command Features



- A single integrated incident organization
- Collocated (shared) facilities
- One set of incident objectives, single planning process, and Incident Action Plan
- Integrated General Staff – Only one Operations Section
- Coordinated process for resource ordering



Visual 6.6  
Unified Command

**Visual Description:** Unified Command Features

## Key Points

The following are features of Unified Command:

- **A Single Integrated Incident Organization:** As a team effort, Unified Command overcomes much of the inefficiency and duplication of effort that can occur when agencies from different functional and geographic jurisdictions, or agencies at different levels of government, operate without a common system or organizational framework.
- **Collocated (Shared) Facilities:** In a Unified Command incident facilities are collocated or shared. There is one single Incident Command Post.
- **One Set of Incident Objectives, Single Planning Process, and Incident Action Plan:** Unified Command uses one set of incident objectives and a single planning process, and produces one Incident Action Plan (IAP). The planning process for Unified Command is similar to the process used on single jurisdiction incidents.

(Continued on the next page.)

The following are also features of Unified Command:

- **Integrated General Staff:** Integrating multijurisdictional and/or multiagency personnel into various other functional areas may be beneficial. For example:
  - In Operations and Planning, Deputy Section Chiefs can be designated from an adjacent jurisdiction.
  - In Logistics, a Deputy Logistics Section Chief from another agency or jurisdiction can help to coordinate incident support.

Incident Commanders within the Unified Command must concur on the selection of the General Staff Section Chiefs. The Operations Section Chief must have full authority to implement the tactics within the Incident Action Plan.

- **Coordinated Process for Resource Ordering:** The Incident Commanders within the Unified Command work together to establish resource ordering procedures that allow for:
  - Deployment of scarce resources to meet high-priority objectives.
  - Potential cost savings through agreements on cost sharing for essential services.



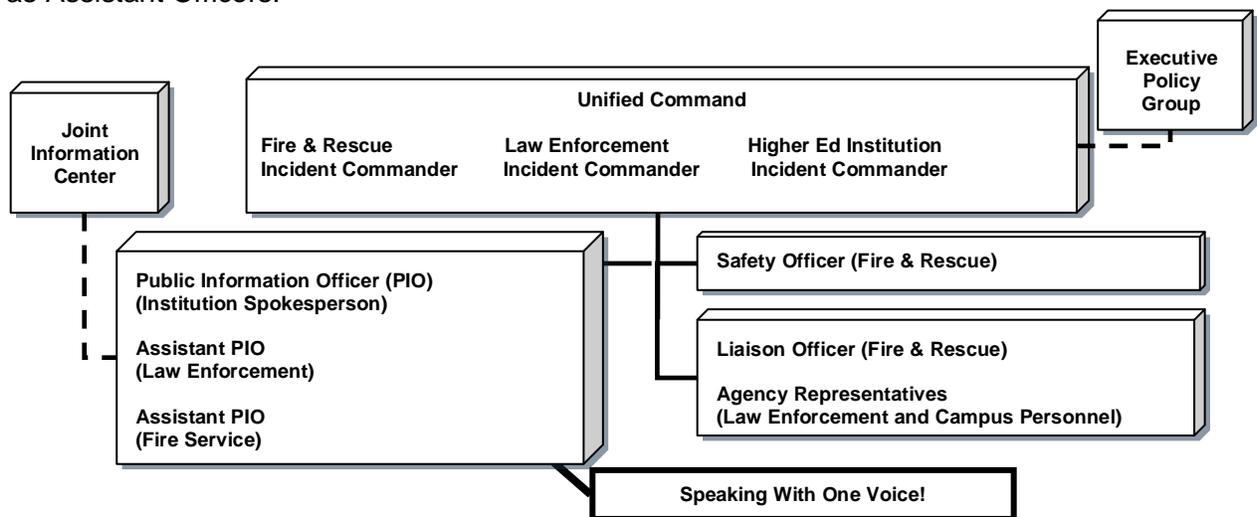
Visual 6.7



**Visual Description:** Protest Incident: Unified Command

### Key Points

Unified Command results in a single integrated incident organization. Below is a sample Command Staff organizational chart for a political protest that started on campus and spread to the surrounding community, with demonstrations quickly developing into widespread destruction. Notice that the Unified Command is composed of the agencies involved: Fire & Rescue, Law Enforcement, and Institution, and that personnel from the different agencies often are assigned as Assistant Officers.



