

Date: September 1, 2021
Attention: ASCIP Members
Affected: All Employees
Applicability: K-12, Community Colleges & Charter Schools

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

September is [National Preparedness Month](#), and this year's theme is: ***“Prepare to Protect. Preparing for disasters is protecting everyone you love.”*** National Preparedness Month is a time to encourage everyone to be prepared for disasters or emergencies in their homes, businesses, and communities.

Schools are required to [prepare for any event](#); whether minor or catastrophic. Practicing emergency drills enables students, parents, and staff to understand the “Big Picture” reasons for emergency preparedness and helps everyone know what to do in the event of a crisis.

Some things your school community can do:

School Administrators:

- Review your District and School Emergency Response Plan. Make any necessary updates and personnel assignments.
- Inventory and replenish emergency supplies in the classrooms and main office.
- Engage your 4th-grade students to participate in the [Preparedness Ambassadors Program](#). The program is a free curriculum created by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) in partnership with the Sacramento County Office of Education, the California Department of Education, and CalRecycle.

Educators:

- Provide students with take-home information about building a kit and making a plan. Visit:
 - <http://www.ready.gov/september> for information in English.
 - www.ready.gov/es/septiembre and <https://www.listoscalifornia.org/> for information in Spanish

All Employees:

- Review the school site emergency response plan and your responsibilities during an emergency.
- Build a kit and make a plan for your own family; visit <http://www.ready.gov/september> for information.
- Discuss disasters and emergency preparedness with students; visit www.ready.gov/kids.

Preparedness Ambassadors Program

In becoming a **Preparedness Ambassador**, students will take a journey into the disaster experiences of their community. Like a **detective**, they will gather community disaster stories and be strategic in mapping where, when, and how they occurred. Like a **scientist**, they will dig deep into case studies and find out how people reacted to specific disasters. Like a **safety manager**, they will create guidelines that inform the community on how to better prepare for those disasters. And like a **hero**, they will take action to prepare their home, school, and community for the next disaster. By being a disaster detective, scientist, safety manager, and hero, students can be a **Preparedness Ambassador** for their entire community.

Please contact your ASCIP Risk Services Consultant or our Risk Services team at RM_Info@ascip.org for questions or to discuss further.