



Washington State Search & Rescue

Document #:

2010-081

Rev.:

A

Title: Search and Rescue Emergency Worker
Core Competency Classroom Training Criteria

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REVISION HISTORY

REV	Description of Change	Approved By:	Effective Date
1	As Released.	SARVAC WSSARCA WASPC EMD	2/8/2012

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Document Title
2010-080 Rev: A	Search and Rescue Emergency Worker Core Competency Criteria
2012-083 Rev: A	Incident Command System Test
2012-084 Rev: A	Incident Command System Test - Key
2012-085 Rev: A	Incident Command System- PowerPoint Slides
2012-086 Rev: A	Subject Find and Medical Evaluation 1
2012-087 Rev: A	Subject Find and Medical Evaluation 1 - Test Key
2012-088 Rev: A	Subject Find and Medical Evaluation 1 - PowerPoint Slides
2012-089 Rev: A	Crime Scene Evidence Search Test
2012-090 Rev: A	Crime Scene Evidence Search Test - Key
2012-091 Rev: A	Crime Scene Recognition and Evidence Searches - PowerPoint Slides
2012-092 Rev: A	Basic Radio Communications Test
2012-093 Rev: A	Basic Radio Communications Test - Key
2012-094 Rev: A	Basic Radio Communications - PowerPoint Slides
2012-095 Rev: A	Basic Navigation Test
2012-096 Rev: A	Basic Navigation Test - Key
2012-097 Rev: A	Basic Navigation - PowerPoint Slides

CHECK THE MASTER LIST at www.wasarvac.org
VERIFY THAT THIS IS THE CORRECT REVISION BEFORE USE



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2012-098 Rev: A	Helicopter Safety Test
2012-099 Rev: A	Helicopter Safety Test Key
2012-100 Rev: A	Helicopter Safety PowerPoint Slides
2013-101 Rev: A	Survival Skills & Equipment Test
2013-102 Rev: A	Survival Skills & Equipment Test - Key
2013-103 Rev: A	Survival Skills & Equipment PowerPoint Slides
2013-104 Rev: A	Legal Issues Test
2013-105 Rev: A	Legal Issues Test - Key
2013-106 Rev: A	Legal Issues - PowerPoint Slides
2013-107 Rev: A	Searcher Safety Test
2013-108 Rev: A	Searcher Safety Test - Key
2013-109 Rev: A	Searcher Safety PowerPoint Slides
2013-110 Rev: A	Clue Awareness & Identification Test
2013-111 Rev: A	Clue Awareness & Identification Test - Key
2013-112 Rev: A	Clue Awareness & Identification PowerPoint Slides
2013-113 Rev: A	Search Techniques Test
2013-114 Rev: A	Search Techniques Test – Key
2013-115 Rev: A	Search Techniques PowerPoint Slides
2013-116 Rev: A	Physical & Mental Fitness Test
2013-117 Rev: A	Physical & Mental Fitness Test - Key
2013-118 Rev: A	Physical & Mental Fitness Test PowerPoint Slides



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Documents referenced in this procedure are applicable to the extent specified herein.

1. Purpose

To provide a standardized set of core competency performance training criteria for Ground/Land Search and Rescue volunteers in Washington State.

2. Scope

This document defines the Classroom Performance Criteria that must be demonstrated and verified by written statements or classroom written testing.

3. Definitions and Acronyms

Refer to Document 2012-080 Rev: A

4. Flowchart

None

5. Responsibilities


A Search and Rescue Member must maintain the basic Washington State Search and Rescue Minimum Core Competency Criteria in order to obtain a basic certification.

6. Physical and Mental Fitness

Through written statements, formal application processes, and verbal statements the applicant must attest to being physically and mentally capable of performing assigned mission task.

Refer to Reference Documents for current training material Revision.

1. SAR volunteer must in the initial application process attest to being;
 - Physically capable of performing assigned duties and task.
 - Mentally capable for assigned duties and task.
2. Annually SAR volunteers must attest to being;
 - Physically capable of performing all assigned task for their level of training.
 - Mentally capable of performing any all duly assigned task for their level of training.
3. SAR volunteers must inform the "authorized official" of any;
 - Physical impairments that may impact their ability to perform assigned mission task.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mental impairments that may impact their ability to perform assigned mission task. <p style="text-align: center;">** Reference WAC118-04-200 **</p>	

7. Legal Issues

<p>Through written evaluation the applicant will demonstrate knowledge of the legal issues involved in Search and Rescue in the State of Washington.</p> <p>Refer to Reference Documents for current training material Revision.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Under Washington State law who is responsible for search and rescue (SAR) missions. 2. A search area may be restricted, and who may restrict the search area and for what reason may an area be restricted. 3. The basic elements of <i>RCW 38.52.180</i> and <i>38.52.410</i>. 4. The limitations of the Good Samaritan Law <i>RCW 4.24.300</i>. 5. The elements of “Duty to Act” for a SAR volunteer. 6. The elements afforded to volunteers under <i>WAC 118.04</i> pertaining to; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Claims b) Indemnification afforded volunteers c) Limitations of the afforded indemnification
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8. Search and Rescue Survival Skills and Survival Equipment

Through written evaluation the applicant will demonstrate knowledge of the survival skills required in Search and Rescue in the State of Washington.

Refer to Reference Documents for current training material Revision.

