

October 5, 2015

Mount San Antonio College takes its commitment to prepare for and respond to emergencies that may negatively impact lives, property and the environment very seriously. The College recently hired a full-time Environmental Safety and Emergency Services Manager. The short-term goals of the new manager are to:

- Ensure our campus Emergency Operations Center, EOC, and staff are fully compliant with mandated SEMS and NIMS trainings. To date, over 50 managers have completed half of the required trainings and will be participating in upcoming exercises in preparation for various positions within the campus EOC.
- Update the campus Emergency Operations Plan, EOP. The campus EOP was recently reviewed by an outside consulting agency. Deficiencies identified are being corrected. The updated plan will be vetted by campus leaders and emergency responders before sections are released to the public.
- Conduct exercises and drills that include local responders and regional partners. These may include the city of Walnut, California State University, Pomona Polytechnic, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, LA County Fire and Operational Area D. The development and exercise for a mass campus evacuation will be a priority.
- Offer CERT classes to the college and local community. CERT is Community Emergency Response Training, a program developed by the fire department to train local communities on how to help each other during an emergency when resources and assistance may be delayed.

Ongoing community awareness of emergency preparedness and response are high priorities. During September the campus offered numerous preparedness and information seminars and trainings. These included sessions on building evacuations, fire extinguishing, first aid, disaster preparedness, active shooter and USGS earthquake science, to name a few.

The College President and his cabinet have requested a 2 year Emergency Preparedness Action Plan. This document will include activities, plans, and actions to be completed during the next two years that will result in improving MtSAC's resiliency to disasters and other emergencies.

SEMS/NIMS requirements for public agencies and special districts.

See [California Office of Emergency Services, Cal OES](#) and [Disaster Resistant California Community Colleges Training Matrix](#)

"Triangle of Life" Myth

See [USGS Earthquake Myths FAQs](#) and [American Red Cross response to "Triangle of Life."](#)