



Position Qualification for Mass Search and Rescue Operations
Search and Rescue

HELICOPTER SEARCH AND RESCUE TECHNICIAN

RESOURCE CATEGORY	Search and Rescue
RESOURCE KIND	Personnel
OVERALL FUNCTION	The Helicopter Search and Rescue (SAR) Technician conducts air SAR, recovery, and evacuation operations
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 (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 Technician:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conducts air SAR, recovery, and evacuation operations from inside and outside the aircraft 2. Performs air SAR and medical assistance 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 flight operations may also require flight under Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) and night vision goggles (NVG), based on the mission and as the requestor specifies when ordering 5. Performs Basic Life Support (BLS) 6. Reports to the Helicopter SAR Pilot in command or Helicopter SAR Crew Chief 7. Assists with overall search, rescue tactics, and medical operations 8. Provides: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Safety of self and team members b. Basic medical care of self, team members, and survivors 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 with 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: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Completion of an Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)-validated Helicopter SAR training program 6. Training in accordance with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.120: Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response 7. Training in accordance with OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.134: Respiratory Protection 8. Training in accordance with OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.1030: Bloodborne Pathogens 	Not Specified
EXPERIENCE	Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Performs navigation, internal and external loads, rigging, and operation 2. Provides preventive care and emergency corrective actions for all expected emergencies 3. Inspects and maintains personal protective equipment (PPE), tools, devices, and equipment specific to this position 4. Operates aircraft mounted and deployable rescue equipment Experience: Completion of a Helicopter SAR Position Task Book (PTB) or equivalent documentation	Not Specified
PHYSICAL/MEDICAL FITNESS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arduous 2. Maintains physical fitness and swimming 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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Annual refresher of related skills and emergency procedures in aircraft 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 	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	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 Pilot
2. FEMA, NIMS 508: Search and Rescue Aircraft – Helicopter/Rotary Wing
3. FEMA, National Incident Management System (NIMS), October 2017
4. FEMA, NIMS Guideline for the National Qualification System, November 2017
5. American National Standards Institute/American Society of Safety Engineers (ANSI/ASSE) Z359.1-2007 Safety Requirements for Personal Fall Arrest Systems, Subsystems & Components
6. ASTM International (ASTM) F2209-14: Standard Guide for Training of Level I Land Search Team Member, 2014
7. Firefighting Resources of Southern California Organized for Potential Emergencies (FIRESCOPE) Field Operations Guide ICS 420-1, December 2012
8. 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
9. National Wildlife Coordinating Group (NWCG), National Incident Management System Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide, PMS 310-1, October 2016
10. NWCG, Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide (IHOG), PMS 510, February 2013
11. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) 14 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 61: Certification: Pilots, Flight Instructors, and Ground Instructors, latest edition adopted
12. FAA 14 CFR Part 67: Medical Standards and Certification, latest edition adopted
13. FAA 14 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 1910.132: Airborne Pathogens, latest edition adopted
16. OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.134: Respiratory Protection, latest edition adopted
17. OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.146: Permit-Required Confined Spaces, latest edition adopted