

PANDEMIC ACCORD: 2013-14 Pandemic Influenza Continuity Exercise Series

The Federal Executive Boards in New York City and Northern New Jersey in partnership with FEMA Region II, The Department of Health and Human Services Region II, Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA) and the Clearing House Association are sponsoring a two year series of pandemic influenza continuity exercises - tabletop exercise 2013, full scale exercise 2014 - to increase readiness for a pandemic event amongst Federal Executive Departments and Agencies, US Court, State, tribal, local jurisdictional and private sector continuity.

Pandemic influenza is a global outbreak of disease that occurs when a new influenza virus appears or “emerges” in the human population causing serious illness, as it spreads from person to person worldwide. History teaches us that the impact of a pandemic can be far-reaching. The 1918 “Spanish Flu” influenza killed approximately 30,000 people in NYC, 500,000 in the United States and as many as 50 -100 million worldwide. Furthermore, it leads to widespread social disruption and economic loss.

Pandemic influenza is unique in that, unlike many other catastrophic events, it will not directly affect physical infrastructure. While a pandemic will not damage power lines, banks, or computer networks, it will ultimately threaten all critical infrastructures by its impact on an organization’s human resources causing a loss essential personnel from the workplace for weeks or months - *National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza Implementation Plan* (May 2006).

Economists, epidemiologists and other experts predict that the effects of a modern-day pandemic will be seen in every industry and government agency at local, regional, national and international levels. Typically a pandemic influenza will come in “waves” each lasting 6-8 weeks with several months between each wave. The CDC estimates that between 15%-35% of the United States population could be affected by pandemic influenza and the economic impact could range between \$71.3 and \$166.5 billion (2006 estimates).

The exercise objectives are to mitigate vulnerabilities during a pandemic influenza outbreak; to identify gaps or weaknesses in pandemic planning or in organization pandemic influenza continuity plans, policies, & procedures; and encourage public and private organizations to jointly plan for, and test, their pandemic influenza plans.

PANDEMIC INFLUENZA EXERCISE OVERVIEW:

- **Who:** NY/NJ Federal Executive Boards membership and private sector
- **What:** Pandemic Influenza Exercise (repeated on 3 separate dates, **please attend only 1 exercise**)
- **Purpose:** To foster a partnership amongst Federal/private sector; increase continuity readiness under pandemic influenza conditions; and identify gaps and areas for improvement
- **Scope:** New York City Metropolitan Area
- **When:** 3 Tabletop Exercises — November 19th, November 20th, & November 21st.
7:30 am Registration
8:00am StartEx / 12:00pm Endex
- **Where:** 26 Federal Plaza, 6th Floor Conference Room A/B New York, NY
- **Deliverables:** Exercises; lessons learned; and after-action reports

PHASES OF EXERCISE:

2013

- **Stage 1:** Table Top Pandemic Influenza Exercise 2013
- **Stage 2:** After Action Report

2014

- **Stage 3:** Full Scale Pandemic Influenza Exercise 2014
- **Stage 4:** After Action Report
- **Stage 5:** Corrective Action Report via NYU Partnership (Proposed)



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