The combined Public Information approach ensures that the responders will speak with one voice.



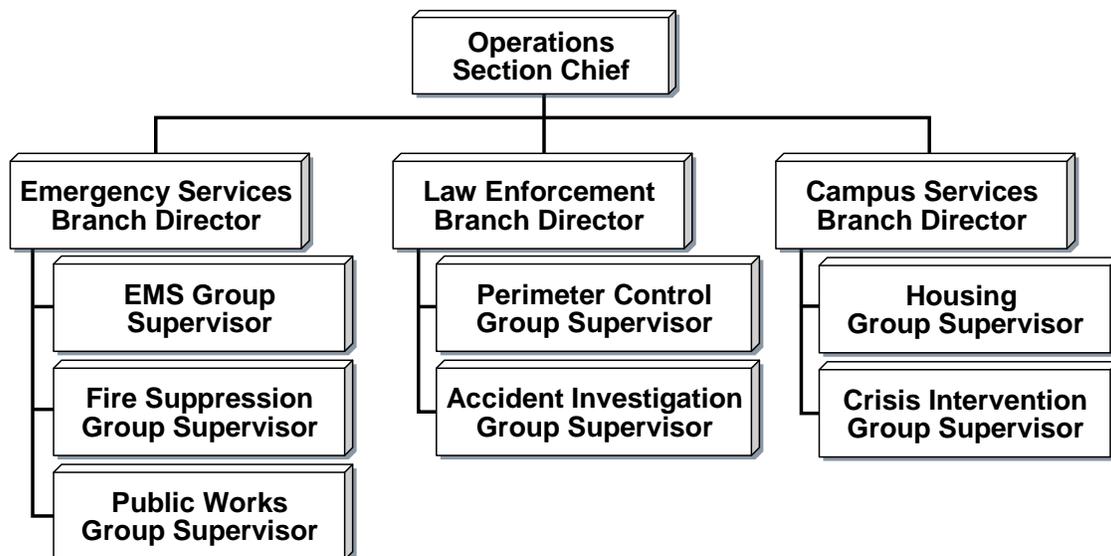
Visual 6.8



**Visual Description:** Protest Incident: Integrated Ops Section

### Key Points

In a Unified Command there is only one Operations Section Chief. The Operations Section Chief should be the most qualified and experienced person available. Below is a sample Operations Section organizational chart for a campus incident.





Visual 6.9



**Visual Description:** Overcoming Barriers to Unified Command

### Key Points

**What are the potential barriers to campus personnel being included in the Unified Command?**

**How can you overcome these barriers?**



Visual 6.10

### Making Unified Command Work

- Include key community response personnel in your institution's emergency planning process.
- Make sure that first responders know what the institution's legal and ethical responsibilities are.
- Learn ICS so that you can blend into the response structure.
- Practice together during exercises and planned events.



Visual 6.10  
Unified Command

**Visual Description:** Making Unified Command Work

### Key Points

For Unified Command to be used successfully, it is important that institutions and agencies prepare by:

- Including key community response personnel in your institution's planning process.
- Making sure that first responders know what the institution's legal and ethical responsibilities are during an event.
- Learning ICS so that they can blend into the response structure.
- Practicing together during exercises and planned events.



Visual 6.11

**Voices of Experience**

**James K. Hamrick**  
Assistant Chief of Police  
University of Maryland

**Brendan McCluskey**  
Executive Director,  
Emergency Management  
University of Medicine and  
Dentistry of New Jersey

**Frank Zebedis**  
Chief of Police  
Winthrop University

Click icons to play audio.

