

**FEDERAL MEDICAL STATIONS  
Q & A**

**1. What is a Federal Medical Station?**

A Federal Medical Station, or FMS, is a rapidly deployable cache of medical and non-medical supplies and equipment that can be used to set up a temporary, non-acute medical care facility. Each FMS has beds, supplies and medicines to care for as many as 250 people for up to three days.

**2. How are FMS sets transported and delivered?**

FMS sets can be transported by air or ground.

**3. Who does FMS care for?**

FMS provides shelter and care for displaced individuals who have non-acute medical, mental health or other health-related needs not provided for by a general shelter.

**4. What are the benefits of the FMS program?**

The FMS program benefits the nation by providing limited capability medical treatment facilities in the event existing care infrastructures are inoperable after a disaster large numbers of individuals are evacuated from potential threat areas.

**5. Are there specific requirements for setting up an FMS set?**

One 250-bed FMS set optimally requires approximately 40,000 square feet of enclosed, climate controlled space with the following additional features:

- Bathrooms and shower capability
- Support services (i.e., food and water, waste services, water disposal, medical oxygen, laundry, mortuary services, etc.)
- Sufficient existing communications/IT support and power supply
- Loading ramps, materiel handling equipment (MHE) and parking

**6. Who requests and determines when Federal Medical Stations are deployed? Who maintains the materiel?**

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) authorities direct the deployment of FMS sets upon a request from state officials. The Division of Strategic National Stockpile, CDC, maintains FMS materiel and has partnered with the National Acquisition Center, Department of Veterans Affairs and the Supply Service Center, Perry Point, to assist in acquiring and maintaining FMS materiel.