

Training

The State of Louisiana Office of Public Health collaborates extensively with the South Central Public Health Partnership. This partnership is comprised of four states (Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi), and two schools of public health (Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine and University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Public Health). Through this partnership training is provided through the LAVA System at no cost to the volunteer.

Please visit LAVA at

www.lava.dhh.louisiana.gov

or call

225-763-3503

for additional information.



**Volunteer online today
and stand ready
to help the ones
in need.**

www.lava.dhh.louisiana.gov



This public document was printed at a cost of \$1,651.03. Twenty thousand (20,000) copies were produced in this printing. This document was produced by the Department of Health and Hospitals/ Office of Public Health, 8919 World Ministry Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70810. It was printed in accordance with standards for printing by State Agencies established pursuant to R.S. 43:31.

LOUISIANA *Needs Your Help*



Please Volunteer
online at www.lava.dhh.louisiana.gov



Will it be a hurricane, flood, wildfire, pandemic flu or terrorist attack? We never know what it will be—or when—it will strike our state. We do know that a multitude of volunteers will be needed to help victims and provide support to relief efforts. You can play a pivotal role in those response efforts..

What is Louisiana Volunteers in Action (LAVA)?

Louisiana Volunteers in Action (LAVA) is Louisiana's approach to the federally mandated Emergency System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals (ESAR-VHP) Program. LAVA serves as an online, state-based registry of **medical and non-medical volunteers**. The system has the ability to verify credentials prior to a disaster. LAVA ensures that the state has a competent, ready-to-deploy, volunteer workforce.

Once you have joined LAVA, your identity, qualifications and experience will be verified. As a volunteer you will be included in a secure, statewide database. Your personal information will only be shared with emergency management officials. As a volunteer, you can say "yes" or "no" to any request for your services. If you are alerted that your help is needed, you will be given as many details about your role as possible and training will be provided.

Why LAVA?

After September 11th, and more recently Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, tens of thousands of people emerged on the scene ready and willing to volunteer. This created a large quantity of spontaneous unaffiliated volunteers. LAVA was designed to



provide a systematic way of coordinating volunteer efforts during an emergency with a special emphasis on advanced credential verification and deployment based on skill set.

Emergency Credential Levels

The LAVA system assigns volunteers to one of four LAVA credential levels. Assignment is based on the credentials and qualifications that the State has collected and verified with the issuing entity or appropriate authority.

Health Professionals Recruited

- Advanced Practice Nurse
- Athletic Trainer
- Audiologist
- Behavioral Health Professional
- Cardiovascular Technologist/Technician
- Chiropractor
- Counselor, Mental Health
- Counselor, Rehabilitation
- Counselor, School
- Counselor, Substance Abuse & Behavioral Disorder
- Dental Assistant
- Dental Hygienist
- Dentist
- Dietetic Technician
- Dietitian
- EMT - Basic
- EMT - Intermediate
- EMT - Paramedic
- Environmental Health Inspector/Regulator
- Epidemiologist
- First Responder
- Health Educator
- Home Health Aide
- Human Service Technician
- Immunization Services Worker
- Laboratorian
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Marriage & Family Therapist
- Medical and Clinical Lab Technician



- Medical and Clinical Lab Technologist
 - Medical Assistant
 - Nuclear Medicine Technologist
 - Nursing Aide, Orderly, or Attendant
 - Nutritionist
 - Occupational Therapist Optician
 - Optometrist
 - Orthotist or Prosthetist
 - Personal and Home Care Aide
 - Pharmacist
 - Pharmacy Aide
 - Pharmacy Technician
 - Physical Therapist
 - Physical Therapist Aide
 - Physical Therapist Assistant
 - Physician
 - Physician Assistant
 - Podiatrist
 - Psychiatric Aide
 - Psychiatric Rehabilitation Worker
 - Psychologist
 - Public Health Nurse
 - Radiation Therapist
 - Radiologic Technologist/Technician
 - Recreational Therapist
 - Registered Nurse
 - Respiratory Therapist
 - Respiratory Therapy Technician
 - Social Worker
 - Social Worker, Medical and Public Health
 - Social Worker, Mental Health and Substance Abuse
 - Special Needs Care Provider
 - Speech Language Pathologist
 - Surgical Technologist
 - Toxicologist
 - Veterinarian
 - Veterinary Assistant
 - Veterinary Technologist/Technician
- **Also Non-Medical volunteers recruited**