FEMA

Visual 6.11  
Unified Command

**Visual Description:** Voices of Experience

## Key Points

Your instructor will play audio clips of “voices of experience” from three campus personnel about the use of Unified Command.

### Audio Transcripts:

James K. Hamrick  
Assistant Chief of Police  
University of Maryland

I think that communication is a vitally important element of the Incident Command System because if you look at lessons learned from just about every major critical incident that has been debriefed around the country, you are going to find that communication is near the top of the list, some element of breakdown in communication in terms of that incident and so communication becomes an important element of the Incident Command System in being able to talk across different agencies that may be represented in the response of that and being able to manage the flow of information both down and up the incident command structure and then the flow of information to any coordinating agency such as an emergency operations center as well as a policy group, Presidents, Vice Presidents, Provost of the institution who have an interest in continuity of operations for the institution.

**Audio Transcripts: (Continued)**

Brendan McCluskey  
Executive Director, Emergency Management  
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey

Unified command is somewhat of a difficult concept for people to understand because while no individual Incident Commander is giving up control over their jurisdiction or their assets. They all need to come together to work toward common goals and objectives. While we have this group of people together making decisions, essentially the unified command is acting as a conglomeration and as a single body to make decisions. Essentially they become the Incident Commander and I think that's a very difficult concept for people to understand because if you're a police officer and you traditionally command police, you wouldn't want a firefighter saying what to, what should be done, but in unified command model everybody gets together and collectively makes those important decisions.

Frank Zebedis  
Chief of Police  
Winthrop University

Basically you are dealing with different agencies, different disciplines coming together as the scene unfolds. You're going to have an Incident Commander who is going to be in charge but as other agencies get involved and other special entities are required or needed then that Incident Commander goes into what is called unified command, and at that point the different agencies and entities come together and they work in a very understanding environment to solve the situation or resolve the scene and nobody gives up their authority because if I'm fire, I'm the expert in the fire field. If I'm law enforcement, I'm the expert in the law enforcement field. I don't tell firefighters how to do their job; they don't tell me how to do my job as a police officer; so we look to each other for assistance and the professional in that field do what they need to do.



Visual 6.12

### Case Study: Unified Command

**Instructions:**

1. Working as a team, review the scenario located in your Student Manual.
2. Answer the questions in your Student Manual about the Unified Command structure.
3. Refer to the quick reference guides in your Student Manuals as needed.
4. Select a spokesperson and be prepared to present your work in 20 minutes.

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Visual 6.12  
Unified Command

