



Position Qualification for Mass Search and Rescue Operations
Search and Rescue

HELICOPTER SEARCH AND RESCUE PILOT

RESOURCE CATEGORY	Search and Rescue
RESOURCE KIND	Personnel
OVERALL FUNCTION	The Helicopter Search and Rescue (SAR) Pilot is responsible for aircraft operations and provides air SAR using helicopters to locate lost, stranded, or abandoned individuals
COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This position can be ordered in conjunction with a NIMS typed team (Search and Rescue Aircraft - Helicopter/Rotary Wing). 2. 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.

COMPONENT	SINGLE TYPE	NOTES
DESCRIPTION	<p>The SAR Pilot:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conducts air SAR, recovery, and evacuation operations from inside the aircraft 2. Performs air SAR that may include technical rescues using hoist or short-haul techniques 3. Performs specialized helicopter operations in all water environments, including swiftwater 4. Conducts day or night air SAR under Visual Flight Rules (VFR) conditions. Aircraft operations may also require flight under Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) and use of night vision goggles (NVG), based on the mission as the requestor specifies 5. Reports to the Air Branch Director or Operations Sections Chief, as applicable 6. Operates within the Incident Command System (ICS), in a supervisory position within a National Incident Management System (NIMS) typed Helicopter SAR Crew 7. Plans team level tactics 8. Provides: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Safety of self and team members b. Basic medical care of self and team members c. Simple decontamination of self and team members d. Basic ground support for helicopter operations 9. Coordinates with ground vehicles, watercraft, and aircraft for operations and support 10. Operates in environments with and without infrastructure, including those affected by disasters and terrorism; with compromised access to roadways, utilities, and transportation; and limited availability of shelter, food, and water 	Not Specified
EDUCATION	Not Specified	Not Specified



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COMPONENT	SINGLE TYPE	NOTES
TRAINING	Completion of the following: 1. IS-100: Introduction to Incident Command System, ICS-100 2. IS-200: Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, ICS-200 3. IS-700: National Incident Management System, An Introduction 4. IS-800: National Response Framework, An Introduction 5. Basic Aviation Safety: Interagency Aviation Training (IAT) A-100 or equivalent 6. All Hazards SAR Hazard Awareness training that meets or exceeds ASTM International (ASTM) F2890, Standard Guide for Hazard Awareness for Search and Rescue Personnel 7. Land navigation and survival training that meets or exceeds ASTM F2209, Standard Guide for Training of Level I Land Search Team Member 8. Training of Support Personnel that meets or exceeds ASTM F2751, Standard Guide for Training of Support Level Land Rescue Team Member (LRT-Support)	Not Specified
EXPERIENCE	Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities: 1. Inspects, maintains, and operates personal protective equipment (PPE), tools, devices, and equipment specific to this position and sub-specialties 2. Completes helicopter operations based on resource type and the specifics of the resource order, such as Visual Meteorological Conditions (VMC), VFR, IFR, and NVG night operations Experience: Completion of a Helicopter SAR Pilot Position Task Book (PTB) or equivalent documentation	Not Specified
PHYSICAL/MEDICAL FITNESS	1. Arduous 2. Maintains physical fitness standards, in accordance with the AHJ's Job Related Physical Ability Test (JRPAT) 3. Meets minimum medical fitness standards in accordance with those of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and AHJ 4. Maintains immunizations in accordance with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule for the United States of America	The NIMS Guideline for the National Qualification System (NQS) defines Physical/Medical Fitness levels for NIMS positions.
CURRENCY	1. Completes AHJ-defined annual refresher of related skills and emergency procedures in relevant aircraft 2. Functions in this position during an operational incident, planned event, exercise, drill, or simulation at least once every three years 3. Meets all FAA or military standards and requirements for certification and currency in relevant aircraft 4. Background checks as applicable law permits or requires	Provider must carry out and use any background checks as applicable law specifies. This may include a background check completed within past 12 months; sex-offender registry check; and a local, state, and a local, state, and national criminal history.
PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS	1. FAA Airman Certificate as a Rotorcraft-Helicopter pilot 2. FAA Instrument Helicopter rating or military pilot equivalent 3. AHJ-required BLS-level medical care certification or recertification	Not Specified



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NOTES

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

REFERENCES

1. FEMA, NIMS 509: Helicopter Search and Rescue Crew Chief
2. FEMA, NIMS 509: Helicopter Search and Rescue Technician
3. FEMA, NIMS 508: Search and Rescue Aircraft - Helicopter/Rotary Wing
4. FEMA, National Incident Management System (NIMS), October 2017
5. FEMA, NIMS Guideline for the National Qualification System, November 2017
6. American National Standards Institute/American Society of Safety Engineers (ANSI/ASSE) Z359.1-2007 Safety Requirements for Personal Fall Arrest Systems, Subsystems & Components
7. ASTM International (ASTM) F2209-14: Standard Guide for Training of Level I Land Search Team Member, 2014
8. ASTM, F2751-09: Standard Guide for Training of Support Level Land Rescue Team Member (LRT-Support) Member
9. Firefighting Resources of Southern California Organized for Potential Emergencies (FIRESCOPE) Field Operations Guide ICS 420-1, December 2012
10. National Search and Rescue Committee, Catastrophic Incident Search and Rescue (CISAR) Addendum to the National Search and Rescue Supplement to the International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual, v. 3, June 2012
11. NWCG, National Incident Management System Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide, PMS 310-1, Physical Fitness Levels, October 2016
12. NWCG, Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide (IHOG), PMS 510, February 2013
13. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) 14 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 117: Flight and Duty Limitations and Rest Requirements: Flight Crew Members, latest edition adopted
14. Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) 29 CFR Part 1910.120: Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response, latest edition adopted
15. OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.134: Respiratory Protection, latest edition adopted
16. OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.146: Permit-Required Confined Spaces, latest edition adopted