


# United States Homeland Emergency Response Organization



## General Policy

<b>Subject:</b> Membership Requirements	<b>Number:</b> GP-0008
<b>Revision:</b>	<b>Effective:</b> 01 January 2007
<b>Signed by:</b> <b>Bruce White</b> Chief	

### **I. Purpose**

To define requirements for membership in US-HERO.

### **II. Policy**

- A.** Membership in US-HERO is only for those who are to train and be a part of a successful response organization. Our **ONLY** reason for existing is to save lives. Saving lives requires our members dedicate themselves to being involved in day-to-day operations, training, exercises and emergency response. US-HERO is not a social club, we are a volunteer emergency response organization and both our organizational culture and members are focused on emergency response.
- B.** As a private organization, US-HERO asserts its "Right of Association". Persons who are members of organizations that seek to deny the Constitutional rights of others, are discriminatory in nature or are designated by the Attorney General of the USA or any state as a criminal, subversive or terroristic organization are not eligible to be a member of US-HERO.

### **III. Specifications**

#### **A. Eligibility (Adult members)**

i. Minimum of 18 years of age

ii. Disqualifying Offenses

a) Disqualifying offenses include but are not limited to:

- Offenses Against the Family: Bigamy; Incest; Interference with child custody; Enticing a child; Criminal non support; Sale or purchase of a child; Solicitation of a child; Harboring a runaway child; Violation of a court order. During any period of time in his/her life.
- Offenses Against the Person: Murder; Capital murder; Voluntary manslaughter; Involuntary manslaughter; Criminally negligent homicide; False imprisonment; Kidnapping; Aggravated kidnapping; Rape; Aggravated rape; Sexual abuse; Aggravated sexual abuse; Public lewdness; Indecent exposure; Rape of a child; Indecency with a child; Assault; Sexual assault; Aggravated sexual assault; Deadly assault on a peace officer; Injury to a child or an elderly individual; Reckless conduct; Terroristic threat; Aiding suicide; Tampering with consumer products. During any period of time in his/her life.
- Public Indecency Prostitution: Promotion of prostitution; Aggravated promotion of prostitution; Compelling prostitution; Obscene display or distribution; Obscenity; Sale, distribution, or display of harmful material to a minor; Sexual performance by a child. During any period of time in his/her life.
- Property Crimes: This includes, but is not limited to: robbery, forgery, fraud, or embezzlement. Within the last 10 years.
- Crimes related to Drugs and Alcohol: anything beyond minor possession of any drug; distribution or manufacturing of any illegal substance;.DUI/DWI within the last five years

b) Special circumstances will be evaluated on a case by case basis by the Executive board.

c) Verified by a Criminal Background Check and Fingerprint Check.

- iii. If a veteran, must have had a general or higher discharge (DD-214/NGB-22 will be checked)
- iv. US citizen or legal resident
- v. Not Dismissed from US-HERO for past behaviors
- vi. Physical Requirements

Physical disabilities are not a limiting factor to membership. To assure the fullest degree of success in US HERO, the member should be healthy, both physically and mentally and not present a danger to themselves or others. Specific emergency services field specialties have physical fitness requirements. There are roles for people who cannot participate in field level work.

**B. Eligibility (Youth members) - Not all Response Units have a youth component**

- i. 14 - 18 years of age (9th grade or higher)
- ii. Satisfactory grades in school (if in high school)
- iii. Not Dismissed from US-HERO for past behaviors
- iv. Physical Requirements

Physical disabilities are not a limiting factor to membership. To assure the fullest degree of success in US HERO, the member should be healthy, both physically and mentally and not present a danger to themselves or others. Specific emergency services field specialties have physical fitness requirements. There are roles for people who cannot participate in field level work.

## **IV. Procedure**

- ◆ Complete appropriate application process (Adult or Youth)
- ◆ Meet with Unit Leadership
- ◆ Send completed and signed application paperwork and fees to:

**US-HERO**  
P.O. Box 90453  
Austin, TX 78709-0453

All forms available on the US-HERO website [www.ushero.org](http://www.ushero.org)