Finding Free Disaster Education Resources

Online trainings are available in a wide variety of formats and provide supplemental education to better prepare individuals to react in emergency situations both on a professional and personal level. The EDEN website hosts a variety of assets including apps, fact sheets and planning guides developed by member organizations across the United States designed to deal with disasters common to those areas. We have also compiled a list of some of the other main resource databases available to you for free online.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA): https://training.fema.gov

FEMA's Emergency Management Institute offers about 190 different courses through their Independent Study Program. A few of the course topics offered include Emergency Management for Higher Education, Animals in Disasters, Social Media in Emergency Management, and Guides to Distribution Points and Mitigation Grants. The courses are free, self-paced, and some can be taken for college or continuing education credit. The only requirement is that you register for a FEMA Student ID Number at https://cdp.dhs.gov/femasid.

Center for Disease Control (CDC): https://www.train.org

The CDC offers public health training seminars which are compiled in their external learning management system, CDC TRAIN. The website has over 300 courses and includes trainings, webinars, and live and archived webstreams which are offered by CDC programs as well as grantees and other funded partners. In order to take advantage of their course offerings, you will need to set up a TRAIN account. Go to https://www.train.org/main/user/register, and once you create an account, you will be redirected to an affiliate site with pertinent information and course offerings catered to your area.

Department of Homeland Security (DHS): https://ready.gov

In addition to providing links to resources from other government organizations such as FEMA's Independent Study Program mentioned above, it also includes basic information on a variety of disaster situations, disaster information geared towards children, and social media toolkits tailored to each specific disaster scenario. A Community Preparedness Tool Kit is available for download at https://www.ready.gov/community-preparedness-toolkit.