

MEDICAL UNIT LEADER (NQS)

RESOURCE CATEGORY	Emergency Management
RESOURCE KIND	Personnel
OVERALL FUNCTION	The Medical Unit Leader manages a Medical Unit aid station, which provides treatment, care, and stabilization for ground or aeromedical transportation
COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This position can be ordered as a single resource. 2. Discuss logistics for deploying this position, such as security, lodging, transportation, and meals, prior to deployment 3. This position typically works 12 hours per shift, is self-sustainable for 72 hours, and is deployable for up to 14 days 4. Requestor may specify any additional qualifications necessary based on incident complexity and needs

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	NOTES
DESCRIPTION	Same as Type 2, PLUS: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is a licensed clinician: physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner 2. Has primary responsibility over all aspects of patient care through the study, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases, injuries, and other physical and mental conditions 	The Medical Unit Leader: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is a registered nurse (RN) or an Advanced Life Support (ALS) paramedic with community health/paramedic certification and experience, along with a background in public health 2. Provides first responder/first receiver and preventative public health and medical support to the Incident Management Team (IMT) and teams in the field 3. Manages a Medical Unit aid station, which provides treatment, care, and stabilization for ground or aeromedical transportation 4. Prepares medical emergency plans for handling injured or ill responders 5. Assists in public health-related issues at facilities supporting personnel 6. Coordinates medical monitoring of responders, including individual screening and rehabilitation throughout incident operations and demobilization 7. Establishes or transitions into a unit under the Logistics Section 8. Configures unit with personnel to support operations 	Not Specified
EDUCATION	Graduate of an accredited medical school, osteopathic school, accredited nurse practitioner program, or physician assistant program	Graduate of a state-certified nursing or paramedic school as an RN or paramedic	Not Specified



Position Qualification for Operational Coordination
Emergency Management

COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	NOTES
TRAINING	Same as Type 2	Completion of the following: 1. IS-100: Introduction to the Incident Command System, ICS-100 2. IS-200: Incident Command System for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents 3. ICS-300: Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents 4. IS-700: National Incident Management System, An Introduction 5. IS-703: National Incident Management System Resource Management 6. IS-800: National Response Framework, An Introduction 7. G0191: ICS/EOC Interface 8. Training in accordance with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.120: Hazardous Materials Awareness 9. Training in accordance with OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.134: Respiratory Protection	Not Specified
EXPERIENCE	Same as Type 2, PLUS: Successful completion of the National Qualification System (NQS) Position Task Book (PTB) for the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Type 1 Medical Unit Leader, or equivalent Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) documentation	1. Successful completion of the NQS PTB for the NIMS Type 2 Medical Unit Leader, or equivalent AHJ documentation 2. Experience as a paramedic in an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) transport service or as an RN in an emergency room or primary care setting 3. Experience in one of the following: a. Federal/state Disaster Medical Assistance Team b. Regional/local Metropolitan Medical Response Team c. Military corpsman or pararescue jumper or field medic d. Independent Duty Medical Technician, member of a military field treatment team, or member of an IMT Medical Unit 4. Experience in public health interface or community paramedicine 5. Supervisory experience over other medical personnel	Not Specified



Position Qualification for Operational Coordination
Emergency Management

COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	NOTES
PHYSICAL/MEDICAL FITNESS	Same as Type 2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Performs duties under moderate circumstances characterized by working consecutive 12-hour days under physical and emotional stress for sustained periods of time 2. Maintains immunizations in accordance with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) immunization recommendations for emergency responders 3. Ability to work wearing appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) 	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.
CURRENCY	Same as Type 2	Functions in this position during an operational incident, exercise, drill, or simulation at least once every two years	Not Specified
PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State, District of Columbia, or U.S. territory-granted active status of legal authority to function as a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner 2. Current certifications in Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) and Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) 3. Current Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) registration, if the state of primary registration grants prescriptive privileges 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State or nationally registered paramedic or licensed RN 2. Current certifications in ACLS and PALS 	Credentials in Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) and Basic Disaster Life Support (BDLS) as the AHJ determines.



Position Qualification for Operational Coordination
Emergency Management

NOTES

Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated category.

REFERENCES

1. FEMA, Position Task Book for Medical Unit Leader
2. FEMA, National Qualification System Guide
3. FEMA, National Incident Management System (NIMS)
4. FEMA, National Response Framework, June 2016
5. FEMA, Emergency Responder Field Operations Guide (ER-FOG), October 2010
6. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Emergency Medical Services Education Agenda for the Future: A Systems Approach, June 2000
7. NHTSA, Guidance on Emergency Responder Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Response to Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear (CBRN) Terrorism Incidents, June 2008
8. NHTSA, The National EMS Scope of Practice Model, February 2007
9. National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG), National Incident Management System Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide, PMS 310-1, Physical Fitness Levels, October 2016
10. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.120: Hazardous Materials Awareness, latest edition adopted
11. OSHA, 29 CFR 1910.134, Respiratory Protection, latest edition adopted
12. OSHA, 29 CFR 1910.1030, Bloodborne Pathogens, latest edition adopted