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Individuals Wishing to Volunteer

At this time, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is NO longer accepting individual medical and relief worker applications. More than 33,000 health care professionals and relief personnel have registered with the Department of Health and Human Services for possible deployment in affected areas. We will contact those applicants with the skills that meet the specific requests from the affected communities and that fit within our deliberate and evolving deployment strategy. We thank you for your interest.

For Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Members: Each MRC unit is developing a roster of MRC members interested in this activity. If you are interested, you should ask your MRC leader to include you on the roster. All local MRC unit leaders have been asked to ensure that local community needs are met first. For more information about the Medical Reserve Corps, see www.medicalreservecorps.gov.

For Other Volunteer Opportunities:

If you are a	Then
Public health worker employed by state and local agencies	Go to the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), an agreement among 48 states to share resources during a disaster. For more information, visit EMAC's website at http://www.emacweb.org/ .
Non-healthcare professional or relief personnel / citizen	Go to UsaFreedomcorps at http://usafreedomcorps.gov to find volunteer opportunities.

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Groups of Healthcare Personnel

GROUPS: HHS remains interested in identifying groups (of at least five health care professionals or relief personnel from a single employer) who are interested in deploying as a group. If your group is interested in deploying as part of the disaster response, send the following information to

[Hurricane Help:](#)

- Group Leader/Group Point of Contact (POC) name
- Email Address of Group POC
- Phone number of Group POC
- Name, city and state for the Group or Sponsoring Organization
- Number and types of members of the group (e.g., 10 family medicine physicians, 7 Registered Nurses)
- A description of the medical supplies and equipment being offered (if your group wishes to bring its own supplies or equipment)

You will be contacted by the HHS "Groups" representative regarding possible group assignment.

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Information for Volunteers about to be Deployed

We would like to thank all of you who have registered to provide your time and expertise to aid the victims of this catastrophe. Your response during these difficult times has been overwhelming and heartening. Please remember, the following conditions apply:

Conditions of Assignment

1. Individuals must be healthy enough to function under field conditions. This work may include all or some of the following:

- 12 hour shifts
- Austere conditions (possibly no showers, housing in tents)
- No air conditioning
- Long periods of standing
- Sleep accommodations on bed roll
- Military ready to eat meals
- Portable toilets

2. These workers will be non-paid, temporary Federal employees, and will therefore be eligible for coverage under the Federal Tort Claims Act for liability coverage and Workman's Compensation when functioning as HHS employees. There will not be any salary. However, travel and per diem (authorized daily expenses) will be paid.

3. Assignments may last 14 days or longer. It is required that applicants have Hepatitis B and Tetanus/Diphtheria (current within the past 10 years) immunizations for this assignment.

Update of What's Happening

The vast pool of applicants should allow us to meet the needs in the affected areas. The recovery effort will be long and the current pool of volunteers will be used over the next several months. We ask those who have registered on this site to please be patient as we continue to deploy workers where they will be most helpful.

We will be contacting those who meet the requirements and needs in the field as soon as we are able.

Resources for Volunteers

- [Hurricane Disaster in the U.S.: Interim Health Recommendations for Relief Workers \(Centers for Disease Control and Prevention\)Medical and Relief Worker Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Medical and Relief Volunteer Frequently Asked Questions](#)

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Health and Safety Information on Hurricane Katrina

- [Hurricanes: Health & Safety](#) (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
- [Health and Social Assistance](#) (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services)

The Office of the Surgeon General and the Office of Public Health Emergency Preparedness thank you for your patriotism and spirit of support to the victims of Hurricane Katrina. **Thank you!**

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20201