



Provincial Emergency Social Services Training

Effective January 1, 2023

About Provincial Emergency Social Services

Provincial Emergency Social Services (PESS) is the provincial-level support to local communities (e.g., municipalities, districts, metis settlement, special areas, etc.) in dealing with the human impact of emergency and disasters. PESS assist local ESS staff/volunteers and leadership coordinate the delivery of ESS services and supports in all the phases of Emergency Management.

Emergency Social Services (ESS) is the support that meets the basic essential needs of individuals, households, and communities affected by large scales emergencies and disasters. ESS is a program that exists within local municipalities and supported provincially. ESS is a key element in providing various services to meet the short-term basic needs (e.g., food, clothing, accommodation, emotional support, family reunification, companion animal support, etc.) of those impacted by emergencies and disasters throughout Alberta, when people are no longer in immediate dangers. ESS is an essential component of the larger emergency management.

ESS courses available

At this time, the AEMA ESS team offers the following courses:

ESS Basics

ESS Basics is a foundational training for new and seasoned ESS staff (looking for a refresh) and volunteers alike. This foundational training session provides key information on Emergency Social Services delivery in the Province of Alberta. Course content includes an introduction to ESS, planning, activation, immediate actions, and shelter, re-entry, and recovery operations. This session is intended to inform participants as well as to be interactive - where you share your experiences and what you know about ESS in your jurisdiction. Come prepared to share! There are no course pre-requisites for ESS Basics. AEMA offers this 3-hour long course in-class and virtually.

ESS Facilities Management

ESS Facilities Management is a comprehensive, interactive training session and helps ESS practitioners plan and prepare to operate a variety of different ESS facilities (including registration centres, reception centres, group lodging centres (commercial lodging), congregate lodging centres, companion animal care centres, evacuation centres, warming centres, and cooling centres); in order to support evacuees. Course content includes the support ESS facilities may require during the response phase of municipal emergency management operations. Your team will develop an understanding of what may be needed to support evacuees at each chosen location in your jurisdiction. They will come away with knowing how to evaluate and prepare the selected locations, adapt as required and have the confidence to take the necessary steps to deliver effective emergency social services in each location. There are no course pre-requisites for ESS Facilities Management. AEMA offers this 7-hour long course in-class and virtually.

Registration and Reception Centre Program/MyAlberta Emergency Registration System (RRCP/MAERS)

RRCP/MAERS introduces ESS practitioners and volunteers to the two registration systems that the Government of Alberta uses to track evacuees and provide them with real-time information; and support for municipalities affected by an emergency or evacuation in preparing for, responding to or recovering from emergencies. There are no course pre-requisites for RRCP/MAERS. AEMA offers this 5-hour long course in-class and virtually.

ESS Coordinator

ESS Coordinator is an advanced training session that provides key information related to Emergency Social Services leadership in the Province of Alberta. Course content includes a review of the fundamentals covered in the ESS Basics, outlines volunteer management and training strategies, and how to draft and complete an ESS Plan for your region or

municipality. This session is intended to inform participants, as well as be interactive. The pre-requisite for this course is ESS Basics. AEMA offers this 7-hour long course in-class and virtually.

Donation Management

Donation Management training session provides key information related to effectively managing all aspects of physical, financial and in-kind donation. This course includes topics on warehousing, requesting, receiving, cataloging, sorting, distributing and tracking donations as well as recruiting, training, deploying and supervising volunteers at time of incident. A well-designed and well-managed physical and financial donations plan will promote and communicate needed goods, will effectively manage all elements of the physical donations lifecycle, have strategies for managing unusable goods and strive to meet the needs of those impacted by the incident and volunteers who choose to help. There are no course pre-requisites for Donation Management. AEMA offers this 7-hour long course in-class and virtually.

Contact Provincial Emergency Social Services

The Provincial Emergency Social Services team handles all ESS-related training requests and inquiries directly.

- Visit the [Provincial Emergency Social Services Training](#) booking site to register for AEMA's ESS training courses.
- Email MA.AEMA-ESSTraining@gov.ab.ca if you have questions or run into issues with the booking site.