



# State of Louisiana

## Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

January 16, 2013

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## **GOHSEP Reaccredited by National Program for State Emergency Management Agencies**

*Emergency Management Accreditation Program recognizes Louisiana for its  
ability to prepare for and respond to crises*

**BATON ROUGE, La.** – The state of Louisiana has been reaccredited by the national Emergency Management Accreditation Program, meaning it meets or exceeds standards for emergency management and response, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness announced.

EMAP accreditation represents a significant achievement, proving that Louisiana's emergency management program is compliant with national standards. To be reaccredited, GOHSEP had to demonstrate proficiency with a set of nationally recognized standards and undergo a peer-review

assessment by trained EMAP assessors. GOHSEP was originally accredited in 2007. Only 27 states and a handful of local governments have been accredited by EMAP.

GOHSEP Director Kevin Davis said, “Our staff of experienced professionals works year-round to respond to and prepare for hazards that may threaten Louisiana and to ensure that the people of our state are safe and informed in times of emergency. Our response, recovery, mitigation and preparedness operations truly are world class.”

Davis said, “The GOHSEP staff works with partners from state and federal agencies, local governments, nongovernmental organizations and businesses as we respond to emergency situations, and the cooperative spirit of this group plays a big role in this accomplishment. Our team should be very proud of its hard work over the years and our state should be proud to have such accomplished emergency managers working on its behalf.”

EMAP is a voluntary accreditation process for emergency management programs that coordinate preparedness and response activities following disasters. EMAP recognizes the ability of state and local governments to bring together personnel, resources and communications from a variety of agencies and organizations in preparation for and in response to an emergency, in addition to obtaining the ability to measure those capabilities. This forms the foundation of the nation’s emergency preparedness system. EMAP is the only accreditation process for emergency management programs.

Working collaboratively since 1997, state, local and federal emergency managers developed EMAP to provide quality standards and a process for determining compliance. The Emergency Management Standard by EMAP creates a structure for strategic planning for improvement coupled with methodical, verified assessment by experienced peers from other jurisdictions, which results in stronger capabilities and accountability.

The EMAP process evaluates emergency management programs on compliance with requirements in 16 areas, including: planning; resource management; training; exercises, evaluations, and corrective actions; and communications and warning.

*The Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) is charged with leading and supporting Louisiana and its Citizens in the preparation for, response to and recovery from all emergencies and disasters. For more information, visit <http://gohsep.la.gov> or follow the agency on Twitter as @GOHSEP and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/gohsep](http://www.facebook.com/gohsep).*

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