

# RAPID DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

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**Description:**

This course teaches skills to identify unsafe conditions in non-complex wood frame, masonry and concrete construction caused by floods, earthquakes, or windstorms. Individuals learn to assess damage to determine whether buildings can be occupied. BC Housing's rapid assessment skills are based on [Applied Technology Council](#) 20 & 45 guidelines from California, the [PDBA Framework and Recommendation document](#), and feedback from the PDBA Advisory Committee. Course length is up to 3.5 hours.

**Objectives:**

Upon completion participants should be able to:

- Define Rapid Damage Assessment, its purpose, and where it fits in the broader Emergency Response
- Identify legislation that guides RDA and liability protection for assessors.
- Explain safety protocols including the proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE) while conducting the assessment
- Apply procedures for evaluating buildings, including the application of the seven assessment criteria
- Demonstrate the process of documenting and communicating the assessment outcome

**Content:**

Topics include:

- Personal safety principles and equipment
- Rapid damage assessment procedures and criteria
- Structural basics: wood frame, concrete construction, and masonry construction
- Evacuating and posting structures and building components
- Identifying and responding to non-structural hazards
- Responding to building occupants
- *Emergency Program Act* and related legislation

**Prerequisites:**

There are no prerequisites for this course. An understanding of building construction, personal emergency preparedness and response activities are an asset.

**Continuing Professional Development Points:**

This course is eligible for 2 CPD Credits.

**Typical Participant Groups:**

These courses are designed to benefit anyone engaged in emergency management program planning or response, those responsible for the management and maintenance of buildings, and those responsible for conducting building assessments after an earthquake, flood or windstorm.

**Course Fee:**

\$115.00 per participant plus taxes. The RDA Field Manual is not included in this cost, but can be purchased through [Crown Publications](#).

For more information contact the BC Housing Security and Emergency Services Department at [ses@bchousing.org](mailto:ses@bchousing.org).