



North Carolina Central University

CERT

Community Emergency
Response Team

How does the NCCU Campus community feel about CERT?

"They can be there to help while the medics are on the way."

– Ashley Polk

"It is a very vital and crucial role in the safety and security of our students and surrounding community."

– Michael Robinson

"You could save someone's life with the training."

– Tiffany Kennedy

"Everyday students can help out in serious situations."

– Tiara Lamberth

"CERT is a wonderful part of every community and could be the difference in saving a person's life."

– Lordina Innocent

"CERT is very proficient when dealing with trauma issues."

– Baheeyah Madany

"CERT is very helpful because they are trained for situations... I plan to join CERT."

– Justin Glaspie

NCCU Affiliates

Academic Community Service Learning Program

Department of Athletics

Department of Criminal Justice

Institute for Homeland Security and Workforce Development

University Police and Emergency Management

Partners

Citizen Corps

Durham County Emergency Medical Services

Durham County Fire Marshal and Emergency Management

Durham Fire Department

Durham Police Department

Federal Emergency Management Agency Community
Emergency Response Team

Sponsors

G. Alan Incorporated



North Carolina Central University's Campus Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) consists of students and staff volunteers trained in disaster preparedness and emergency response. NCCU CERT is a campus affiliate with the NCCU Police Department.

The vision for a trained student CERT team was initiated in April 2011 when tornadoes hit Shaw University in Raleigh. NCCU students desperately wanted to assist their sister HBCU, but without the campus-level organization and trained responders, the ability to support students at Shaw was limited.

In August 2012, NCCU alumna Dana Hart-Raynor began the grassroots efforts of the CERT program implementation. Such efforts included classroom presentations on the CERT curriculum, working alongside internal and external campus partners to secure state funding, and facilitating the CERT – Community Emergency Response Team (G317) Basic Training Course to interested students.

The NCCU CERT's mission is to serve the NCCU campus and surrounding community with rapid response services in the immediate aftermath of a disaster, when professional emergency services are likely to be overwhelmed or delayed.

Emergency services personnel are best prepared to respond to disasters. CERT is equipped to serve as an augmented support to the NCCU campus and city's first responders.

NCCU CERT collaborates with campus partners, such as University Police, Athletics, and the Academic Community Service Learning Program, at non-emergency events, offering a secondary staffing presence for large-attendance activities.

To date, the CERT program consists of 42 trained volunteers.

Why should I join the CERT program?

When disasters occur, your community will rely on your assistance for safety and resilience. Become a member to:

- Educate yourself, peers and family on emergency preparedness and disaster relief efforts
- Strengthen your interpersonal, team-building and leadership skills
- Prepare yourself for career networking opportunities with professional emergency services personnel

How is training structured?

The CERT (G317) Basic Training Course, developed for the National CERT Program, is offered to volunteers over the course of two intense weeks. Training is offered up to two times per semester. Instructors have completed the CERT Train-the-Trainer and/or have an extensive background in emergency management. Course topics include disaster preparedness, fire safety, a two-part module on disaster medical operations, light search-and-rescue operations, CERT organization, disaster psychology and terrorism.

How does CERT assist the campus and surrounding communities?

Volunteers are an asset to the community. There are various roles each volunteer can serve.

Since its founding in August 2012, members of CERT have participated in the following community preparedness and disaster response activities:

- Medical supply distribution at the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Exercise with Durham County Health Department
- Traffic and crowd control at home games and Commencement Exercises
- Presenting CERT information to incoming freshmen during the Week of Welcome
- Participation in an Active Shooter Training Exercise
- Simulated victims in Operation Eagle Swoop, the largest full-scale exercise at any college campus, sponsored by N.C. Tactical Officers Association and NCCU Police

Having students who know what to do in emergencies is necessary to lower the level of fear and reduce the number of casualties.

– Vera Obinwanne

Are there incentives with joining the NCCU CERT?

- Increased knowledge and skill set of emergency preparedness
- Minimum of 30 hours of community service awarded to student-volunteers toward graduation requirements

How do I join?

If you are 18 or older and attend or work at NCCU, or if you live in the surrounding Durham community and are interested in learning more about the NCCU CERT, please visit us online at www.facebook.com/NCCUCampusCERT.