# AIR OPERATIONS BRANCH DIRECTOR (NQS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESOURCE CATEGORY</th>
<th>Incident Management</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RESOURCE KIND</td>
<td>Personnel</td>
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<tr>
<td>OVERALL FUNCTION</td>
<td>The Air Operations Branch Director maintains full operational control over air and support assets for the incident or coordinates the employment and support for air operation resources</td>
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## COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS

1. This position can be ordered as a single resource or in conjunction with a NIMS typed team (Incident Management Team).
2. Requestor specifies any additional qualifications necessary based on incident complexity and needs.
3. Discuss logistics for deploying this position, such as working conditions, length of deployment, security, lodging, transportation, and meals, prior to deployment.

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.

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| DESCRIPTION | The Air Operations Branch Director:  
1. Maintains full operational control over air and support assets for the incident or coordinates the employment and support for air operation resources  
2. Assesses both manned and unmanned air resource needs and ensures that unmanned aerial systems (UAS) use falls under Air Operations  
3. Maintains accountability for all responding air assets  
4. Oversees mobilization and demobilization of air resources  
5. Monitors and reports any significant air resource problems and emergencies to appropriate personnel  
6. Coordinates air resource needs and use with state and Federal liaisons  
7. Establishes or transitions into a branch under Operations Section in the Incident Command System (ICS)  
8. Supervises and configures the branch with divisions and groups as necessary | Not Specified |

| EDUCATION | Not Specified |
| TRAINING | Completion of the following:  
1. IS-100: Introduction to the Incident Command System, ICS-100  
2. IS-200: Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, ICS-200  
3. ICS-300: Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents  
4. ICS-400: Advanced Incident Command System for Command and General Staff - Complex Incidents  
5. IS-700: National Incident Management System, An Introduction  
7. E/L 0986: NIMS ICS All-Hazards Air Support Group Supervisor  
8. E/L 0987: NIMS ICS All-Hazards Introduction to Air Operations  
9. E/G/L 0191: Emergency Operations Center/Incident Command System Interface | Not Specified |
Position Qualification for Operational Coordination
Incident Management

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| EXPERIENCE                       | 1. Successful completion of National Qualification System (NQS) Position Task Book (PTB) for the NIMS Air Operations Branch Director, or equivalent Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) documentation  
2. Experience in an air tactical or air support position AND participation in three or more exercise activations or real-world activations with one or more operational periods | Military rating (current or former) as a pilot or navigator may fulfill this experience. |
| PHYSICAL/MEDICAL FITNESS         | Moderate                                                                  | The NIMS Guideline for the NQS defines Physical/Medical Fitness levels for NQS positions.                                           |
| CURRENCY                         | Functions in this position during an operational incident, planned event, exercise, drill, or simulation at least once every two years | Military experience may fulfill this currency.                                                                                     |
| PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS | Not Specified                                                            | Not Specified                                                                                                                      |
NOTES
Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated component.

REFERENCES
1. FEMA, NIMS 508: Incident Management Team
2. FEMA, National Qualification System (NQS) Position Task Book for Air Operations Branch Director, latest edition adopted
3. FEMA, National Incident Management System (NIMS), October 2017
4. FEMA, NIMS Guideline for the NQS, November 2017
5. FEMA, National Response Framework, June 2016