Dear Parent:

We are excited to invite your teen to participate in the Los Altos Hills County Fire District Teen CERT Academy and Teen CERT Program, together known as the "Teen CERT Program".

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Victoria Bebee, and as the Los Altos Hills County Fire District CERT Program General Analyst, I am the Teen CERT Program Manager and coordinate the Teen CERT Program.

As part of the Teen CERT Program, the Los Altos Hills County Fire District provides the Teen CERT Academy. The Academy includes online coursework in emergency preparedness and an IN-PERSON, HANDS-ON, PRACTICAL SKILLS day (see Step 3, details below). A Teen CERT Academy Certificate of Completion will be awarded to those teens who complete all the hours of the online and in-person coursework units.

If you approve for your teen to join and to participate in the Teen CERT Program, please read and sign the Teen CERT Academy and Teen CERT Program Parental Consent and Risk Waiver Form (link here : https://www.lahcfd.org/teen-cert-program/ . If you have questions, please feel free to reach out to me either by email (vbebee@lahcfd.org or phone 408.813.8874). I look forward to working with your teen.

Teen CERT Academy and Teen CERT Program Details

The Teen CERT Program aims to train teens in Emergency Preparedness and basic response to ensure that teens have the skills needed to protect themselves and assist others in the event of an emergency. In addition, teens may participate in related webinar meetings and Teen CERT Program activities, write reports, assist in preparedness events and trainings, be featured in news articles, and speak on behalf of the Teen CERT program. Teens can use these experiences to develop and broaden their leadership skills and collaborate with others to benefit the community. The Teen CERT Academy course work and Teen CERT Program activities can also be used to demonstrate community services where applicable.

The Teen CERT Academy course curriculum is divided into three parts:

1. Self-Paced online coursework covering 8 CERT skills which will take approximately 12 hours to complete
2. Skills Check-in Day to review the first four modules and skills within the first six weeks after start of academy
3. Practical Skills Day
    a. This is an in-person, hands-on practical skills day which will cover the 8 course skills that were presented in the on-line training

The online coursework will be available for your teen to take during the program via pre-recorded training units presented by the University of Utah.

STEP 1: Online coursework. Please see details below:

- Coursework can be accessed on a mobile device or computer and completed at teen's own pace and convenience. Course progress can be saved and resumed later.

- Certificate for online coursework will be administered via the University of Utah portal after Final Exam is taken.

STEP 2: During the course, The Teen CERT Program Manager will have Unit Check-ins and Q&A sessions. All check-ins will be pre-scheduled at the start of the academy and conducted by the Teen CERT Program Manager.

Step 3 : After teen completes the online coursework, teen attends an IN-PERSON, HANDS-ON, PRACTICAL SKILLS day for 8 hours and will receive their Teen CERT Academy Certificate of Completion. Please see details below:

Teen CERT Candidate must attend all days and times of all three Steps outlined above to receive final Teen CERT Academy Certificate of Completion. Check here for information about the in-person, hands-on, practical skills coursework units:
https://bit.ly/pcertskills

Thank you,

Victoria Bebee
Los Altos Hills County Fire District CERT Program Analyst
Los Altos Hills Teen CERT Academy and Teen CERT Program Manager