

The University of Georgia

National Incident Management System (NIMS) Policy

Federal Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) 5 establishes the National Incident Management System (NIMS). NIMS established a single, comprehensive approach to domestic incident management to ensure that all levels of government across the nation have the capability to work efficiently and effectively together using a national approach to domestic incident management. NIMS provides a consistent nationwide approach for federal, state and local governments to work together to prepare for, respond to and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of the cause, size or complexity, and provides for interoperability and compatibility among federal, state, and local capabilities and includes a core set of concepts, principles, terminology and technologies covering the Incident Command System, Unified Command, training, management of resources and reporting.

The Presidential Directive requires that all Federal departments and agencies shall make adoption of the NIMS a requirement for providing federal preparedness assistance through grants, contracts or other activities to local governments; and the State of Georgia has enacted law (O.G.G.A. 38-3-57) that all local public safety and emergency response organizations, including emergency management agencies, law enforcement agencies, fire departments, and emergency medical services, shall implement the standardized unified incident command system and that those agencies that do not establish such system shall not be eligible for state reimbursement for any response or recovery related expenses.

Therefore, effective March 28, 2006, the University of Georgia hereby adopts the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as established under HSPD and the Unified Command System as established under O.C.G.A. 38-5-57 as its system of preparing for and responding to disaster incidents and directs all incident managers and response organizations within the University of Georgia to train and exercise and use these systems in their response operations.

The UGA NIMS Policy requires that all UGA personnel who routinely respond to campus emergencies or those who directly or indirectly make incident management decisions regarding building level or campus wide emergencies participate in NIMS training. The following campus personnel will receive NIMS training according to their appropriate training level as defined in the UGA NIMS Training Profile:

- Administrators at the department head level or above
- Building Safety and Security Representatives
- Emergency Response Team (Core Team and Support Team)
- Campus emergency responders (UGA Police, UGA HART, Fire Safety, etc.)
- All others not specifically identified who are tasked with building emergency planning, safety or security assignments

This policy includes UGA Athens campus personnel and Extended Campus personnel. The UGA NIMS Training Profile highlights the specific level of training that each identified UGA campus representative is required to achieve. The NIMS Training Profile may be found at www.osep.uga.edu. For procedures and other inquiries related to UGA NIMS compliance, contact the UGA Office of Security & Emergency Preparedness at 706.542.5845 or osep@uga.edu.