



“Whole Community Inclusive Emergency Planning” Online Course

Lesson #5 Learning Guide

Each lesson of this online course has an associated Learning Agenda. The learning agendas aim to inform three guiding questions when working to increase inclusion in your local emergency preparedness effort:

1. What do you already know?
2. What do you still need to know?
3. What projects and resources will you need to fill the gaps?

Although optional, the learning agendas will allow you to record your answers to questions and reflections used throughout the course, engage in additional exercises to help you dig deeper into the Prepared4ALL process, and transform the concepts introduced in the lessons into actionable next steps. The learning agendas will help you move forward in your efforts to get a seat at the table with your local emergency planners and use a strengths-based approach to allow for continued reflection and adaptation along your journey.

Learning Objectives

- Describe the kinds of information local emergency and public health preparedness planners may not know about the disability community.
- Describe the presence of people with disabilities in the community and relate that to local emergency planning needs.
- Apply the STATE (Same Time Access To Everyone) concept to accessible communication related to emergencies/disasters/pandemics (including COVID-19).
- Identify plain language text versus text that is not plain language and describe the importance of plain language text.
- Identify elements of an inclusive meeting.

Reflection Questions within Lesson #5

1. How would you make the sentence below into plain language? Use the space below to brainstorm.
“This regulation governs disaster assistance for services to prevent hardship caused by fire, flood, or acts of nature that are not provided by FEMA or the Red Cross.”

Feedback: One way to make this sentence into plain language is to use bullet points to make it easier to read.

This rule is about disaster help, including help:

- To prevent certain problems caused by fire, flood, or natural disasters; and
- Provided by a program besides FEMA or the Red Cross

You could also say something like: This rule is about help for problems caused by fire, flood or a natural disaster. This help would come from an organization other than FEMA or the Red Cross.

3. Reflect on how your team “practices what you preach” in terms of accessibility. In what areas are you doing well? What areas do you still want to improve upon and how can you improve using with what you already have? How can you extend these skills and resources to others to help them be more accessible and inclusive?