

# Wide Area Search

Texas Engineering Extension Service  
Urban Search & Rescue



# Wide Area Search

The Wide Area Search course is grant funded by the Department of Homeland Security. The course is provided on-site for eligible jurisdictions around the United States. This course is applicable to jurisdictions that would need to conduct wide area searches due to a natural disaster or terrorist incident. Participants will learn the knowledge, skills and abilities to perform wide area searches at a disaster incident site by using the 2007 Greensburg, KS tornado as a case study. The course concludes with a table top exercise that requires participants to utilize the previous three days of instruction. The curriculum of this course is based on lessons learned from search and rescue deployments to the space shuttle Columbia recovery, Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Rita, Hurricane Dolly, and other wide area search incidents.

## Course Topics:

- Preparedness
- Information Management and Planning
- Mapping
- Search Strategies and Skills
- Communication
- Team Management
- Field Exercise

## Length:

24 Hours - This course is 3 days in length with 8 hours of instruction each day.

## Location:

This course is delivered at your local jurisdiction. Contact TEEX US&R to discuss eligibility requirements for your jurisdiction to host the delivery of this course.

## Prerequisites:

- There are no prerequisites for this course however it is recommended that participants take the following tuition-free online classes at [www.training.fema.gov](http://www.training.fema.gov)
  - Introduction to Incident Command System (ICS-100)
  - ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents (ICS-200)

## Attendance Requirements:

- Participants are required to attend all three days of the course.
- The minimum number of participants required to host this course is 30 students.
- The hosting jurisdiction is responsible to ensure that all participants attend and complete the entire course.
- The hosting jurisdiction must provided a full roster to TEEX US&R at least 2 weeks before the beginning of the course.

## Audience:

This course has been developed for local, state, and federal responders that may be required to perform search operations. The target audience also includes all emergency responders from municipal and industrial agencies tasked with performing canine search operations. Course participants include emergency responders from the following five disciplines/services:

- Fire Service (FS)
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
- Law Enforcement (LE)
- Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)
- Military (MT)

## Other Information:

Classes will begin at 8 a.m. on the first day of this course unless other arrangements have been made. Students should plan to arrive the night before classes begin.

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be issued a TEEX Certificate of Completion.



For more information, contact Customer Service:

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