



Position Qualification for Mass Search and Rescue Operations  
Animal Emergency Response

## ANIMAL SEARCH AND RESCUE TECHNICIAN

<b>RESOURCE CATEGORY</b>	Animal Emergency Response
<b>RESOURCE KIND</b>	Personnel
<b>OVERALL FUNCTION</b>	<p>The Animal Search and Rescue (ASAR) Technician locates, captures, contains, and evacuates animals in one or more of the following competency areas after a disaster:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Companion animals, including pets, service animals, and assistance animals</li> <li>2. Livestock, including food or fiber animals and domesticated equine species</li> <li>3. Wildlife animals, captive wildlife, and zoo animals</li> <li>4. Laboratory animals</li> </ol>
<b>COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This position can be ordered as a single resource or in conjunction with a NIMS typed team (Animal Search and Rescue Team).</li> <li>2. Discuss logistics for deploying this position, such as security, lodging, transportation, and meals, prior to deployment</li> <li>3. This position typically works 12 hours per shift, is self-sustainable for 72 hours, and is deployable for up to 14 days</li> <li>4. Requestor specifies competency areas necessary based on the animal population the position will serve</li> <li>5. Requestor specifies specialty areas (for example, fire, slack water, swiftwater) necessary based on incident requirements</li> </ol>

Each type of resource builds on the qualifications of the type below it. For example, Type 1 qualifications include the qualifications in Type 2, plus an increase in capability. Type 1 is the highest qualification level.

COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	TYPE 3	NOTES
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	Same as Type 2, PLUS: Performs safely in hazardous conditions involving animals exposed to a contaminated environment	Same as Type 3, PLUS: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Performs rescue in water-base situations</li> <li>2. Performs technical rescue involving advanced animal rescue techniques and equipment, such as slack water and swiftwater rescue, high- and low-angle rescue, and use of slings and glides</li> <li>3. Supports Urban Search and Rescue Team in compromised structure settings at an Operations Level</li> </ol>	The Animal Search and Rescue Technician: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Performs rescue, rapid evacuation, and recovery in land-based situations</li> <li>2. Performs rescue involving lifting and moving animals and equipment</li> <li>3. Administers animal first aid</li> <li>4. Ensures safety for self, team members, and operations by providing:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Basic first aid for self and team members</li> <li>b. Simple decontamination of self and team members</li> <li>c. Ground vehicles for operations and support</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. Operates in environments with and without infrastructure, including areas affected by disasters and terrorism, and areas with compromised access to roadways, utilities, transportation, shelter, food, and water</li> </ol>	Not Specified
<b>EDUCATION</b>	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified



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COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	TYPE 3	NOTES
<b>TRAINING</b>	AHJ ASAR Specialist Level training comparable to the National Alliance of State Animal and Agricultural Emergency Programs (NASAAEP) Best Practices for ASAR Training: Specialist Level	AHJ ASAR Technician Level training comparable to the NASAAEP Best Practices for ASAR Training: Technician Level	Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) ASAR Operations Level training comparable to the NASAAEP Best Practices for ASAR Training: Operations Level	Not Specified
<b>EXPERIENCE</b>	Same as Type 2	Two years of experience in a disaster or emergency setting commensurate with the mission assignment	Not Specified	Not Specified
<b>PHYSICAL/MEDICAL FITNESS</b>	Same as Type 2	Same as Type 3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Performs duties under arduous circumstances characterized by working consecutive 12-hour days under physical and emotional stress for sustained periods of time</li> <li>2. Is able to work while wearing appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</li> <li>3. Keeps immunizations up to date and commensurate with mission</li> </ol>	PPE is mission specific and may vary by work environment; it includes protective footwear, protective clothing for skin exposure, eye and ear protection, respirators, gloves, and masks.
<b>CURRENCY</b>	Same as Type 2	Same as Type 3, PLUS: Routinely responds to ASAR requests at local, regional, and national levels	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Responds to ASAR requests at local level</li> <li>2. Participates in annual ASAR training exercise</li> </ol>	Not Specified
<b>PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS</b>	AHJ-certified ASAR Specialist Level	AHJ-certified ASAR Technician Level	AHJ-certified ASAR Operations Level	Not Specified



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## NOTES

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Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated component and capability.

## REFERENCES

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1. FEMA, NIMS 508: Animal Search and Rescue Team
2. FEMA, NIMS 508: Urban Search and Rescue Team
3. FEMA, NIMS Guideline for the NQS, November 2017
4. National Alliance of State Animal and Agricultural Emergency Programs (NASAAEP) Best Practices for Animal Search and Rescue Training, latest edition adopted
5. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.132: Personal Protective Equipment, latest edition adopted