

NIMS Frequently Asked Questions

January 21, 2016

- What does it mean to be NIMS compliant?
 - To be NIMS compliant, you must be up to date and current with all the criteria laid out in the current Vermont NIMS Implementation Plan (<http://demhs.vermont.gov/programs/nims>).
 - Being compliant includes the following components:
 - Adoption of NIMS
 - Training
 - Plans
 - Resource Typing
 - Having completed the current version of the current version of the NIMS Survey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VTNIMS2014>)
- How will I prove that my town is NIMS compliant?
 - This may happen one of two ways:
 - You may apply for a grant and you will be asked to certify that you are NIMS compliant and that you have completed the current NIMS survey by signing a box. Additionally, you may be asked to provide documentation that you are compliant: NIMS adoption, training records, Local Emergency Operations Plan, Mutual Aid Agreements or other items identified in the current Vermont NIMS Implementation Plan.
 - You may have a Programmatic Monitoring visit from the Vermont Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. During this visit, you will be asked to provide documentation confirming that you are NIMS compliant: NIMS adoption, training records, Local Emergency Operations Plan, Mutual Aid Agreements or other items identified in the current Vermont NIMS Implementation Plan.
- What am I certifying when I sign the new Local Emergency Operations Plan in relation to NIMS?
 - The person signing the LEOP is only certifying that the Local Emergency Operations Plan has been adopted by the municipality.
 - The certifying individual must have taken, at minimum, ICS 402 or ICS 100 training.
 - The date the town adopted NIMS must be listed on the Local Emergency Operations Plan.
- How long is my town's adoption of NIMS last?
 - If the town adopted NIMS by a resolution, the resolution is good until rescinded by the adopting body.
 - If the town included an expiration date on its NIMS adoption document, then they must re-adopt NIMS if the expiration date has passed.
- Who keeps track of whether or not my town has adopted NIMS?

- The responsibility to keeping records of adoption lies with the town. No one at the state level will be keeping record of when a town has adopted NIMS. This will be a component of the programmatic monitoring visit.
 - If you are asked on a grant application or during a Programmatic Monitoring visit, you will be expected to know the date it was adopted.
- How long is my ICS training good for?
 - ICS course materials are revised every few years and for that reason, if your training occurred prior to 2005, you will be required to take the course again or a refresher training, if offered, before you will be allowed to take a more advanced course.
 - The course offerings can be found here: <http://demhs.vermont.gov/training/trainingprogram>
- Who keeps track of what NIMS related trainings I have had?
 - The responsibility to keeping records of training lies with the town, agency and individual. While there are several places you can ask for your training records, no one location at the state level has all of your training records. To ensure the most complete records, we recommend that the town or agency keep these records.
 - If you are asked on a grant application or during a Programmatic Monitoring visit, you will be expected to provide evidence of satisfactory completion of required training.