



Primary Screener Backpack Basic Course (PSBB)

This operations-level preventative radiological and nuclear detection (PRND) course will be delivered throughout the nation to jurisdictions or agencies approved by Federal Emergency Management Agency/National Preparedness Directorate (FEMA/NPD) and the Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk.

Course Description

This course is designed to train law enforcement and public safety officers to employ department procured and issued backpack radiation detection systems within the bounds of the jurisdiction/agency operational environment, including local instruments, procedures, and legal considerations. The course provides training and extensive hands-on practice with actual radioactive material so that personnel employing a backpack radiation detection system during detection and interdiction missions will be able to do the following:

- ❖ Detect, verify, and locate the presence of radiation and/or radiological material.
- ❖ After receiving an alarm, identify and distinguish between the following:
 - Non-Threat - Innocent Alarms (background, NORM, and medical patient alarms)
 - Non-Threat - Illegal Conveyance (radiological material transported or stored improperly)
 - Threat (illicit materials – RED, RDD, or IND)
 - Unknown (requires additional assistance)
- ❖ Upon detecting, verifying, and locating the source of the alarm, measure the approximate radiation level that generated the alarm.
- ❖ Use radiological/nuclear material recognition factors to assist in assessing the situation.
- ❖ Upon discovering the illicit use of radiological/nuclear material, initiate organizational protocols to ensure the health and safety of the responders and the public.



This is a “live agent” course using radioactive materials. This course is designed and monitored so attendees receive only minor radiation doses (lower than a chest X-ray or a typical round trip airline flight across the U.S.) This course complies with ANSI N42.37-2006, “American National Standard for Training Requirements for Homeland Security Purposes Using Radiation Detector Instrumentation for Interdiction and Prevention.”

Equipment:

Each attendee will be issued a backpack radiation detection system for use in the course. Each delivery of the backpack radiation detection system course will use one specific make and model of the backpack radiation detection system, which will be the same as (or similar to) the instruments owned and issued by the agency being taught. The host agency may choose to provide the backpack systems to be used in the course. See contact information for the current course availability on specific models of backpack radiation detection systems.

Note: At the present time, only training for the Thermo Scientific PackEye Radiation Detection Backpack is available. Training for additional backpack systems will be developed as demand for specific backpack training increases.

Cost, Course Length, and Delivery:

All training and course materials are provided at no cost to eligible participants. This course is seven (7) hours. All training is provided at participant locations by a mobile training team.

Target Audience:

- Law Enforcement
- Fire Service
- Hazardous Materials (HazMat)
- Public Works
- Other skilled personnel that provide immediate support services during prevention and deterrence of radiological/nuclear detection and interdiction operations.

**Enrollment Information:**

In order to attend a training class delivered by one of the FEMA/NPD Training Partners, a request must be provided to the designated U.S. Department of Homeland Security State Administrative Agent (SAA) training point of contact. For the training coordinator in your area, contact the FEMA/NPD Help Line at 800-368-6498.

Course Scheduling:

Coordination between Counter Terrorism Operations Support (CTOS) and the hosting jurisdiction is required at least eight (8) weeks prior to the course delivery.

Prerequisite:

Attendees should be law enforcement, public safety officers, and other personnel who are issued a backpack radiation detection system, and whose duties place them in locations where illicit radiological/nuclear material may be hidden, transported, assembled, and/or employed by terrorist elements. Attendees shall have completed Personal Radiation Detector Course (PER-243) or equivalent knowledge.

Eligibility:

It is the responsibility of the jurisdiction to select the course participants.

Certificate:

A Certificate of Completion is issued upon successful completion of the course.

For More Information, Contact the Registration Desk at:

National Nuclear Security Administration/Nevada Site Office
Counter Terrorism Operations Support Program
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