**Visual Description:** Case Study: Unified Command

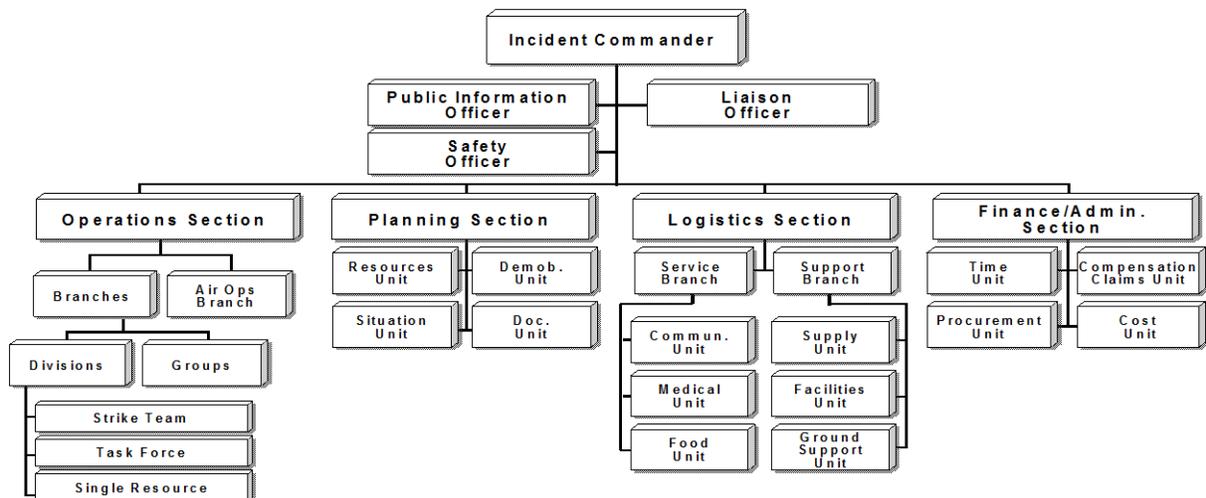
### Key Points

You'll now participate in an exercise that applies the key learning points and the objectives for this unit. The scenario involves a political protest that starts on campus and spreads to the surrounding community.

Follow the instructions presented on the visual and on the next page of your Student Manual.



- Warehime University is a large, urban campus in the middle of a major metropolitan area, with approximately 20,000 undergraduate students and 10,000 graduate students. About 5,000 students live in campus residence halls, while the rest live in surrounding neighborhoods. Two major roads to the city's downtown area run straight through the campus.
- It is midafternoon on a warm weekday in March. Classes are in session, and tour groups of high-school seniors and their parents are walking through campus before making acceptance decisions for the following fall semester.
- A student political demonstration that started calmly on the lawn in front of the student union is rapidly growing more and more disorderly. Professional protesters and members of anarchist alliances have joined the initial group of students, many of them wearing masks or handkerchiefs to obscure their identity.
- The protest spreads across campus and into the surrounding community, with student and nonstudent demonstrators defacing campus, city, and private property, setting multiple fires, and disrupting traffic.
- In an attempt to restore order, public safety officials disperse tear gas on the crowd, without anticipating that it would be sucked into the ventilation system for a residence hall that houses 800 freshmen students. Students inside have begun complaining of the effects.
- Protestors overturned a vehicle in the middle of one of the roads leading to and from downtown, and then set the vehicle on fire. The vehicle fire has blocked all traffic just as rush hour is beginning.
- A small group of armed protesters has taken hostages in a building that houses a bank on the first floor and campus administrative offices on upper floors. The protestors object to the institution's acceptance of research grants related to the U.S. military and have demanded to speak with university officials.



- **Command Staff:** The Command Staff consists of the Public Information Officer, Safety Officer, and Liaison Officer. They report directly to the Incident Commander.
- **Section:** The organization level having functional responsibility for primary segments of incident management (Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance/Administration). The Section level is organizationally between Branch and Incident Commander.
- **Branch:** That organizational level having functional, geographical, or jurisdictional responsibility for major parts of the incident operations. The Branch level is organizationally between Section and Division/Group in the Operations Section, and between Section and Units in the Logistics Section. Branches are identified by the use of Roman Numerals, by function, or by jurisdictional name.
- **Division:** That organizational level having responsibility for operations within a defined geographic area. The Division level is organizationally between the Strike Team and the Branch.
- **Group:** Groups are established to divide the incident into functional areas of operation. Groups are located between Branches (when activated) and Resources in the Operations Section.
- **Unit:** That organization element having functional responsibility for a specific incident planning, logistics, or finance/administration activity.
- **Task Force:** A group of resources with common communications and a leader that may be pre-established and sent to an incident, or formed at an incident.
- **Strike Team:** Specified combinations of the same kind and type of resources, with common communications and a leader.
- **Single Resource:** An individual piece of equipment and its personnel complement, or an established crew or team of individuals with an identified work supervisor that can be used on an incident.

At each level within the ICS organization, individuals with primary responsibility positions have distinct titles. Titles provide a common standard for all users. For example, if one agency uses the title Branch Chief, another Branch Manager, etc., this lack of consistency can cause confusion at the incident.

The use of distinct titles for ICS positions allows for filling ICS positions with the most qualified individuals rather than by seniority. Standardized position titles are useful when requesting qualified personnel. For example, in deploying personnel, it is important to know if the positions needed are Unit Leaders, clerks, etc.

