

## Amateur Radio

### - Emergency Communications opportunities available to you

<i>This ...</i>	<i>Allows ...</i>
<b>Getting an amateur radio license</b>	<p>Be able to communicate with others who are licensed</p> <p>Join a club, participate in club activities, help from experts</p> <p>Participate in nets which are scheduled on-the-air gatherings</p> <p>Be a net control station (NCS)</p> <p>Ragchew, contesting, Parks On The Air (POTA)</p> <p>Participate in special events (13 colonies)</p> <p>Be a Skywarn spotter to assist with reporting hazardous weather Participate in Skywarn activations</p>
<b>For anyone interested in using their radios and learning skills to help with public service</b>	
<b>Join "Amateur Radio Emergency Services," ARES, by contacting your County ARES Emergency Coordinator (EC)</b>	<p>Participate in ARES training, nets, and training exercises</p> <p>Work with served agencies with whom relationships exists (including specific agency training and credentialing)</p> <p><b><i>During an activation</i></b></p> <p>Provide communication for a shelter or hospital as requested by the County ARES Emergency Coordinator.</p> <p><i>Support health and welfare traffic and serve agencies who have authorized missions during an emergency; that may include State, County, or Local government, healthcare organizations and NGO's (Red Cross, Salvation Army, Baptist Disaster response, etc.)</i></p>
<b>Join Richland CERT* "Communication Emergency Response Team" by contacting your County Emergency Manager</b>	<p>Work in the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) operating amateur radio equipment</p> <p>Operate other communications systems in the radio room (after training)</p> <p><b><i>During an activation</i></b></p> <p>Deploy with County response groups to assist with communications and anything else you're asked to do.</p> <p><i>Priority focus is life safety, protection of property and restoration of normal operating conditions.</i></p>
* Not all counties have a CERT group, but County EOCs can still use help with emergency communications.	
<b>For those possessing a strong desire to be heavily involved with emergency communications</b>	
<b>Become an Auxiliary Communicator AUXC (AUXCOMM)</b>	<p>Go through the State program, requires an invitation, registration &amp; vetting</p> <p>Attend training 2x per year</p> <p><b><i>To get credentialed</i></b></p> <p>Participate in 4 different training events or actual activations with sign off of skill demonstrations</p> <p>Initiate a Task Book by having an agency (the County or State EOC) request from the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) Complete the Position Task book, required to be in the National AUXCOMM database.</p> <p><b><i>During an activation</i></b></p> <p>Operate in the State EOC</p> <p>Operate any of the State communications assets</p> <p>You may be asked to deploy remotely</p> <p><i>Priority focus is life safety, protection of property and restoration of normal operating conditions.</i></p>

## ***Recommended Links***

### ***Resources***

[ARRL ARES Plan 7.1.22 \(arrl.org\)](http://arrl.org)

[South Carolina Amateur Radio Emergency Services – SC ARES \(ares-sc.org\)](http://ares-sc.org)

[South Carolina Amateur Radio Emergency Service/ Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service  
Tactical Communications Guide \(ares-sc.org\)](http://ares-sc.org)

[SCHEART | South Carolina Healthcare Emergency Amateur Radio Team](http://scheart.org)

### ***Nets***

[SC Midlands ARES Training Net – South Carolina Amateur Radio Emergency Services \(ares-sc.org\)](http://ares-sc.org)

[SC Statewide ARES HF Net – South Carolina Amateur Radio Emergency Services \(ares-sc.org\)](http://ares-sc.org)

[Central SC CARC Simplex Net – The Columbia Amateur Radio Club \(w4cae.com\)](http://w4cae.com)

### ***Other***

[South Carolina Interoperable Communications \(sc.gov\)](http://sc.gov)

[RATPAC - Radio Amateur Training Planning and Activities Committee](http://ratpac.org)