



Utah Notification and Information System (((UNIS)))

What is UNIS?

The Utah Notification and Information System (UNIS) is a secure notification and communication system that exchanges information within and between agencies, organizations and disciplines throughout Utah.

The main function of UNIS is to send notifications to users. UNIS also allows users to discuss and share information on a secure web site. UNIS does NOT function as a listserv. Notifications will only be received in an emergency or for periodic testing of the system.

There is no cost for agencies to participate in the system.

What can UNIS do for you and your agency?

UNIS will greatly decrease the time it takes to notify others in an emergency event. UNIS will help you obtain information about events effecting your city, state and country. You will be able to share critical information with key partners, both by notifications and sharing information on the confidential UNIS website.

If you want to be notified quickly and be “in-the-know” in an event you will want to be a UNIS participant! If you want to quickly notify others, UNIS will do that for you.

Registration / Users / User Profile

Interested individuals can access the UNIS web site to login, request to join, or begin registration at <http://health.utah.gov/unis>.

UNIS registration is open to individuals, groups and state and local agencies which would be involved in emergency response. These groups include public health, hospitals, laboratories, physicians and other clinicians, first responders, emergency management, law enforcement, certain volunteer organizations and others.

Main Components of UNIS

- **Notifications**
- **Document Library**
- **Bulletin Boards (Forums)**
- **Directory**

Notifications

Notifications can be received by phone, email, fax, pager, or text messaging to cell phones. Each user selects individual notification preferences so that notifications will only be sent to the device(s) desired.

Notifications are not sent when minor events occur. Notifications are sent when major events occur and there is a need to know to respond to an event.

The ability to send notifications via UNIS can be given to interested emergency response agencies in the state. Each agency can set up an administrator that will be able to send notifications to select users. Notifications are sent by logging onto the UNIS web site, composing a message, and selecting which group(s) of users to send it to.

Notifications can be sent to the general public by using an online state map. This component of the system, called GIS alerting, has the capability to notify businesses and residences throughout Utah.

Document Library

The document library gives users an online location to access documents, such as the agency call down list, emergency response plan, protocols, etc., wherever the users may be.

Each agency, group or jurisdiction has the ability to store documents on the UNIS website. Only specified users will have access to those documents.

Utah Public Health epidemiologists have developed a system within the UNIS document library called "Utah Epi-Xchange". It gives a central place to coordinate epidemiological events and investigations for specific users throughout the state.

Bulletin Boards or Forums

A forum is a place for UNIS users to have online, ongoing discussions about events, protocols, etc. with one another in a secure, private environment. It operates as a "bulletin board" for users to track event status, share information, ask questions or comment on events or notifications posted to the UNIS website.

Users may request a forum for an event or for the discussion of a specific topic.

Directory

A directory of all UNIS users is available on the website. To ensure user privacy, only limited information is available to the other users. Having an online directory enables users to access contact information on others throughout the state.

Questions?

For questions regarding UNIS, please contact your local UNIS administrator or the UNIS Project Manager, Dean Penovich, at 801-538-7070 or by email at unis@utah.gov.