



Position Qualification for Mass Search and Rescue Operations
Animal Emergency Response

ANIMAL SEARCH AND RESCUE TECHNICIAN

RESOURCE CATEGORY	Animal Emergency Response
RESOURCE KIND	Personnel
OVERALL FUNCTION	<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"> 1. Companion animals, including pets, service animals, and assistance animals 2. Livestock, including food or fiber animals and domesticated equine species 3. Wildlife animals, captive wildlife, and zoo animals 4. Laboratory animals
COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This position can be ordered as a single resource or in conjunction with a NIMS typed team (Animal Search and Rescue Team). 2. Discuss logistics for deploying this position, such as working conditions, length of deployment, security, lodging, transportation, and meals, prior to deployment 3. Requestor specifies competency areas necessary based on the animal population the position will serve 4. Requestor specifies specialty areas (for example, fire, slack water, swiftwater) necessary based on incident requirements

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
DESCRIPTION	Same as Type 2, PLUS: Performs safely in hazardous conditions involving animals exposed to a contaminated environment	Same as Type 3, PLUS: 1. Performs rescue in water-base situations 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 3. Supports Urban Search and Rescue Team in compromised structure settings at an Operations Level	The Animal Search and Rescue Technician: 1. Performs rescue, rapid evacuation, and recovery in land-based situations 2. Performs rescue involving lifting and moving animals and equipment 3. Administers animal first aid 4. Ensures safety for self, team members, and operations by providing: a. Basic first aid for self and team members b. Simple decontamination of self and team members c. Ground vehicles for operations and support 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	Not Specified
EDUCATION	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified



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COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	TYPE 3	NOTES
TRAINING	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
EXPERIENCE	Same as Type 2	Two years of experience in a disaster or emergency setting commensurate with the mission assignment	Not Specified	Not Specified
PHYSICAL/MEDICAL FITNESS	Same as Type 2	Same as Type 3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arduous 2. Is able to work while wearing appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) 3. Keeps immunizations up to date and commensurate with mission 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 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. 2. NIMS Guideline for the National Qualification System (NQS) defines Physical/Medical Fitness levels for NIMS positions.
CURRENCY	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"> 1. Responds to ASAR requests at local level 2. Participates in annual ASAR training exercise 	Not Specified
PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS	AHJ-certified ASAR Specialist Level	AHJ-certified ASAR Technician Level	AHJ-certified ASAR Operations Level	Not Specified



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NOTES

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

REFERENCES

1. FEMA, NIMS 508: Animal Search and Rescue Team
2. FEMA, NIMS 508: Urban Search and Rescue Team
3. FEMA, National Incident Management System (NIMS), October 2017
4. FEMA, NIMS Guideline for the National Qualification System, November 2017
5. FEMA, National Response Framework, June 2016
6. National Alliance of State Animal and Agricultural Emergency Programs (NASAAEP) Best Practices for Animal Search and Rescue Training, latest edition adopted
7. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.132: Personal Protective Equipment, latest edition adopted