



Program Fact Sheet

About this fact sheet

This document is updated following the close of each grant year, September 30th. For interim updates as they are available, consult our AMBER Advocate website at <https://amberadvocate.org>, or contact us at askamber@fvtc.edu.

Our mission

The mission of the **AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program (AATTAP)** is to safely recover missing, endangered, and abducted children through the coordinated efforts of law enforcement, media, transportation, and other partners by leveraging training and technology to enhance response capacities and capabilities to increase public participation. As of September 30, 2020, as reported by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), 1,000 children have been safely recovered as a direct result of the AMBER Alert program. **For more information on successful recoveries, visit NCMEC's AMBER Alert reference page at <http://www.missingkids.org/gethelpnow/amber>.**

About the National AMBER Alert Network

- AATTAP supports training, information sharing and a community practice of collaboration with over 300 AMBER Alert state, local, regional, Tribal, Mexican and Canadian Coordinators, Clearinghouse Managers, CART Coordinators and law enforcement representatives.
- The *AMBER Advocate* newsletter reaches more than 50,000 child protection professionals four times per year through both print and web-based publication.
- Regional and Tribal AMBER Alert Liaisons work with designated geographical regions including all states, the District of Columbia, U.S. Territories, Tribal communities, Canada, and Mexico to provide technical assistance, training, and policy development.

Reach of AMBER Alert Training Programs (October 2013 – September 2020)

- To learn more about AATTAP's onsite/classroom, self-paced eLearning, live webinars and other virtual training opportunities, visit our NCJTC.org or AMBERAdvocate.org training homepages.
- **Training sessions: 452** sessions have been delivered, extending to every state in the U.S. and numerous Tribal communities, Canada, and Mexico; representatives from Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, the Bahamas, Guam, Greece, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, France, Portugal, and Belgium have attended training sessions as well.
- **Onsite/Classroom Participants: more than 34,770** participants have attended one or more onsite training and technical assistance (TTA) events.
- **Online/eLearning Participants: more than 38,790** participants have completed training through self-directed online courses and live webinar events.
- **Webinars: 59 live training and awareness webinars** have engaged a national audience on topics ranging from child abduction dynamics to developing an interdisciplinary and community-based response to the problems of child sexual exploitation and trafficking.
- **Classroom and Online Training Offerings: 34 classroom and 11 eLearning courses** are currently available. In addition, a unique blending of resources offers more than 180 modules of instruction that may be customized for training development through our 'Build a Course' option.
- **Family Roundtables: Six national roundtable meetings** have been held during the reporting period noted above, with 14 meetings in total held since program inception; the events focus on work with parents and siblings of missing and abducted children to identify response concerns and assist in improving services to families, investigations, and prosecution. Due to COVID-19, CY2020 Family Roundtable was cancelled.
- **Child Sex Trafficking (CST) Roundtables: Five national roundtable meetings** with survivors of child sex trafficking have been conducted to assist the development of training for first responders, service providers and court personnel



dealing with cases involving the trafficking and exploitation of minors. Due to COVID-19, CY2020 CST Roundtable was cancelled.

The Child Abduction Response Team (CART) Network and CART Certification Program

- The National CART Initiative began in 2006. More than 7,700 CART program members have been trained through completion of classroom or online CART training. Those trained represent CART Program reach across 48 US states/territories, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Bahamas, and Canada.
- AATTAP has confirmed the active status of 129 teams, with 27 of those teams having completed the US-DOJ CART Certification process as of 9/30/20.
- To learn more about this initiative and locate CART specific program resources, information on best practices and the certification process, please visit the AMBER Advocate Website's CART Resource Collection: <https://www.amberadvocate.org/cartresources/>.