Listed below are the standard ICS titles:

<b>Organizational Level</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Support Position</b>
Incident Command	Incident Commander	Deputy
Command Staff	Officer	Assistant
General Staff (Section)	Chief	Deputy
Branch	Director	Deputy
Division/Group	Supervisor	N/A
Unit	Leader	Manager
Strike Team/Task Force	Leader	Single Resource Boss



Visual 6.13

### Summary

Are you now able to:

- Define Unified Command?
- List the advantages of Unified Command?
- Identify the primary features of Unified Command?
- Describe the roles and reporting relationships between campus personnel and emergency responders under a Unified Command?



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Visual 6.13  
Unified Command

**Visual Description:** Summary

### Key Points

The purpose of this lesson was to familiarize you with Unified Command features. Additional ICS training is required to prepare you to implement Unified Command.

Remember that Unified Command:

- Applies ICS in incidents involving multiple jurisdictions or agencies.
- Enables institutions and agencies with different legal, geographic, and functional responsibilities to coordinate, plan, and interact effectively.

**Your Notes:**

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## Unit 7: Course Summary – Putting It All Together

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**Objectives**

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Describe the steps to take to ensure they are ready to assume ICS responsibilities.
  - Assess their institution's readiness for implementing ICS.
  - Take the final exam.
- 

**Scope**

- Unit Introduction
  - Unit Objectives
  - Making ICS Work!
  - Recordkeeping and Demobilization
  - Voices of Experience
  - Preparedness
  - Taking the Exam and Feedback
-

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Visual 7.1



**Visual Description:** Unit Introduction

### Key Points

You should now be familiar with the core system features of ICS and the ICS organizational roles and responsibilities.

“Putting it all together” means that:

- You are personally ready to follow the ICS principles.
- Your campus is ready to implement ICS.



Visual 7.2

### Unit Objectives

- Describe the steps to take to ensure you are ready to assume ICS responsibilities.
- Assess your institution's readiness for implementing ICS.
- Take the final exam.



Visual 7.2  
Course Summary –  
Putting It All Together



**Visual Description:** Unit Objectives

### Key Points

By the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Describe the steps to take to ensure you are ready to assume ICS responsibilities.
- Assess your institution's readiness for implementing ICS.
- Take the final exam.



Visual 7.3

**Making ICS Work!**



ICS works when everyone commits to:

- Not going around the chain of command.
- Reporting critical information.
- Not self-dispatching.

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Visual 7.3  
Course Summary –  
Putting It All Together

**Visual Description:** Making ICS Work!

## Key Points

Using ICS at incidents succeeds when everyone assumes personal accountability by:

- **Not going around the chain of command.** Only take direction from your immediate ICS supervisor (might not be your day-to-day supervisor). Exchange of information is encouraged; however, all assignments and resource requests must go through your immediate ICS supervisor.
- **Reporting critical information** about safety hazards, status, changing conditions/needs within assigned areas, and resource needs.
- **Not self-dispatching.** Do not start responding unless you are deployed or your actions are critical for life and safety. Make sure to check in when you begin your assignment. If the plan is not working or your assigned activity cannot be completed, tell your supervisor. Do not create your own plan of action.



Visual 7.4

### Recordkeeping

- Print or type all entries.
- Enter dates by month/day/year format.
- Enter date and time on all forms and records. Use local time.
- Fill in all blanks. Use N/A as appropriate.
- Use military 24-hour time.



Visual 7.4  
Course Summary –  
Putting It All Together

**Visual Description:** Recordkeeping

### Key Points

All incidents require some form of recordkeeping. Requirements vary depending upon the agencies involved and the nature of the incident. Below are general guidelines for incident recordkeeping:

- Print or type all entries.
- Enter dates by month/day/year format.
- Enter date and time on all forms and records. Use local time.
- Fill in all blanks. Use N/A as appropriate.
- Use military 24-hour time.



