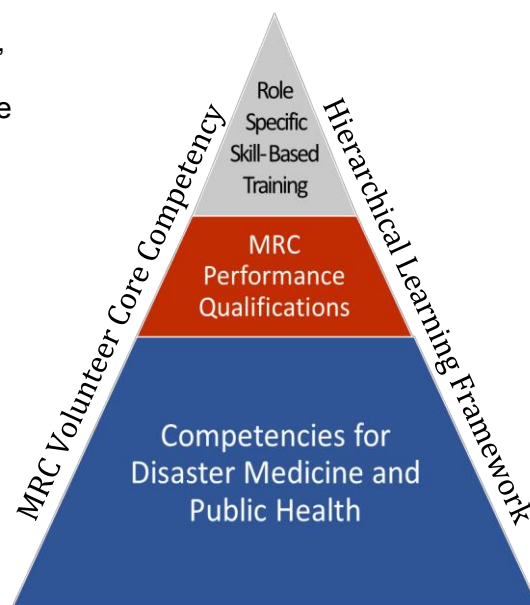


Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) members come from a variety of backgrounds and enter the program with varying credentials, capabilities, and professional experience. This diversity is a strength of the program, but also makes standardization across the MRC network difficult. The use of competencies can allow for greater consistency in knowledge and skills of MRC members, as well as the identification of areas where work is needed for an MRC unit to fulfill its mission in the community.

The Competencies for Disaster Medicine and Public Health (DMPH) are widely understood to be the knowledge needed for a health care professional and/or first responder to perform a task in a safe and consistent manner. The DMPH Competencies represent a baseline level of knowledge and skills that all MRC volunteers should have, regardless of their role within the MRC unit. Because the DMPH Competencies establish only a minimum standard, units may choose to expand on the competencies in order to train volunteers at a more advanced level.

Utilizing the Competencies for Disaster Medicine and Public Health as the baseline core competency set for MRC volunteers makes collaboration between MRC units more efficient. By providing a “common language”, MRC units can communicate their volunteers’ capabilities to each other and to partner organizations.



COMPETENCIES FOR DISASTER MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

We encourage all active members of a Medical Reserve Corps unit, at a minimum, to be able to:

- 1.0 Demonstrate personal and family preparedness for disasters and public health emergencies.
- 2.0 Demonstrate knowledge of one's expected role(s) in organizational and community response plans activated during a disaster or public health emergency.
- 3.0 Demonstrate situational awareness of actual/potential health hazards before, during, and after a disaster or public health emergency.
- 4.0 Communicate effectively with others in a disaster or public health emergency.
- 5.0 Demonstrate knowledge of personal safety measures that can be implemented in a disaster or public health emergency.
- 6.0 Demonstrate knowledge of surge capacity assets consistent with one's role in organizational, agency, and/or community response plans.
- 7.0 Demonstrate knowledge of principles and practices for the clinical management of all ages and populations affected by disasters and public health emergencies, in accordance with professional scope of practice.
- 8.0 Demonstrate knowledge of public health principles and practices for the management of all ages and populations affected by disasters and public health emergencies.
- 9.0 Demonstrate knowledge of ethical principles to protect the health and safety of all ages, populations, and communities affected by a disaster or public health emergency.
- 10.0 Demonstrate knowledge of legal principles to protect the health and safety of all ages, populations, and communities affected by a disaster or public health emergency.
- 11.0 Demonstrate knowledge of short- and long term considerations for recovery of all ages, populations and communities affected by a disaster or public health emergency.