The AMBER Alert in Indian Country Initiative

- The [Ashlynnne Mike AMBER Alert in Indian Country Act of 2018](#) amends the Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to End the Exploitation of Children Today (PROTECT) Act (Public Law 108-21), to reauthorize the AMBER Alert grant program. With passage of the law, the AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program (AATTAP) provides guidance and coordination between tribes and states to access and integrate with state AMBER Alert plans.
- **Ongoing activities toward implementation of AMBER Alert in Indian Country include:**
 - **Developing strategies for implementing AMBER Alert plans within Indian Country** through targeted collaboration with designated representatives from Tribal communities and their respective state AMBER Alert programs prior to the occurrence of a child abduction;
 - **National AMBER Alert in Indian Country Symposium Events** bringing together designated Tribal leaders, public safety and emergency management personnel, and AMBER Alert Coordinators to improve the process of integration between state/regional AMBER Alert communication plans with federally recognized tribes from across the nation; and
 - **AMBER Alert in Indian Country Regional Events**, through which Tribal leaders and child protection partners are encouraged to participate in regional AMBER Alert meetings with state and local law enforcement agencies to collaborate and develop strategies for response to and investigation of endangered missing and abducted children in Tribal communities.
- The original AIIC initiative began in 2007, with more than 100 Tribal communities partnering with their regional/state AMBER Alert programs, and more than 1700 Tribal officials and community members participating in TTA programs; these efforts have contributed to successful child recoveries involving AMBER Alerts or CART activations in Tribal communities.
- **Four national symposiums on Tribal child protection** have been conducted, bringing together community leaders, child protection officials, and state, local and federal partners to address issues related to the protection of children in Tribal communities.
- Since 2007, **community child protection needs assessments** have been conducted both in person and via online survey tools, to assist the AIIC team in effectively addressing the training and technical assistance needs of tribal communities across the nation.
- **The AMBER Alert in Indian Country Website (<https://amber-ic.org>)** provides information, resources, videos, and the latest developments from the Tribal child protection work of AATTAP and its partners, addressing a wide array of





protection and prevention topics, including investigation, intervention, and prevention of victimization, exploitation, and trafficking in Tribal communities.

- Tribal instructors, support of the Indian Country Intelligence Network, trained search trackers for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), bloodhound K9 donations, Cold Case reviews, and infrastructure assessments have been provided through the AIIC initiative.

The Southern Border Initiative

- AATTAP has worked closely with the US Embassy, Mexico City, the US DOJ Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training (OPDAT), Procurador General de la República of Mexico (PGR), and state AMBER Alert Coordinators to develop protocols to create **Protocolo Alerta AMBER**, a federally administered comprehensive child recovery program which is consistent with programs in the U.S. and Canada.
- AATTAP has **trained over 700 state, local, and federal child protection officials in the U.S. and Mexico** and has conducted joint training programs and tabletop exercises involving U.S. and Mexican officials working together to address issues related to cross border abductions, trafficking, and exploitation.
- Since 2016, AATTAP has participated in **six regional meetings in the U.S. and Mexico**, including a tri-national AMBER Alert conference.

Program Evaluation Results: Making an Impact (October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020)

- TTA evaluations over the past grant year have been exemplary; with **95% of respondents on average reporting they found AATTAP courses productive and satisfying, gained new insights and information** they can apply to improve both personal approach to their work; and with which they can advocate for or effect changes and improvement to agency plans, policies and/or procedures.
- **Program evaluation results** from three of AATTAP's most-attended courses offer an example of feedback received from participants in key areas of increased and applied knowledge and skills.
 - **Child Abduction Response Team Training (CART)**
 - 97.29% reported the course increased their knowledge in the subject area
 - 95.35% reported they will be able to apply the information or skills obtained from the course in their profession
 - **Child Abduction Response Team Commander Training**
 - 92.00% reported the course increased their knowledge in the subject area
 - 91.49% reported they will be able to apply the information or skills obtained from the course in their profession
 - **Child Abduction Tabletop Exercise (CATE)**
 - 96.67% reported the course increased their knowledge in the subject area
 - 96.67% reported they will be able to apply the information or skills obtained from the course in their profession



Courses for Onsite/Classroom Delivery

- We offer more than 35 courses across classroom, virtual live instructor-led, and self-paced eLearning formats, as well as a wide array of recorded webinars for on demand viewing. To learn more, visit our [NCJTC.org](https://www.ncjtc.org) or [AMBERAdvocate.org](https://www.amberadvocate.org) training pages.