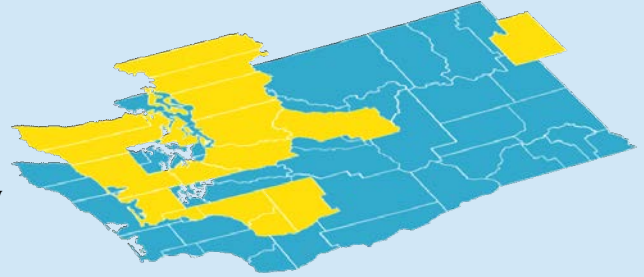


# The Washington State Department of Health State Emergency Medical Reserve Corps

## Summary

The State Emergency Medical Reserve Corps (SEMRC) constitutes a new program with distinct capabilities designed to complement the capabilities of local emergency response. The SEMRC will leverage the broad nature of a state-wide volunteer pool to establish specialized, profession-specific strike teams designed to complement the more generalist work of regional medical reserve corps. The SEMRC can activate resource teams upon local request to support and coordinate with local emergency response efforts.



***The SEMRC constitutes a separate, complementary program designed to augment existing resources.***

The SEMRC will improve the emergency response capacity and overall resiliency of Washington during emergencies that require a large response in a particular profession. Under the authority of HB 1452, ([EMRC RCW](#)) the SEMRC will utilize the existing [WAserv system](#) to manage volunteers and deploy strike teams.

## Next Steps

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) is currently processing federal registration of the SEMRC. The Office of Resiliency & Health Security (ORHS) at DOH is developing resources, policies, and procedures as the SEMRC is stood up. Once complete, volunteer recruitment will begin and DOH engage in volunteer retention and readiness activities including call downs, exercises, and if needed, emergency response activations.

We welcome your comments, questions, and other feedback as we continue development and implementation of this program. We are committed to being flexible, open, and responsive to our partners.



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