

Local Government Academy  
2025-2026 Newly Elected Officials Course  
Protecting the Public: Municipal Emergency Response  
02/28/2026  
Learning Assessment

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Municipality \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this paper assessment or complete the assessment online using the QR code.



1. **Municipalities in Pennsylvania are required to have a police department:**
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
2. **Municipalities in Pennsylvania must appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator:**
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
3. **The first provider of emergency services is:**
  - a. The state is required to serve as first responder.
  - b. Both local and county governments are first provider emergency response services.
  - c. The county is first responder then local municipal response may begin.
  
4. **Collecting data and preparing initial disaster reports is the primary responsibility of:**
  - a. Local and County governments
  - b. County government
  - c. State government
  - d. All the above
  
5. **Volunteer Fire Departments must:**
  - a. Be recognized by resolution
  - b. Meet annually with elected officials
  - c. Be separately chartered corporations
  - d. All the above
  
6. **Does a comprehensive plan establish legal precedence even though it is a policy guide and not a regulatory document?**
  - a. Yes, a comprehensive plan does establish legal precedence because it can still influence or support future legal decisions.
  - b. No, a comprehensive plan does not establish legal precedence because the plan itself is not a law under the MPC.
  - c. Yes, the comprehensive plan does establish legal precedence as it can inform future decisions but is not itself binding.
  - d. A & C.

*Completion of this learning assessment documents participation in this session.*

**7. A comprehensive plan is:**

- a. A community's vision for what it wants to become in the next 10-15 years
- b. A statement of goals and objectives related to housing, economic development, land use, infrastructure, parks, and other topics
- c. A policy guide for decision-making that helps inform project funding
- d. All the above

**8. True or False: The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code is the uniform planning and land use enabling law for all municipalities and counties throughout Pennsylvania, including those under home rule (but excluding the cities of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh).**

- a. True
- b. False

**9. Which of the following is a significant concern with technological advancement in policing?**

- a. Privacy
- b. Cost
- c. Governance
- d. All the above

**10. Which of the following is NOT a significant problem for police recruitment and retention?**

- a. Smaller applicant pool
- b. Widespread automation replacing the need for police officers
- c. Increased training and on-boarding costs
- d. Competition from other departments/professions
- e. None of the above

**11. On a scale from 1 to 5 (with 5 being the highest), to what level do you feel today's session increased your ability to effectively do your job as a municipal official/representative?**

- a. 1
- b. 2
- c. 3
- d. 4
- e. 5

Please provide comments here – including suggestions for speakers & topics:

---

---

**When finished, please return to Local Government Academy**