



Position Qualification for Mass Search and Rescue Operations  
Search and Rescue

## URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE MEDICAL SPECIALIST

<b>RESOURCE CATEGORY</b>	Search and Rescue
<b>RESOURCE KIND</b>	Personnel
<b>OVERALL FUNCTION</b>	The Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Medical Specialist provides search and rescue (SAR)-specific medical care for team members and those rescued during SAR-related operations.
<b>COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This position can be ordered as a single resource.</li> <li>2. Discuss logistics for deploying this position, such as working conditions, length of deployment, security, lodging, transportation and meals, prior to deployment.</li> </ol>

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
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	The US&R Medical Specialist: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reports directly to the Medical Team Manager</li> <li>2. Delivers medical care to all task force personnel, SAR victims and search dogs during disaster events, as necessary, and manages their general health considerations</li> <li>3. Implements the medical action plans as the Medical Team Manager specifies</li> <li>4. Accounts for, maintains and makes minor repairs for all issued equipment</li> </ol>	Not Specified
<b>EDUCATION</b>	Not Specified	Not Specified



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COMPONENT	SINGLE TYPE	NOTES
<p><b>TRAINING</b></p>	<p>Completion of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. IS-100: Introduction to the Incident Command System, ICS-100</li> <li>2. IS-200: Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, ICS-200</li> <li>3. IS-700: National Incident Management System, An Introduction</li> <li>4. IS-800: National Response Framework, An Introduction</li> <li>5. FEMA US&amp;R Medical Team Specialist - Instructor-Led Training (course code: 9P3130) or Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)-approved SAR medical training specific to the area of practice (wilderness, alpine, canine, disaster, water, urban, collapse and so on) focused on medical conditions common to SAR incidents, such as lacerations, fractures, shock, crush injury/crush syndrome, burns, penetrating and blunt trauma, head injuries, respiratory embarrassment, hyper/hypothermia and infections; training must also provide experience treating common medical emergencies, eye injuries, minor orthopedic injuries and so on</li> <li>6. AHJ-approved critical incident stress management training</li> <li>7. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 472: Standard for Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents (awareness-level training) or Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 1910.120 (q)(6)(ii): Hazardous materials operations training, or equivalent basic instruction on responding to and operating in a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosives (CBRNE) incident</li> <li>8. NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications (awareness-level training), including:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. General Requirements</li> <li>b. Confined Space Rescue, or applicable industry equivalent, such as mine or cave rescue</li> <li>c. Water Rescue Operations</li> <li>d. Structural Collapse Rescue, or applicable industry equivalent, such as mine or cave rescue</li> <li>e. Trench Rescue, or applicable industry equivalent, such as mine or cave rescue</li> <li>f. Rope Rescue</li> <li>g. Duties of the entrant per OSHA 1910.146: Permit-required confined spaces, or applicable industry equivalent, such as mine or cave SAR</li> </ol> </li> <li>9. NFPA 1670: Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents (awareness-level training), including:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. General Requirements</li> <li>b. Confined Space SAR, or applicable industry equivalent, such as mine or cave SAR</li> <li>c. Water SAR Operations</li> <li>d. Structural Collapse SAR, or applicable industry equivalent, such as mine or cave SAR</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p>(Continued)</p>	<p>Identified equivalent trainings should meet or exceed course learning objectives.</p>



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COMPONENT	SINGLE TYPE	NOTES
<b>TRAINING</b>	(Continued) e. Trench SAR, or applicable industry equivalent, such as mine or cave SAR f. Rope Rescue	
<b>EXPERIENCE</b>	Knowledge, skills and abilities: 1. Ability to provide canine wellness and emergency care  Experience: 1. Successful completion of US&R Medical Specialist Position Task Book (PTB), or equivalent AHJ documentation. 2. Ongoing, active participation with an emergency medical services-providing entity, organization or agency or in a clinical practice setting such as a hospital, health system, agency or service commensurate with the mission assignment	A canine emergency medical course supports the ability to provide canine wellness and emergency care.
<b>PHYSICAL / MEDICAL FITNESS</b>	1. Arduous 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	The NIMS Guideline for the National Qualification System (NQS) defines Physical/Medical Fitness levels for NIMS positions.
<b>CURRENCY</b>	1. Functions in this position during a qualifying incident, planned event, exercise, drill or simulation at least once every three years 2. Ongoing, active participation with an Emergency Medical Services (EMS)-providing entity, organization or agency—or in a clinical practice setting such as a hospital, health system, agency or service commensurate with mission assignment 3. Keeps immunizations up to date and commensurate with mission assignment	Not Specified
<b>PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS</b>	1. State-, tribe- or territory-granted active status of legal authority to function as one of the following: a. Paramedic b. Physician assistant c. Registered nurse practitioner d. Registered nurse - currently certified/licensed as a physician assistant e. Registered nurse practitioner or registered nurse - certified within an accredited organization or municipality, actively practicing advanced pre-hospital life support and fulfilling one of the following: National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians paramedic standards or state certification requirements 2. Certified in Basic Trauma Life Support (BTLS), Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) and Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) regimens, or equivalent	Not Specified



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## NOTES

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1. Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated component and capability.
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

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1. FEMA, National Incident Management System (NIMS), October 2017
2. FEMA, NIMS Guideline for the National Qualification System, November 2017
3. FEMA, National Response Framework, October 2019
4. FEMA, National Urban Search and Rescue Response System, US&R Operation Manual, Annex E: Position Descriptions, latest edition adopted
5. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), National Association of State EMS Officials: National EMS Scope of Practice Model, latest edition adopted