# Position Qualifications for Mass Search and Rescue Operations

## LAND SEARCH AND RESCUE TECHNICIAN

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<tr>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>TYPE 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>DESCRIPTION</td>
<td>Same as Type 2, PLUS: 1. Performs search, rescue, and recovery in: a. Wilderness environments: Areas beyond a trailhead or eyesight distance of a backcountry two-wheel drive (2WD) road (approximately 200 feet) OR anywhere compromised local infrastructure experiences wilderness-type conditions, such as remoteness from public infrastructure support services; poor to no medical services or potable water; or compromised public safety buildings or communications systems b. Weather conditions including snow flurries and slippery ice surfaces c. YDS classes 1-3 terrain</td>
<td>The National Incident Management System (NIMS) Type 2 Land Search and Rescue (SAR) Technician: 1. Reports to the Land SAR Team Leader 2. Performs search, rescue, and recovery in: a. Land environments: Areas located within, or immediately next to, urban boundaries, no further than 0.5 miles (0.8 kilometers) from a road readily accessible by emergency personnel, and which may include parks, wild areas, private, state, and municipal lands b. Weather conditions not including snow or slippery ice conditions c. Yosemite Decimal System (YDS) classes 1-2 terrain 3. Operates within the Incident Command System (ICS) in an entry level position on a Land SAR Team 4. Provides first aid and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)</td>
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<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
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<tr>
<td>EDUCATION</td>
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**NOTES:** Not Specified
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| TRAINING | Same as Type 2, PLUS:  
Completion of a NFPA, ASTM, or AHJ-verified equivalent land SAR training program meeting the following position-specific key skills and aptitudes:  
1. Hazard awareness, survival, navigation and search, rescue and recovery operations in:  
   a. YDS classes 1-3 terrain  
   b. Weather conditions including snow flurries and minimally slippery ice surfaces  
   c. Wilderness – low mountain interface training  
2. Completion of the following:  
   1. IS-100: Introduction to Incident Command System, ICS-100  
   2. IS-200: ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents  
   3. IS-700: National Incident Management System (NIMS), An Introduction  
   4. IS-800: National Response Framework (NRF), An Introduction  
   5. Basic Aviation Safety: Interagency Aviation Training (IAT) A-101 or equivalent  
   6. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) based coursework:  
      a. Blood borne pathogens training with refresher as necessary  
      b. Hazardous materials first responder awareness with refresher as necessary  
| Completion of a National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), ASTM International (ASTM), or Agency Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)-verified equivalent land SAR training program, meeting the following position-specific key skills and aptitudes:  
1. Basic land SAR environments training  
2. YDS classes 1-2 terrain training, including the following:  
   a. General SAR Hazard Awareness  
   b. Navigation  
   c. Survival  
   d. Search, rescue, and recovery operations, including carryout to ground or air transportation  
   e. All seasons weather, not including snow or slippery ice conditions  
   f. Land – wilderness interface training  
3. Basic first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training or equivalent, including automated external defibrillator (AED)  
4. Use, care, inspection, and maintenance of all related personal protective equipment (PPE), tools, and devices, training specific to this position type  |

### NOTES:  
YDS of classifying walking, hiking, and climbing terrain:  
2. Class 2: Simple scrambling, with the possibility of occasional hand use and little potential danger.  
3. Class 3: Scrambling on an increased angle with increased exposure and necessary handholds. Falls could easily be fatal  
4. Class 4: Simple climbing, with exposure and rope use. Falls may well be fatal.  
5. Class 5: Technical rock climbing using a rope, specialized equipment and training to protect against a fall. Un-roped falls can result in severe injury or death.  
6. Class 6: Rock/ice so shear and smooth that it is unclimbable without the use of aid, such as artificial and other devices: bolts, wedges, rope ladders, etc.
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| **EXPERIENCE** | Same as Type 2 | Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:  
1. Knowledge of land SAR and associated hazards  
2. Knowledge of the capabilities of canine search  
3. Understanding of SAR procedures in the land environment during day and night operations  
4. Ability to identify and apply the role of this position within the incident management structure  
5. Ability to identify and use appropriate PPE  
6. Ability to carry out land SAR  
Experience:  
Completion of a Land SAR Technician Position Task Book (PTB) or equivalent Agency Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) documentation |
| **PHYSICAL/ MEDICAL FITNESS** | Same as Type 2 |  
1. Performs duties under arduous circumstances, characterized by working consecutive 12-hour days under physical and emotional stress for sustained periods of time  
2. Meets minimum physical fitness 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; National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1582 Standard on Comprehensive Occupational Medical Program for Fire Departments and National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) Fitness and Work Capacity meet or exceed this physical fitness standard  
4. Maintains immunizations in accordance with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control’s recommended adult immunization schedule for the United States of America |
| **CURRENCY** | Same as Type 2 |  
1. Annual refresher of related SAR skills and abilities in land environments  
2. Functions in this position during an operational incident, planned event, participation in exercise, drill, or simulation once every three years or as the AHJ determines  
3. Background checks as applicable law permits or requires |

**NOTES:**  
- Arduous fitness or work capacity criteria should be consistent with the physical fitness levels the NWCG Wildland Fire Qualification Systems Guide Fitness and Work Capacity, NFPA 1582: Standard on Comprehensive Occupational Medical Program for Fire Departments defines, or AHJ-determined equivalent physical and medical fitness criteria.  
- The provider must carry out and use any background checks as applicable law specifies. This may include the following: background check currency within twelve months; sex-offender registry check; and a local, state, and national based criminal history.
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<td>AHJ-determined certification or documentation indicating completion of training</td>
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**NOTES:** Not Specified
ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS OR DESIGNATIONS

☒ Can be ordered as a single resource
☒ Can be ordered in conjunction with a NIMS typed team (Land Search and Rescue Team)
☐ Can be ordered in conjunction with a NIMS typed unit

1. Discuss logistics for this position (such as security, lodging, transportation, and meals) prior to deployment.
2. This position works up to 12 hours per shift, is self-sustainable for 72 hours, and is deployable for up to 14 days.

REFERENCES

1. FEMA, NIMS 508-8: Land Search and Rescue Team
2. FEMA, NIMS 509-8: Land Search and Rescue Team Leader
6. ASTM WK45629: Training of Non-Wilderness Land Search Team Member
13. Yosemite Decimal System (YDS), Classifications for Terrain
15. 29 CFR 1910.1030 OSHA, Bloodborne Pathogens

NOTE

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