

Group Activity: Match NIMS Characteristics to Definitions

Directions: Match each of the 14 NIMS Management Characteristics with its correct definition. Place the correct letter of the definition next to the characteristic.

NIMS Management Characteristics

- _____ Common Terminology
- _____ Modular Organization
- _____ Management by Objectives
- _____ Incident Action Planning
- _____ Manageable Span of Control
- _____ Incident Facilities and Locations
- _____ Comprehensive Resource Management
- _____ Integrated Communications
- _____ Establishment and Transfer of Command
- _____ Unified Command
- _____ Chain of Command and Unity of Command
- _____ Accountability
- _____ Dispatch/Deployment
- _____ Information and Intelligence Management

Group Activity: NIMS Management Characteristic Definitions

- A. Established for a variety of purposes and direct their identification and location based on the incident. Examples include the Incident Command Post (ICP), incident base, staging areas, camps, mass casualty triage areas, points-of-distribution, and emergency shelters.
- B. Helps ensure an effective and efficient incident management operation. It enables management to direct and supervise subordinates and to communicate with and manage all resources under their control.
- C. Maintaining an accurate and up-to-date inventory of resources (personnel, equipment, teams, supplies, and facilities) is an essential component of incident management.
- D. Personnel should adhere to principles of accountability, including check-in/check-out, incident action planning, unity of command, personal responsibility, span of control, and resource tracking.
- E. Provide and maintain contact among and between incident resources, enable connectivity between various levels of government, achieve situational awareness, and facilitate information sharing.
- F. Resources should deploy only when appropriate authorities request and dispatch them through established resource management systems. Resources that authorities do not request should refrain from spontaneous deployment to avoid overburdening the recipient and compounding accountability challenges.
- G. There is no one “commander” and the incident is managed by jointly approved objectives.
- H. A management approach, fundamental to NIMS, that involves establishing specific, measurable objectives, identifying strategies, tactics, and tasks to achieve the objectives; developing and issuing assignments, plans, procedures, and protocols to accomplish the identified tasks; and (4) documenting results against the objectives to measure performance, facilitate corrective actions, and inform development of incident objectives for the subsequent operational period.
- I. Allows diverse incident management and support organizations to work together across a wide variety of functions and hazard scenarios.
- J. Concise, coherent means of capturing and communicating incident objectives, tactics, and assignments for operational and support activities.

- K. Identifying essential elements of information (EEI) to ensure personnel gather the most accurate and appropriate data, translate it into useful information, and communicate it with appropriate personnel.
- L. Clarifies reporting relationships and reduces confusion caused by multiple, conflicting directives, enabling leadership at all levels to effectively direct the personnel under their supervision.
- M. ICS and EOC organizational structures develop in a flexible and integrated fashion based on an incident's size, complexity, and hazard environment.
- N. Process includes a briefing that captures essential information for continuing safe and effective operations, and notifying all personnel involved in the incident.