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Ability	Preparedness in both personal and professional life to respond quickly and for the necessary period of time.
American Red Cross	During the disaster recovery effort, the ARC assists disaster victims with immediate needs which include food, clothing, shelter, transportation, and medical care until additional assistance is obtained.
Branch	The organization level having geographic responsibility for major parts of MST operations. The Branch, managed by a Branch Director and is organizationally between Section and Division and is used to reduce span of control.
Catastrophic Disaster Response Group	The national level group of representatives from the Federal departments and agencies under the FRP serving as the centralized coordinating group supporting the on-scene Federal response and recovery efforts.
Certification	A written process the OEP Director uses to confirm that an individual is qualified to perform a specific OEP/EOC position.
Disaster Field Office	For every disaster, FEMA establishes a DFO in the disaster area to serve as the headquarters in which Federal and State staffs coordinate and direct the disaster recovery operations, etc.
Disaster Medical Assistance Team	A team composed of professional and paraprofessional medical personnel (supported by a cadre of logistical and administrative staff) designed to provide emergency medical care during a disaster or other event. In mass casualty incidents, their responsibilities include triaging patients, providing austere medical care, and preparing patients for evacuation.

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Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team	Provides victim identification and mortuary services for disaster victims. Teams are composed of Funeral Directors, Medical Examiners, Coroners, Pathologists, Forensic Anthropologists, Medical Records Technicians and Transcribers, Finger Print Specialists, Forensic Odontologists, Dental Assistants, X-ray Technicians, Mental Health Specialists, Computer Professionals, Administrative support staff, and Security and Investigative personnel.
Division	Divisions are used to divide MST operations into functional segments. A division is located organizationally between a leader of a HHS health and medical response resource and a Branch and is managed by a Division Supervisor.
Emergency Information Coordination Center	The hard facility located at FEMA HQ where the EST operates.
Emergency Operations Center	The protected site from which civil government officials (municipal, county, State, and Federal) exercise centralized direction and control in an emergency. Operating from an EOC is a basic emergency management concept, etc.
Emergency Response Function	The Immigration Emergency Plan is modeled after the Federal Response Plan and provides guidance for 10 ERFs of which HHS has the responsibility for two.
Emergency Response Team	An interagency Federal response team that organizes, coordinates and directs the Federal response to a Presidentially declared disaster or emergency.
Emergency Support Function	A functional area of response activity established to facilitate the delivery of Federal assistance required during the immediate response phase of a disaster to save lives, and protect property, and public health.
Emergency Support Team	An interagency Federal team that provides Federal support to on-site activities being conducted by the ERT. The EST is housed in the Emergency Information Coordination Center (EICC) at FEMA HQ in Washington, DC.

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Experience	Documented, satisfactory performance in a specified position needed to qualify for another (usually higher level) position.
Federal Coordinating Centers	A Federal institution which recruits and coordinated non-Federal hospital participation and links hospitals with local transportation, communications, and other resources. The FCC establishes and maintains system coordination and patient administration procedures in the geographic area for which is has responsibility.
Federal Coordinating Officer	Once the President declares a major disaster, FEMA Headquarters appoints an FCO. The FCO is responsible for coordinating the overall Federal disaster response and recovery effort.
Federal Emergency Management Agency	The Federal agency, that is mandated by legislation, to manage the Federal response and recovery efforts on Presidentially declared disasters or emergencies.
Federal Response Plan	The plan that facilitates the Federal response to disasters in the U.S., territories and other U.S. jurisdictions. The plan outlines the planning assumptions, policies, concept of operations, organizational structures, and specific assignments of responsibility to Federal departments and agencies prior to and during disasters.
Immigration Emergency Response Group	Meets at the discretion of the Attorney General or when directed by the President to provide policy direction and resources for the response to an immigration emergency. The IERG is composed of the heads, or designee, of Federal Executive-branch agencies which have a defined role in the implementation of the Immigration Emergency Plan. The IERG may meet in anticipation of or upon the declaration of an immigration emergency.

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Joint Patient Movement Team	A tri-service military team composed of reserve officers and Non Commissioned Officers. JPMT is deployable worldwide, in part or in whole, with active duty personnel or without. GPMRC uses reserves assigned to the JPMT to augment their resources when responding to HHS mission assignments.
Joint Regional Medical Planning Office	JRMPO is used to coordinate civil authority requests for military resources support within the disaster area.
Knowledge	Refers to an organized body of information, usually of a factual or procedural nature which, if applied, makes adequate performance of the job possible.
Management Support Team	Provides management and coordination of on-site HHS health and medical response resources and technical expertise in accordance with national response agreements.
National Communications System	Provides communication systems to support Federal response and recovery efforts during Presidentially declared disasters and emergencies.
National Disaster Medical System	Assists in the delivery of health care for victims of incidents that exceed the medical care capability of an affected State, region, or Federal health care system. NDMS is a joint effort of HHS, DOD, FEMA, and VA. Each agency manages a particular component of the system. NDMS is designed to provide medical aid in the form of medical response teams, a medical evacuation system, and a network of hospitals that have agreed in advance to accept patients in the event of a mass casualty emergency.
National Medical Response Teams/Weapons of Mass Destruction	A team equipped and trained to provide initial medical care for victims of weapons of mass destruction (nuclear, biological, or chemical.) These teams are trained and equipped to function at the contaminated incident site and assist the local Incident Commander with agent identification, decontamination of victims, and medical care.

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National Transportation Safety Board	The agency of the Federal government with the lead role in investigating transportation disasters and coordinating the provision of federal services to the families of victims.
Qualified Individual	A person who had documented that they have met all training and experience requirements for the position.
Regional Coordination Group	Advises the RHA on HHS Regional response needs and policy issues.
Regional Operations Center	The ROC is usually established at a FEMA Regional Office and is usually established to provide the ERT-A with direction and support.
Resources	Personnel or equipment available or potentially available for assignment.
Section	The organization level with responsibility for major functional area of the incident, e.g., Operations, Planning, Logistics, or Administrative/Finance. The Section, managed by a Section Chief is located organizationally between Branch and the MST Leader.
Senior Policy Group	This senior-level interagency group provides leadership and determines overall policy and program goals for NDMS.
Skill	Expertise in the performance of duty at a level of excellence attained by experience.
Technical Specialist	Personnel with special skills that are not part of the standing organization that have special skills needed for a particular job or activity.
Unified Command	A NIMMS ICS management process which allows all agencies who have jurisdiction or functional responsibility for the incident to jointly develop a common set of incident objectives and strategies.

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Unit	The organizational element having a functional responsibility for a specific activity within a function.
Veterinary Medical Assistance Team	A team that provides assessment of clinical needs, care and handling, sheltering and evacuation, inspection and disease surveillance, technical assistance, and hazard mitigation for animals. VMATs are activated through NDMS.
Victim Support Task	The Federal Family Assistance Plan for Aviation Disasters describes seven Victim Support Tasks (VSTs). VSTs are similar to ESFs described in the FRP, in that each VST has identified the lead organization responsible for performing various tasks based on the size and circumstances of the actual incident. HHS is identified as one of the seven VSTs.