

ELEVATION CERTIFICATE WORKSHOP

HOW TO COMPLETE THE FEMA EC CORRECTLY FOR EVERYONE

Hosted by the Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation

WHEN: Tue, Feb 24, 2026
9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

WHERE: Holiday Inn Great Falls Convention Center
1100 5th Street South
Great Falls, MT 59405

REGISTRATION LINK*:
[Workshop Registration](#)

**REGISTRATION IS LIMITED TO THE FIRST 40 REGISTRANTS.*

PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO MONTANA REGISTRANTS – ALL OTHERS WILL BE PLACED ON A WAITLIST.

CEU/PDU/PDH: CFM – 6, CFS – 6, PLS – 6, PE – 6

Depending on state/agency reciprocity/applicability:
6 – BO/BI, 6 – AICP, 0.6 – ICC

INSTRUCTOR: [Del Schwalls, PE*, CFM](#) | President, Schwalls Consulting LLC
(*PE in FL, AL, GA, SC)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will:

- Provide detailed training on completing a FEMA Elevation Certificate (EC) accurately and in its entirety, allowing full compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and any other program that requires submission of an EC.
- Review the new **2023** EC and provide guidance on implementation and use.
- Cover EC requirements for surveying, foundation flood openings, and certification.
- Review how the EC should be completed by the EC certifier and how it should be reviewed by the local community.
- Review Community Rating System (CRS) requirements for an EC and those portions that can differ from other programs.
- Identify portions of the EC instructions that should not be used, in order to achieve full compliance with all programs.
- Include common errors and omissions, review of the various EC building diagrams, and real-world examples.
- Review major changes compared to the 2019 version of the EC, including how Risk Rating 2.0 (RR2.0) insurance requirements affect the EC.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Learn to complete a FEMA EC to satisfy the requirements of the NFIP and any other program.
- Understand the data needs for each individual EC section.
- Understand the EC certifier's role and responsibility in completing EC.
- Understand the local official's role in reviewing ECs for accuracy and compliance purposes.
- Understand how the EC is used by CRS.
- Understand how the EC is used for insurance under RR2.0.
- Understand changes between the 2019 and 2023 EC.
- Change attendees' approach to ECs from 'minimum needs' to 'best practice'.
- Avoid common mistakes that can invalidate the EC for certain programs, including mandatory CRS prerequisites

REFERENCE MATERIALS:

Please download the following Elevation Certificate Handouts at [Dropbox Link](#) or [Google Drive Link](#), review them beforehand, and have them available during the workshop.

- FEMA **2023** EC Instructions & Form • EC Workshop Notes Pages
- Schwalls Consulting EC 2019 to 2023 Comparison
- Schwalls Consulting EC Correction Memorandum Templates (2019 & 2023)
- Non-Engineered Opening Guide • FEMA 467-1: FPM Bulletin: EC (04-2004)
- FEMA TB-01: Requirements for Flood Openings in Foundation Walls and Walls of Enclosures



The Montana Department of
**Natural Resources
& Conservation**

WORKSHOP HOST