

**Governor's Office of Homeland Security  
and Emergency Preparedness**  
State of Louisiana

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

April 20, 2018

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**GOHSEP Receives Reaccreditation through EMAP**

**Baton Rouge (April 20, 2018)** – The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) has maintained its accreditation through the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP). By maintaining its accredited status continuously since 2007, GOHSEP has proven it adheres to the *Emergency Management Standard* and will maintain that status for another five years.

EMAP released the following details:

**Congratulations to the following Emergency Management Programs that have earned accreditation by the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP): Colorado Springs, Co.; District of Columbia; Huntington District of the United States Army Corps of Engineers; East Baton Rouge, La.; Kansas; Louisiana; Marion County, Fla.; North Dakota and Oklahoma.**

**“Congratulations to those programs that have maintained their accredited status as well as those who have joined the elite leaders in emergency management having earned accreditation through the Emergency Management Accreditation Program. Through their commitment and leadership, they have proven to their communities and stakeholders that their programs are sustainable and that they continue to focus on their communities’ best interests,”** stated Robie Robinson, Executive Director of Public Safety, University of Tennessee-Chattanooga and the EMAP Commission Chair.

“The EMAP accreditation proves why others often look to Louisiana to help following an emergency,” said GOHSEP Director Jim Waskom. “The standards maintained by the men and women at GOHSEP help make our state, our communities and our nation safer. We are thankful to receive this notification and will continue to look for ways to better serve the people of Louisiana.”

In order to receive accreditation, applicants must demonstrate that its program meets the *Emergency Management Standard*. The emergency management program uses the accreditation to prove the capabilities of their disaster preparedness and response systems.

EMAP is the only accreditation process for emergency management programs.

GOHSEP’s programs were evaluated and recognized for compliance with standards certified by the American National Standard Institute (ANSI) and recognized by the industry. That helps meet EMAP’s mission to build safer communities through credible standards of excellence. These programs demonstrate accountability and focus attention on areas and issues where resources are needed to heighten their preparedness efforts to any technical or natural disaster that may affect their communities.

EMAP revolutionizes emergency management programs that coordinate preparedness and response activities for disasters based on standards. EMAP recognizes the ability of emergency management programs to bring together personnel, resources and communications from a variety of agencies and organizations in preparation for and in response to an emergency, in addition to obtaining the ability to measure those capabilities. The *Emergency Management Standard* is flexible in design so that programs of differing sizes, populations, risks and resources can use it as a blueprint for improvement and can attain compliance with those standards in an accreditation process. The accreditation process evaluates emergency management programs on compliance with requirements in sixteen areas, including: planning; resource management; training; exercises, evaluations, and corrective actions; communications and warning; and administration. This forms the foundation of the nation’s emergency preparedness system.

*Find more tips on weather and preparedness on GOHSEP’s Facebook and Twitter accounts. You can receive emergency alerts on most smartphones and tablets by downloading the new Alert FM App. It is free for basic service. The Get A Game Plan App is another resource available to help you and your family prepare for any type of emergency. You can download the Louisiana Emergency Preparedness Guide and find other information at [www.getagameplan.org](http://www.getagameplan.org).*

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