



Around The Region In Homeland Security February 2011

The Northwest Regional Technology Center (NWRTC) is a virtual resource center, operated by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), to support regional preparedness, resiliency, response, and recovery. The center enables homeland security solutions for emergency responder communities and federal, state, and local stakeholders in the Northwest. This monthly newsletter summarizes activities related to homeland security in the region, and this issue highlights

- A homeland security grants workshop that will be held in Seattle this summer
- A Department of Homeland Security (DHS) website where state and local agencies can share lessons learned
- Information on an ongoing program for earning advanced degrees in homeland security.

FEMA Grants Workshop to Hit Seattle

June 7 to 9 in Seattle, the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Grant Programs Directorate, in partnership with the National Criminal Justice Association, will conduct the Sixth Annual Fundamentals of Grants Management Workshop for grantees currently receiving FEMA funding. The workshop, part of the Grants Management Technical Assistance Program, is designed to enhance grantees' ability to administer FEMA grant funding. Suggested attendees include current grantees, direct recipients of FEMA funding, subrecipients of FEMA funding, and individuals with limited FEMA grants management experience.

The workshop will teach participants to

- Improve collaboration among policy, program, and financial staff to integrate grants management functions
- Identify applicable cost principles and navigate and apply the FEMA Code of Federal Regulations

- Apply proven business practices to increase efficiency and meet grants management priorities such as monitoring, strategic planning, organization, program implementation, staff training, reporting, and audits
- Develop or revise policies, procedures, and practices in critical areas of grants management such as monitoring, procurement, source documentation, payments, and equipment inventory
- Prepare for federal monitoring and conduct subrecipient monitoring.

Travel costs may be allowable management and administrative costs; check with your FEMA program manager for guidance.

For other questions about the workshop or the Grants Management Technical Assistance Program, please contact [Sherry Wilder](#) at 202-786-9861 or [Lisa Nine Accordini](#) of the National Criminal Justice Association at 202-421-7693. Additional workshops will be held in May in Philadelphia and August in Chicago.

Agencies Interact Via DHS Lessons Learned Site

The DHS [Lessons Learned Information Sharing](#) website provides a national online network of lessons learned, best practices, and innovative ideas for the emergency response and homeland security communities. Led by FEMA, this information and collaboration resource helps emergency response providers and homeland security officials prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks, natural disasters, and other emergencies. The site provides federal, state, and local responders from all disciplines with a wealth of information and front-line expertise on effective planning, training, and operational practices across homeland security functional areas.

Once registered, members can share ideas, information, and experience by submitting and accessing plans, procedures, after action reports, and lessons learned. Members can also post comments on any document's specific page. For more information, see the website.

Master's Degree Program Applications Due May 1

DHS and the Naval Postgraduate School's Center for Homeland Defense and Security offer an 18-month, no cost master's degree program in homeland security to eligible senior and fast-rising local, state, tribal, and federal officials with significant responsibilities in homeland security and related disciplines. The program requires participants to be in-residence only 2 weeks each quarter, for a total of 12 weeks. The rest of the coursework is delivered via distance learning.

The curriculum and research are focused on current policy, strategy, and organizational design challenges. Participants complete research papers and a thesis on actual policy development issues confronting their city, state, or sponsoring organization. All travel and tuition expenses are paid for eligible participants.

The next deadline for application is May 1 to start courses in the fall of 2011; applications are available [online](#). Several Northwest homeland security leaders have already graduated from the program.

Upcoming Events

March 1-3, 2011
Colorado Emergency Management Association 2011 [Annual Conference](#)
Loveland, Colorado

March 3, 2011
Emergency Management [All-Hazards Summit](#)
Seattle, Washington

March 30 – April 1, 2011
DHS 5th Annual [University Network Summit](#):
Catastrophes and Complex Systems:
Transportation
Washington, D.C.

April 26 and 27, 2011
[Partnerships in Emergency Preparedness](#) Conference
Tacoma, Washington

Around the Region in Homeland Security is a monthly report from PNNL's Northwest Regional Technology Center for Homeland Security. For more information, contact Director Steve Stein at steve.stein@pnl.gov or 206-528-3340, Deputy Director Ryan Eddy at ryan.eddy@pnl.gov or 509-372-6622, or Deputy Director Regional Programs Ann Lesperance at ann.lesperance@pnl.gov or 206-528-3223, or see the website at <http://nwrtec.pnl.gov>.



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