The National Incident Management System (NIMS) provides stakeholders across the whole community with the shared vocabulary, systems, and processes to successfully deliver the capabilities described in the National Preparedness System. NIMS helps prepare the nation for catastrophic disasters by uniting all incident personnel, from on-scene responders to individuals in Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) and senior officials, enabling them to meet challenges beyond the capacity of any single jurisdiction or organization.

This nationwide unity of effort hinges on a shared understanding of what NIMS implementation entails. The NIMS Implementation Objectives provide the baseline for that understanding.

The NIMS Implementation Objectives reflect the concepts and principles contained in NIMS and aim to promote consistency in NIMS implementation across the Nation. The NIMS Implementation Objectives clarify the NIMS implementation requirements in FEMA preparedness grant Notices of Funding Opportunity. As recipients and subrecipients of Federal preparedness (non-disaster) grant awards, jurisdictions and organizations must achieve, or be actively working to achieve, all of the NIMS Implementation Objectives.

In addition to the Implementation Objectives, the following chart outlines a vision for each NIMS component and example indicators for each objective. The visions outline the intended end state of the activities under that component. The indicators are examples of characteristics that are frequently associated with jurisdictions and organizations that have achieved the objective. They are not requirements criteria, nor are the indicators intended as a checklist for achieving the objectives. The indicators are a tool to assist jurisdictions and organizations in meeting the new Implementation Objectives.

	NIMS Implementation Objectives	Example Indicators
General *Vision: Policies and processes are in place to support NIMS implementation*	1. Adopt the National Incident Management System (NIMS) throughout the jurisdiction or organization to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from incidents.	A current and valid legal authority indicating that NIMS is the system of choice for the jurisdiction or organization.
	2. Designate and maintain a point of contact (POC) to serve as the principal coordinator for the implementation of NIMS.	Stakeholder notification including contact information for a current NIMS point of contact responsible for the overall coordination and development of NIMS-related activities and documents for the jurisdiction.
	3. Ensure that incident personnel receive pertinent NIMS training in alignment with the NIMS Training Program.	Official training guidance that specifies: • Which training courses incident personnel must take; • How long they have to complete the training after they join the jurisdiction or organization; and • Frequency of refresher training.
Resource Management *Vision: Consistent, interoperable identification, management, and sharing of incident resources*	4. Identify and inventory deployable incident resources consistent with national NIMS resource typing definitions and job titles/position qualifications, available through the Resource Typing Library Tool. (NIMS pages 6-7, http://www.fema.gov/resource-management-mutual-aid).	Up-to-date resource inventory (such as the Incident Resource Inventory System) that uses NIMS resource-typing definitions for all shareable or deployable resources.
	5. Adopt NIMS terminology for the qualification, certification, and credentialing of incident personnel. (NIMS page 8) *Developing or participating in a qualification, certification, and credentialing program that aligns with the National Qualification System (NQS) is recommended, but not required.*	Official guidance document specifying how incident personnel are qualified, certified, and credentialed consistent with NIMS terminology.
	6. Use the NIMS Resource Management Process during incidents (identify requirements, order and acquire, mobilize, track and report, demobilize, reimburse and restock). (NIMS page 12)	Current standard operating procedures align with the NIMS Resource Management Process. Exercise or real-world incident documentation indicating the appropriate use of NIMS Resource Management process and NIMS resource typing definitions.
	7. At the jurisdictional level, develop, maintain, and implement mutual aid agreements (to include agreements with the private sector and nongovernmental organizations).	Mutual aid agreements are up-to-date and in effect, covering neighboring jurisdictions, the private sector, and nongovernmental organizations.

	NIMS Implementation Objectives	Example Indicators
Command and Coordination *Vision: Integrated decision making and unity of effort among all incident personnel*	8. Apply ICS as the standard approach to the on-scene command, control, and coordination of incidents. 9. Implement JIS for the dissemination of incident information to the public, incident personnel, traditional and social media, and other stakeholders. 10. Use MAC Groups/Policy Groups during incidents to enable decision making among elected and appointed officials and support resource prioritization and allocation.	Exercise or real-world incident documentation or after-action reports indicating consistent use of NIMS principles, procedures, and structures including the Incident Command System (ICS), Multiagency Coordination (MAC) Groups, and Joint Information Systems (JIS). Standard operating procedures and emergency operations plans that reflect NIMS guidance such as the NIMS Management Characteristics, ICS, MAC Groups, and JIS.
	11. Organize and manage EOCs and EOC teams consistent with pertinent NIMS guidance.	Emergency Operations Plans (EOP), Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), organizational charts, or training program materials reflecting NIMS EOC guidance.
Communications and Information Management *Vision: Information gets to who it needs to, when it needs to, and in a means they can understand.*	12. Apply plain language and clear text communications standards.	SOPs, standard operating guidelines, and training program materials direct the use of plain language and clear text for incident communications.
	13. Enable interoperable and secure communications within and across jurisdictions and organizations.	Exercise and/or real-world incident documentation and/or after action reports indicate that: • Communications and information systems are reliable and scalable and can function in any type of incident; • Communications systems are resilient and redundant; • Incident data, networks, and systems are appropriately protected and secure; • Appropriate communication guidance is incorporated into EOPs or supporting plans or annexes; and • Incident communications personnel have experience establishing and supporting interoperable communications.
	14. Develop, maintain, and implement procedures for data collection, analysis, and dissemination to meet organizational needs for situational awareness.	Exercise or real-world incident documentation indicate that incident personnel are collecting, analyzing, and disseminating situational awareness effectively and consistently with NIMS guidance. Data collection plans and SOPs align with NIMS guidance on information management and NIMS command and coordination structures.