

7 Training and Exercises

7.1 Policies

The State entities shall develop and maintain training programs and exercise components to optimize the ability of the responder agencies to communicate effectively utilizing the various communications assets described herein and available during incident response. The training programs and exercises shall be NIMS compliant and meet the requirements in Homeland Security guidance.

7.2 Exercises

The State of Illinois has established a three year statewide exercise cycle. Each year a statewide exercise will be conducted in either the North, Central, or South areas of the State. During each statewide exercise the interoperable communications components of this plan shall be validated. Selected State assets will be deployed during each exercise so as to fully validate all state assets' capabilities during a three year cycle. These exercises will also be used to validate the procedures and rules of use set out in this plan. Exercises shall, when applicable, conform to HSEEP.

7.3 Anticipated Training Programs

Table 9 Training Programs (Anticipated)

Training Needed	Purpose
Basic Radio User	To familiarize local and State personnel on use of STARCOM21 Equipment, and other statewide deployable assets.
Technical Specialist (THSP)	To familiarize personnel with the operating criteria and protocols of specific interoperable communications equipment. Examples STARCOM21 SOW, ITECS ACU1000, SAT Equipment.
Communications Technician (COMT)	To familiarize personnel with all aspects of a particular communication asset, including policies and procedures. Examples: ITECS suite of equipment, IEMA SAT Van
Incident Communications Center Manager (INCM)	To familiarize personnel with the proper operation of an Incident Communications Center.
Incident Radio Operator (RADO)	To familiarize personnel with proper radio operation and proper documentation of radio/telephone messages.
Communications Unit Leader (COML)	To train personnel as Illinois Communications Unit Leaders, in their role within the ICS structure, the Illinois TICP, to develop Standard Operating

	Procedures; understand technical specifics of the State's shared systems/channels; and the technical specifics of the State's fixed site and mobile gateways
Communications Coordinator (COMC)	To train COML personnel on the multi-incident/multi-jurisdictional communications coordination methods including application of the Illinois TICP.