Visual 7.5

## Demobilization

At the end of your assignment:

- Complete all tasks and required forms/reports.
- Brief replacements, subordinates, and supervisor.
- Evaluate the performance of subordinates.
- Follow check-out procedures.
- Return any incident-issued equipment or other nonexpendable supplies.
- Complete post-incident reports, critiques, evaluations, and medical followup.
- Complete all time records or other accounting obligations.



**Visual Description:** Demobilization

## Key Points

Resource demobilization occurs at the end of your assignment or when the incident is resolved. Before leaving an incident assignment, you should:

- Complete all tasks and required forms/reports.
- Brief replacements, subordinates, and supervisor.
- Evaluate the performance of subordinates.
- Follow check-out procedures.
- Return any incident-issued equipment or other nonexpendable supplies.
- Complete post-incident reports, critiques, evaluations, and medical followup.
- Complete all time records or other accounting obligations.



Visual 7.6

**Voices of Experience**

 <b>David Burns</b> Emergency Preparedness Manager University of California Los Angeles	 <b>Dorothy Miller</b> Emergency Management Coordinator University of Texas at Dallas
 <b>Toni J. Rinaldi</b> Director of Public Safety Naugatuck Valley Community College	 <b>George Nuñez</b> Supervising Emergency Management Associate George Washington University

Click icons to play audio.

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Visual 7.6  
Course Summary –  
Putting It All Together

**Visual Description:** Voices of Experience

## Key Points

Your instructor will play audio clips of “voices of experience” from campus personnel about ICS.

### Audio Transcripts:

David Burns  
Emergency Preparedness Manager  
University of California Los Angeles

ICS is a process and one of the important processes is the pre-planning that goes in, the preparedness, the forward thinking – thinking forward as to what might occur so that when an incident does occur, logical steps and sequences can occur.

(Continued on next page.)

**Audio Transcripts (Continued):**

Toni J. Rinaldi  
Director of Public Safety  
Naugatuck Valley Community College

There's a lot of steps that help to make ICS work before the actual incident occurs and nowadays particularly you hear a lot about interagency cooperation, mutual aid agreements, memorandums of understanding, and what it all boils down to—it's communication. It's about communication, both within your agency so that people understand what their role is in an incident and that it's not just delegated or relegated to the public safety or first responder section, but it's everyone's responsibility on a college campus to respond to and to have an active role in response to an incident.

Dorothy Miller  
Emergency Management Coordinator  
University of Texas at Dallas

You entrust people that you know before, if somebody comes on the scene that I have no idea who they are, I don't know if they should be on the scene so I don't what their credentials are. I don't know who they work for, so it creates this little security issue if you don't know who those people are and it's just wasting time. The relationship-building aspect is huge in this field.

George Nuñez  
Supervising Emergency Management Associate  
George Washington University

Being in the field of emergency management I think it is important that institutions of higher education understand that they need to have comprehensive emergency management plans. By having comprehensive plans that cover all hazards, that cover all response, all entities at the university or college campus, we're able to integrate all of these components into an incident. College or institutions of higher education need to be prepared—that is probably the biggest emphasis or most important thing that college campuses can do is be prepared.

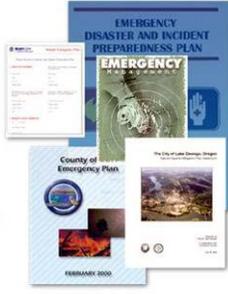


Visual 7.7

### Check Plans, Policies, and Regulations

Do preparedness plans, policies, and regulations:

- Comply with NIMS, including ICS?
- Cover all hazards?
- Include delegations of authority (as appropriate)?
- Include up-to-date information?



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Visual 7.7  
Course Summary –  
Putting It All Together

**Visual Description:** Check Plans, Policies, and Regulations

## Key Points

Preparedness plans may take many forms, but the most common include:

- **Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs).**

Note: EOPs are developed at the Federal, State, tribal, and local levels to provide a uniform response to all hazards that a community may face. EOPs written after October 2005 must be consistent with the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

- **Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs) and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).**
- **Institutional, jurisdictional, or agency policies.**

A jurisdiction's preparedness plans, policies, and regulations must:

- ✓ Comply with NIMS, including ICS.
- ✓ Cover all hazards and be based on risk assessments.
- ✓ Include delegations of authority (as appropriate).
- ✓ Include up-to-date information about resources available for assignment during a response.
- ✓ Include contact information for institution administrators and response personnel.



