CAL-MAT Program

The California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) is responsible for planning, preparing for and managing the disaster medical response to major disaster events in California. The CAL-MAT Program is a critical component of EMSA’s capability to meet this responsibility.

CAL-MAT Units are comprised of trained professionals from a variety of medical disciplines, technical specialties, administrative competencies and others organized and coordinated for rapid field medical response in times of disaster.

CAL-MATs can be utilized in a variety of missions providing surge capacity to local governments for immunizations, mass prophylaxis, patient triage/treatment, etc.

Contact EMSA for additional information:
CAL-MAT@EMSA.ca.gov

California Medical Assistance Teams (CAL-MAT)

CAL-MATs close the gap between local and federal response during major disaster medical events, ensuring our disaster-prone state is not left unprotected.

CAL-MATs are an essential component of the EMS Authority’s Mobile Medical Asset Program
Fast Facts

Missions: CAL-MATs engage in a variety of all-hazard missions. Activities include medical treatment and support, triage, nursing and medical care, dispensing medications, wild land fire medical support, patient reception and evaluation.

Team composition: Structured to support mission objectives. Ranges from small, rapidly deployable Medical Response Teams to large multidisciplinary Medical Teams utilizing physicians, nurses, paramedics and other medical and technical professionals.

Deployment duration: Deployments may be for up to 14 days.

Registration: All CAL-MAT members register in the Disaster Healthcare Volunteers (DHV) System: https://www.healthcarevolunteers.ca.gov/

Who may join a CAL-MAT? CAL-MATs utilize both clinical and non-clinical personnel. In addition to needing specific clinical capabilities (physicians, nurses, medical techs, etc.), persons with skills in Information Technologies, logistics, law enforcement/security, social services, etc., are also highly desirable.

What type of settings might a Team operate in? Teams might operate in disaster triage sites, field treatment sites, clinics, hospitals, and other medical/hospital care systems providing first aid, triage, treatment, other medical care, immunizations, or prescribing and dispensing medications.

What equipment does the Team have? EMSA has medical supply caches and emergency response vehicles to support CAL-MAT training and deployment.

Frequently Asked Questions

Where are CAL-MAT Units located? Southern California Division: Los Angeles, San Diego/Imperial, Orange County, and San Bernardino/Riverside.

Northern California Division: Sacramento, SF Bay Area, Central Valley (Planned), Redding (Planned).

How does one join CAL-MAT? Interested persons should go to the EMSA website. They must register in the DHV system and also submit a completed registration packet. Priority consideration may be given to individuals already associated with a federal Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT). Background and reference checks may be required. Accepted applicants are formally assigned to a CAL-MAT Unit as a candidate for membership. They will have a probation period during which they will be expected to attend unit meetings, activities and trainings.