

**641—113.1(135) Definitions.** For purposes of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply:

*“Defend”* means that the office of the Iowa attorney general shall provide a public health response team member with legal representation at no cost to the public health response team member.

*“Department”* means the Iowa department of public health.

*“Director”* means the director of the Iowa department of public health.

*“Disaster medical assistance team”* or *“DMAT”* means a public health response team that is sponsored by a sponsor agency and approved by the department to provide medical assistance in the event of a disaster or threatened disaster or other incident as defined in Iowa Code section 135.143.

*“Environmental health response team”* or *“EHRT”* means a public health response team that is sponsored and approved by the department to provide environmental health expertise and assistance in the event of a disaster or threatened disaster or other incident defined in Iowa Code section 135.143.

*“Epidemiology response team”* or *“EpiRT”* means a public health response team that is sponsored and approved by the department to provide epidemiological assistance in the event of a disaster or threatened disaster or other incident as defined in Iowa Code section 135.143.

*“Indemnify”* means that the state of Iowa shall pay all sums that a public health response team member is legally obligated to pay as damages because of any claim made against the public health response team member which arises out of the provision of direct medical care or other support services rendered or which should have been rendered during a disaster, threatened disaster, or other incident defined in Iowa Code section 135.143, or arising out of a training exercise to prepare for a disaster or other incident defined in Iowa Code section 135.143.

*“Physician”* means an individual licensed under Iowa Code chapter 148, 150, or 150A.

*“Public health response team”* or *“PHRT”* means a team of professionals, including licensed health care providers, nonmedical professionals skilled and trained in disaster or emergency response, and public health practitioners, that is sponsored by the department, a hospital or other entity and approved by the department to provide assistance in the event of a disaster or threatened disaster or other incident defined in Iowa Code section 135.143. “Public health response team” shall include disaster medical assistance teams, environmental health response teams, epidemiology response teams, and other teams established and approved upon written order of the director, to supplement and support disrupted or overburdened local medical and public health personnel, hospitals, and resources.

*“Public health response team member,” “DMAT member,” “EHRT member,”* or *“EpiRT member”* means an individual who has registered with the department and has received approval from the department to serve on a public health response team.

*“Registered nurse”* or *“RN”* means an individual licensed pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 152.

*“Sponsor agency”* means a hospital, public health agency, health care organization, licensed health care entity, or other entity approved by the department to act as a sponsor for a public health response team.

*“Sponsor agreement”* means a signed agreement between a sponsor agency and the department which defines the terms and conditions under which the agency shall sponsor a public health response team.