



ARES

(Amateur Radio Emergency Service)

ARES is recognized both locally and nationally. It is a volunteer service that is sponsored by the ARRL (Amateur Radio Relay League). It is not recognized by the FCC in their rules and regulations (part 97) as is RACES.

Because ARES is an ARRL (Amateur Radio Relay League) organization it is not limited in its activation criteria as is RACES. All Irving RACES members are also ARES members and are identified as RACES/ARES. Both groups are for the same purpose, and complement each other, with **RACES dealing with an immediate threat** to the public safety and **ARES dealing with health and welfare and potential threats**. Members of this group (RACES/ARES) will support the city and any sponsoring agency. They can simply switch hats and continue working, when required, because they are both RACES and ARES members. The ARES only group (no RACES members), with the RACES/ARES group, will be used for all public service type events.

There are three groups of ARES members to support Irving. They are as follows:

- a) RACES/ARES - Irving RACES requirement is to also be an ARES member.
- b) ARES only (trained) - completed the ARRL North Texas Section ARES training recommendations.
- c) ARES only (untrained) - have not completed the ARRL North Texas Section ARES training recommendations.

Current requirements to become/maintain membership in Irving ARES:

Have a valid amateur radio license

- 1) Must monitor at least nine (9) of the scheduled Irving and Dallas City/County RACES training nets. To receive credit, check-ins will be taken at the close of those nets on the 146.72 repeater (a ARES net will then be held). Training times are 7:30 PM first Thursday of each month on 146.72 and 8:00 PM first and third Sundays on 146.88.

- 2) To become a trained ARES member, the ARRL North Texas Section ARES training recommendation must be completed and maintained as required. Those not completing this requirement will be considered untrained. This training is:
- a) Attend a skywarn school initially, then at least every two years.
 - b) Complete FEMA Course IS-0100, IS-0200 and IS-0300 from the Emergency Management Institute Home Study Program (<http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/is/crslist.asp>)
 - c) Complete ARRL EMCOM Level 1 training course.