Visual 7.8

### Training, Credentialing, and Exercising

- Do you have sufficient qualified personnel to assume ICS Command and key General Staff positions?
- Can you verify that personnel meet established professional standards for:
  - Training?
  - Experience?
  - Performance?
- When was the last tabletop or functional exercise that practiced ICS? Do you use ICS during planned events (e.g., sporting events, commencement)?



**Visual Description:** Training, Credentialing, and Exercising

### Key Points

Incident responders must be well trained and qualified. As part of the planning process, it is important to consider:

- If there are sufficient qualified personnel to assume ICS Command and General Staff positions.
- The Executive Policy Group is responsible for ensuring that a qualified Incident Commander has been designated for the incident. Some jurisdictions and institutions maintain a roster of qualified Incident Commanders based on the complexity of the incident.
- If the institution can verify and document that personnel meet established professional standards for:
  - Training.
  - Experience.
  - Performance.
- When the last tabletop or functional exercise was conducted to practice command and coordination functions.

Additional information on training requirements can be found at the National Integration Center Web site: [www.fema.gov/emergency/nims](http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims)

## NIMS/ICS Preparedness Assessment

**Instructions:** Assess your campus' readiness to implement NIMS/ICS. Read each statement and answer yes or no. For any questions that you answer no, add an action item in the space below.

	Yes	No	Not Sure
Are your emergency operations plan, policies, and procedures consistent with the ICS principles taught in this course?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have the needed communications and other equipment, and vests, badges, and other supplies to implement ICS?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can responders from different agencies (e.g., fire, police, public works) communicate with institution personnel during an emergency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you identified qualified personnel to assume ICS Command and General Staff positions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have sufficient backup personnel for all key ICS positions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you identified potential locations for ICS facilities (e.g., Incident Command Post, Staging Area, Base, Camp, Heliports, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you practice applying ICS during drills and planned events?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Within the past year, have you conducted an exercise for Unified Command with different agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are after-action reviews conducted to identify lessons learned following exercises, drills, planned events, and incidents?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Use the space below to jot down actions that you must take when you return to your campus and the people that should be involved.



Visual 7.9

## Additional Resources

<http://www.training.fema.gov/emiweb/IS/ICSResource>

Visual 7.9  
Course Summary –  
Putting It All Together

**Visual Description:** Additional Resources

## Key Points

Additional resources can be found at the EMI ICS online resource center. The resource center can be accessed at <http://www.training.fema.gov/emiweb/IS/ICSResource>.



Visual 7.10

## Taking the Exam

### Instructions:

- Take a few moments to review your Student Manuals and identify any questions.
  - Make sure that you get all of your questions answered prior to beginning the final test.
  - When taking the test . . .
    1. Read each item carefully.
    2. Circle your answer on the test.
    3. Check your work and transfer your answers to the computer-scan (bubble) answer sheet or take the test online.
- You may refer to your Student Manuals when completing this test.



**Visual Description:** Taking the Exam

## Key Points

### Instructions:

1. Take a few moments to review your Student Manuals and identify any questions.
2. Make sure that you get all of your questions answered prior to beginning the final test.
3. When taking the test . . .
  - Read each item carefully.
  - Circle your answer on the test.
  - Check your work and transfer your answers to the computer-scan (bubble) answer sheet or take the test online.

You may refer to their Student Manuals when completing this test.



Visual 7.11

**Feedback**



Please complete the course evaluation form.

Your comments are important!

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Visual 7.11  
Course Summary –  
Putting It All Together

**Visual Description:** Feedback

### Key Points

Completing the course evaluation form is important. Your comments will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of this course and make changes for future versions.

**Your Notes:**