

MEMA Mass Care Cooling and Warming Center And Disaster/Emergency Sheltering Course Announcement

MEMA Mass Care will offer a 2.0-hour course on Cooling and Warming Centers and Disaster/Emergency Sheltering for Local, County, and Tribal Emergency Management, Municipal Agencies, and Community Organizations. The course has been created to provide staff and volunteers with information on best practices for preparing, setting up, and managing Cooling and Warming Centers and Disaster/Emergency Congregate Shelters. The course will include a segment on best practices for Cooling and Warming Center Operations. The session will cover basic concepts of Congregate Sheltering in a Non-COVID-19 environment to help build local capacity for Disaster/Emergency Sheltering during natural or human-caused disasters. Course topics will include:

- ▲ Lessons Learned from 2020-2026
- ▲ Definitions
- ▲ Opening Triggers and Disaster/Emergency Shelter Planning Assumptions
- ▲ Facility Accessibility, Health, Security, and Safety Considerations
- ▲ Center and Disaster/Emergency Shelter Capacity Considerations
- ▲ Potential Community Partners and Support Resources
- ▲ Pet Sheltering and Nursing Mother Considerations
- ▲ Feeding Planning Considerations
- ▲ Documentation Considerations.
- ▲ Set-up and Equipment Considerations.



Course Offerings Dates and Times

- *June 18, 2026, Time: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm Registration Deadline: 6/15*
- *June 18, 2026, Time: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm Registration Deadline: 6/15*
- *July 16, 2026, Time: 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm Registration Deadline: 7/13*
- *July 16, 2026, Time: 6:00 pm to 8:00 p.m. Registration Deadline: 7/13*
- *August 20, 2026, Time: 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm Registration Deadline: 8/17*
- *August 20, 2026, Time: 6:00 am to 8:00 pm Registration Deadline: 8/17*

[Register for any date/time by following this link](#) or scan the QR code.

Those who register for the course will receive an email confirmation with a Microsoft Teams invitation at least 48 hours before the course session. Course Participants will be emailed a Certificate of Attendance after the sessions are delivered.

The course will be offered on several dates and times to accommodate participants' availability, at no cost. In-person or virtual courses are available when requested. For further questions, please get in touch with Bill Guindon, MEMA Mass Care Coordinator, at 207-458-2867 or william.guindon@maine.gov