



## FEMA 154 - Rapid Visual Screening of Buildings for Potential Seismic Hazards

May 25, 2010

MLGW Joyce M. Blackmon  
Training Center  
Memphis, Tennessee



**Presented by**

Central U.S. Earthquake Consortium

**Instructed by**

Michael J. Griffin, P.E. - CCS Group, Inc.

Gary L. Patterson - Center for Earthquake Research and Information

Dr. Keith Porter - University of Colorado at Boulder; SPA Risk, LLC

## About FEMA 154

Rapid Visual Screening of Building for Potential Seismic Hazards (RVS) was developed by FEMA as a pre-disaster procedure that can be implemented relatively quickly and inexpensively within a community to develop a list of potentially hazardous buildings without the high cost of a detailed seismic analysis of individual buildings.

The RVS procedure is designed to be implemented without performing structural analysis calculations. It uses a scoring system that requires the user to (1) identify the primary structural lateral-load-resisting system; and (2) identify building attributes that modify the seismic performance expected of this lateral-load-resisting system. The inspection, data collection, and decision-making process typically will occur at the building site, taking an average of 15 to 30 minutes per building (30 minutes to one hour if access to the interior is available). Results are recorded on Data Collection Forms. The Data Collection Form includes space for documenting building identification information, including its use and size, a photograph of the building, sketches, and documentation of pertinent data related to seismic performance, including the development of a numeric seismic hazard score.

If a building receives a high score (i.e., above a specified cut-off score), the building is considered to have adequate seismic resistance. If a building receives a low score

on the basis of this RVS procedure, it should be evaluated by a professional engineer having experience or training in seismic design. On the basis of this detailed inspection, engineering analyses, and other detailed procedures, a final determination of the need for rehabilitation can be made.

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## Who Should Attend

Individuals with at least 5 years of experience in general building design, construction, or inspection, *or* other individuals that are interested in learning more about the rapid visual screening process.

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## Co-Sponsors:

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**MEMPHIS**  
Center for Earthquake Research  
and Information



*We would like to extend a special thanks to our corporate sponsor, State Farm Insurance, for their support.*

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## Course Outline

This course will be instructed in a classroom style setting, and student/teacher interaction is welcomed and encouraged. Some of the topics that will be covered in the course are -

*Earthquake Hazard Overview*

*FEMA 154 Process / Data Collection*

*Steel Frame Structure Behavior*

*Concrete Structure Behavior*

*Wood Frame Structure Behavior*

*Masonry Structure Behavior*

*Structural Modifiers & Scoring*

*Digital FEMA 154 Tools*

*Sidewalk Survey (Weather Permitting)*

*Discussion / Questions*

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Certificates of completion will be presented after the completion of the course. Continuing Education Units are not being offered; please consult the professional development office of your agency or association for registered credit.

### COURSE LOCATION

MLGW Joyce M. Blackmon Training Center  
4949 Raleigh-LaGrange Road  
Memphis, Tennessee

### COURSE INFORMATION

Course will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 4:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

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## Registration Information

### REGISTRATION FEES

There are no registration fees for this workshop. This workshop is funded by a grant from the Federal Government.

### PRE-REGISTRATION

Please pre-register for this course. Participant space is limited, and openings are on a first come, first serve basis.

***Please complete registration no later than  
May 15, 2010***

**ONLINE:** <http://register.cusec.org>

**FAX:** (901) 544-0544

### MAIL:

FEMA 154 Registration c/o CUSEC  
2630 E. Holmes Rd.  
Memphis, TN 38118

**E-MAIL:** [bblake@cusec.org](mailto:bblake@cusec.org)

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### SUGGESTED LOCAL HOTELS

*Near Poplar Avenue and I-240:*

Embassy Suites: (901) 684-1777

Hampton Inn and Suites: (901) 762-0056

Holiday Inn Select: (901) 682-7881

Hilton Memphis: (901) 684-6664

Park Place Hotel: (901) 767-6300

*\* Please call ahead to ensure hotel  
reservations.*

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## Registration Form

Type or write your information into the form below

Name	
Title	
Organization	
Address	
City, State Zip	
Phone	
Email	

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### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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