

# Assessment of Chemical Exposures (ACE) Program: Help for Environmental Emergencies



When an environmental incident occurs, state and local health departments can call ATSDR to request an ACE to learn how to assess and protect people and communities from exposure to harmful substances.

## An ACE provides resources to state and local health departments to help

- assess the public health emergency and direct an immediate response,
- identify who has been exposed,
- determine if there is a need to do follow-up for long-term health effects,
- access ATSDR's mapping, communications, risk assessors, and toxicologists,
- liaise with other federal agencies like the Environmental Protection Agency,
- assess the need to modify state and local emergency response procedures,
- target outreach to prevent similar, future incidents.

To learn more about ACE, visit  
[www.atsdr.cdc.gov/ace](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/ace)

# ATSDR

An ACE team of experts from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (CDC/ATSDR) travels to the site of environmental emergencies to conduct an investigation which includes interviewing people who may have been exposed to harmful chemicals.

State and local health departments can use the ACE toolkit to conduct their own investigation, with the ACE team providing remote technical support.

## An ACE Toolkit to assess exposures includes

- Surveys
- Databases
- Consent forms
- Training materials
- Medical chart abstraction forms

## How to Contact ACE

To request ACE assistance, a state or local health department epidemiologist can

- Call the CDC Emergency Operations Center 24/7 and ask to speak with an ACE team member at 770-488-7100, or
- Call the ACE program at 404-567-3256



## Other Resources

[Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#)

Main Number 202-564-4700

[Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\)](#)

Helpline 1-800-621-3362

[Poison Control](#)

Helpline 1-800-222-1222

[Nuclear Regulatory Commission \(NRC\)](#)

Main Numbers 1-800-368-5642, 301-415-7000