



Position Qualification for Mass Search and Rescue Operations
Search and Rescue

STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE SEARCH TEAM LEADER

RESOURCE CATEGORY	Search and Rescue
RESOURCE KIND	Personnel
OVERALL FUNCTION	The Structural Collapse Search Team Leader conducts search operations in collapsed structures and debris fields resulting from natural or human causes and provides general team leadership and supervision.
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 (Structural Collapse Search Team and Urban Search and Rescue Task Force). 2. Discuss logistics for deploying this position, such as working conditions, length of deployment, security, lodging, transportation, and meals, prior to deployment 3. Operations in search and rescue (SAR) environments may be immediately dangerous to life and health (IDLH), per ASTM International (ASTM) F2890: Standard Guide for Hazard Awareness for Search and Rescue Personnel; requestor should consider the need for additional capabilities or endorsements.

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	SINGLE TYPE	NOTES
DESCRIPTION	The Structural Collapse Search Team Leader: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provides general leadership, direct supervision, and oversight for the wellness and safety of team members and other single resources 2. Conducts search operations during structural collapse incidents, including identifying hazards in a collapsed structure defined as light, medium or heavy construction, in keeping with United Nations (UN) International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) urban search and rescue (US&R) guidance 3. Performs technical search operations using techniques such as thermal, optical and audio 4. Requests rescue, evacuation and recovery resources as necessary 5. Performs emergency medical care, including Basic Life Support (BLS) 	Not Specified
EDUCATION	Not Specified	Not Specified



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COMPONENT	SINGLE TYPE	NOTES
<p>TRAINING</p>	<p>Completion of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 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. Technician-level training in keeping with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1670: Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents in the following areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. General requirements b. Rope rescue c. Structural collapse SAR d. Confined space rescue (permit-required, non-mine and non-cave environments) e. Machinery rescue f. Trench and excavation SAR 8. NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications (excluding Chapter 1, Section 1.3.3), or equivalent 9. NFPA, ASTM International (ASTM) or equivalent structural collapse SAR training program that the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) has verified and that covers the following position-specific skills and aptitudes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. SAR hazard awareness, navigation and survival training, or equivalent b. Use, care, inspection and maintenance of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), tools, devices and equipment specific to this position and subspecialties 10. NFPA 1072: Standard for Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Emergency Response Personnel Professional Qualifications 11. FEMA GPS awareness course, or equivalent 	<p>Not Specified</p>



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COMPONENT	SINGLE TYPE	NOTES
<p>EXPERIENCE</p>	<p>Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ability to perform thermal, optical and audio search operations 2. Knowledge of structural collapse search and associated hazards, including recognition of the various types of building/structural collapses and their impacts 3. Understanding of search procedures in building/structural collapse environments during day and night operations 4. Knowledge of scene management and dynamic risk assessment 5. Knowledge of relevant building/structural collapses, confined space search techniques and rope rescue techniques 6. Ability to identify hazards, including potentially hazardous operating environments <p>7. Ability to carry out the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Technical rescue b. Rope rescue c. Structural collapse SAR d. Confined space SAR e. Machinery rescue f. Trench and excavation SAR <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Knowledge of canine search techniques <p>Experience: Demonstrated experience as a structural collapse search technician</p>	<p>NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications and NFPA 1670: Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents address these requirements.</p>
<p>PHYSICAL/MEDICAL FITNESS</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arduous 2. Meets minimum physical fitness and swimming standards, in accordance with the AHJ's job-related physical ability test (JRPAT) 3. Maintains AHJ-determined physical fitness standards suitable for the environment and typing; NFPA 1582: Standard on Comprehensive Occupational Medical Program for Fire Departments, or equivalent, meets or exceeds this physical fitness standard 4. Maintains immunizations in accordance with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) immunization recommendations 5. Is able to work while wearing appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The NIMS Guideline for the National Qualification System (NQS) defines physical/medical fitness levels for NIMS positions. 2. 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.
<p>CURRENCY</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Annual refresher of related search skills and abilities in structural collapse environments 2. Functions in this position during an operational incident, planned event, exercise, drill or simulation at least once every three years 3. Background checks as applicable law permits or requires 4. Keeps immunizations up to date and commensurate with mission assignment 	<p>Provider must carry out and use any background checks as applicable law specifies. This may include a background check completed within the past 12 months; a sex-offender registry check; and a local, state and national driving and criminal history.</p>
<p>PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AHJ-required medical care certification or recertification, including BLS 2. Certification or completion of structural collapse, confined space and high- and low-angle training related to position standards 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AHJ determines which emergency medical certifications meet the minimum criteria, which could include first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), BLS or Advanced Life Support (ALS). 2. AHJ determines other additional certifications in accordance with NFPA and ASTM SAR standards, or equivalent.



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NOTES

1. Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated category. The Agency Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) may require additional training, capabilities, and endorsements.
2. This document contains references to non-federal resources and materials. Such references do not constitute an endorsement by the U.S. government, or any of its employees, of the information or content which a non-federal resource or material provides.

REFERENCES

1. FEMA, NIMS 508: Structural Collapse Rescue Team
2. FEMA, NIMS 508: Structural Collapse Search Team
3. FEMA, NIMS 509: Fire Officer
4. FEMA, NIMS 509: Structural Collapse Rescue Team Leader
5. FEMA, NIMS 509: Structural Collapse Rescue Technician
6. FEMA, NIMS 509: Structural Collapse Search Technician
7. FEMA, National Incident Management System (NIMS), October 2017
8. FEMA, NIMS Guideline for the National Qualification System (NQS), November 2017
9. FEMA, National Response Framework, October 2019
10. ASTM International (ASTM) F2890: Standard Guide for Hazard Awareness for Search and Rescue Personnel, latest edition adopted
11. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, latest edition adopted
12. NFPA 1582: Standard on Comprehensive Occupational Medical Program for Fire Departments, latest edition adopted
13. NFPA 1670: Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents, latest edition adopted
14. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.120: Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response, latest edition adopted
15. OSHA 29 CFR Section 1910.132-140: Personal Protective Equipment, latest edition adopted
16. OSHA, 29 CFR Part 1910.146: Permit-Required Confined Spaces, latest edition adopted
17. OSHA, 29 CFR Part 1910.1030: Bloodborne Pathogens, latest edition adopted
18. United Nations (UN), Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) Guidelines, latest edition adopted