

## Volunteer Questions and Answers:

**Q: Is there protection for liability and workers compensation for volunteer health professionals?**

**A:** Volunteers deployed through Disaster Healthcare Volunteers will be registered in their local county as Disaster Service Workers, a program providing these protections.

**Q: Do I need to have prior disaster experience?**

**A:** No! All volunteers are welcome.

**Q: I'm retired. Can I still volunteer?**

**A:** Yes! Just be sure to indicate your license status when you register.

**Q: What other issues should I consider?**

**A:** Care for your family if you respond. Emergency response can be physically and emotionally difficult; personal medical conditions may need to be evaluated. You may have work or other commitments that would prevent you from responding to an activation. Missions may be up to ten days in duration.



## Who Should Register?

- Audiologists and Audiology Aides
- Certified Nurse Assistants
- Chiropractors
- Clinical Laboratory Scientists
- Medical Laboratory Technologists
- Clinical Nurse Specialists
- Cytotechnologists
- Dentists
- Diagnostic Radiologic Technologists
- EMT-Is and EMT-Paramedics
- Hemodialysis Technicians
- Home Health Aides
- Licensed Clinical Social Workers
- Licensed Midwives
- Licensed Vocational Nurses
- Marriage and Family Therapists
- Nuclear Medicine Technologists
- Nurse Anesthetists
- Nurse Midwives
- Nurse Midwife Furnishers
- Nurse Practitioner Furnishers
- Nurse Practitioners
- Occupational Therapists
- Occupational Therapy Assistants
- Optometrists
- Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons
- Pharmacists
- Pharmacy Technicians
- Phlebotomists
- Physical Therapists
- Physical Therapist Assistants
- Physicians and Surgeons
- Physician Assistants
- Podiatrists
- Psychiatric Mental Health Nurses
- Psychiatric Technicians
- Psychologists
- Public Health Microbiologists
- Registered Associate Social Workers
- Registered Dental Assistants
- Registered Dental Hygienists
- Registered Nurses
- Registered Veterinary Technicians
- Respiratory Care Practitioners
- Speech-Language Pathologists
- Speech-Language Pathology Aides
- Veterinarians

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# WHEN DISASTER STRIKES, YOU CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE



[WWW.HEALTHCAREVOLUNTEERS.CA.GOV](http://WWW.HEALTHCAREVOLUNTEERS.CA.GOV)

**REGISTER TODAY**  
**WWW.HEALTHCAREVOLUNTEERS.CA.GOV**

## Who are “Disaster Healthcare Volunteers?”

Disaster Healthcare Volunteers are professionals like you who want to volunteer during an emergency or disaster. When you register on our secure web-based registry, you will indicate your volunteer preferences and enter information about your skills. The registry will automatically notify you in the case of a disaster and track your deployment.



## What role will I have in a large-scale disaster or emergency?

Your role will be to practice your profession or skill as either an individual called up at the time of a disaster, or as part of an organized response team. Volunteers may participate in several ways, including:

- As an individual called upon during extreme emergencies for your county
- As part of a community-based Medical Reserve Corps;
- As a member of a State of California Medical Assistance Team.

Every attempt will be made to match your skills, competencies and license or registration level with your responsibilities during a disaster. However, there might be situations in which you will be asked to assist with activities that are less challenging than your normal work duties.

## How do I register?

Visit the Disaster Healthcare Volunteers' site at: [WWW.HEALTHCAREVOLUNTEERS.CA.GOV](http://WWW.HEALTHCAREVOLUNTEERS.CA.GOV), click the “Register Now” button and you're on your way!

## How does the “Disaster Healthcare Volunteers” program work?

Once you have registered to become a Disaster Healthcare Volunteer, your professional license will be verified electronically with your licensing board by the Emergency Medical Services Authority. This information will become a part of the secure Disaster Healthcare Volunteer Statewide Registry.

During a disaster, state or local (county) officials will determine what kind of health professionals are needed, search the database for available volunteers, and send an alert to selected members via e-mail, telephone and pager.

If you receive an alert in the event of a disaster, you will have the chance to accept or decline the volunteer request. If you accept, you will receive specific instructions on where and when to report, and what is needed for the incident. There is no obligation to participate during an activation.

## Why register now, before a disaster?

Registering now allows verification of your license and credentials, promotes training opportunities, and helps disaster managers understand how many volunteers might be available. This will help us match your skills with the needs required in each emergency situation.

**Registering now makes it easier to help when disaster strikes!**

## REGISTERING IS EASY!

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**IN TIMES OF DISASTER, CALIFORNIA NEEDS YOU!  
BECOME A DISASTER HEALTHCARE VOLUNTEER  
REGISTER TODAY AT [WWW.HEALTHCAREVOLUNTEERS.CA.GOV](http://WWW.HEALTHCAREVOLUNTEERS.CA.GOV)**