1. Clothing worn by SAR volunteers for their assigned SAR operations must be appropriate for conditions encountered on the mission.
2. What actions should be taken when mission personnel become lost or injured?
3. The three elements of fire.
4. Minimum hydration requirements for SAR mission personnel.
5. Methods of water purification and their effectiveness.
6. Fundamentals of survival in a non-urban environment.

9. Radio Communications

Through written evaluation the applicant will demonstrate knowledge of the communications issues involved in Search and Rescue in the State of Washington.

Refer to Reference Documents for current training material Revision.

1. The difference between a frequency and a channel.
2. The function of a repeater.
3. The function and operation of a manual relay.
4. The importance of keeping batteries warm during cold weather.
5. A basic knowledge of radio performance and the effects that terrain, distance, and structures have on radio communications.
6. A basic knowledge of radio plain "English" and associated procedures.
7. A basic knowledge of the county's inter-unit and intra-unit communications procedures, protocols, and frequency's.
8. Determine the orientation for best radio wave transmission and reception.



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10. Land Navigation

Through written evaluation the applicant will demonstrate knowledge of land navigation involved in Search and Rescue in the State of Washington.

Refer to Reference Documents for current training material Revision.

1. Identify the different types of maps used in SAR.
2. Identify the primary coordinate systems in use today.
3. Identify a location on a map using Latitude and Longitude (degrees – minutes - decimal minutes).
4. Identify a location on a map using UTM/USNG.
5. Define the difference between True and Magnetic north.
6. Identify the relevance of Datum and coordinate systems
7. Identify the advantages and limitations of GPS.
8. Define several advantages and disadvantages of the different map coordinate systems.
9. Determine the elevation of a point on a map.
10. The coordinate system most commonly used by aircraft and maritime vessels.
11. Identify 10 common map symbols.
12. Identify the components of a compass.



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11. Crime Scene Identification and Management

Through written evaluation the applicant will demonstrate knowledge of the crime scene identification and management involved in Search and Rescue in the State of Washington.

Refer to Reference Documents for current training material Revision.

1. What to do when evidence of a crime or a deceased person is located.
2. Techniques used to secure a crime scene.
3. Who is allowed into a crime scene, and who has control of the scene.
4. When a searcher may pick up or disturb possible evidence.
5. The relationship of RCW 68.50 to a crime scene.
6. Understand the specific requirements of notification as contained in RCW 68.50.
7. What types of search methods are used for a crime scene, and the reasons they are used.

12. Search Organization and Management

Through written evaluation the applicant will demonstrate knowledge of the search organization and management involved in Search and Rescue in the State of Washington.

Refer to Reference Documents for current training material Revision.

1. The ground team's position in the ICS structure and organization chart.
2. The five functional sections of the ICS structure.
3. The purpose of the assignment briefing and debriefing.
4. The function of the Medical Team Leader and Communications Team Leader.
5. The function of check in and out procedures
6. Understand the role and functions provided by Public Information Officer (PIO) in reference to a SAR mission, and the public, news media, and other agencies.



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13. Clue Awareness and Identification

Through written evaluation the applicant will demonstrate knowledge of the clue awareness and identification involved in Search and Rescue in the State of Washington.

Refer to Reference Documents for current training material Revision.

1. Define the types of clues for a search and rescue operation.
2. The elements of sign and how to protect and preserve them.
3. The definition of "sign": the discoverable physical evidence of the passage or presence of a person.

14. Search Techniques

Through written evaluation the applicant will demonstrate knowledge of the search techniques involved in Search and Rescue in the State of Washington.

Refer to Reference Documents for current training material Revision.

1. The elements of the four (4) types of searches
2. Three passive & active search methods.
3. The importance of staying on assigned task as given by the Incident Command.
4. The reasons why searchers look for clues as well as the subject (list at least 4).
5. What to do when a clue is located.
6. The elements of a sound sweep search.
7. Describe three elements of "Critical Separation".
8. The advantages and disadvantages of searching at night.
9. The concept and use of;
 - 9.1. POA (probability of area)
 - 9.2. POD (probability of detection)
 - 9.3. IPP (initial planning point)
 - 9.4. LKP (last known position)
 - 9.5. PLS (point last seen)



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15. Subject/Searcher First Aid

Through written evaluation the applicant will demonstrate knowledge of subject/searcher first aid involved in Search and Rescue in the State of Washington.

Refer to Reference Documents for current training material Revision.

1. The symptoms, treatment, and methods of prevention of hypothermia.
2. The symptoms, treatment, and methods of prevention of frostbite.
3. The three ways in which heat is transferred away from the body.
4. The four ways heat is transferred to the body.
5. The symptoms, treatment, and methods of prevention of hyperthermia.
6. The importance of hydration in hot and cold climates.
7. Methods to control bleeding.
8. Methods of limb immobilization (splinting).

16. Searcher Safety

Through written evaluation the applicant will demonstrate knowledge of searcher safety involved in Search and Rescue in the State of Washington.

Refer to Reference Documents for current training material Revision.

1. Common weather hazards for the region that they typically operate.
2. Situational awareness of a defined search area or areas. The searcher must be able to explain the GAR (green-amber-red) individual and team safety system and processes used to arrive at which level of searcher safety is being assigned to the assigned task and search area.
3. Searching on private property, searcher safety level assignment (GAR) and awareness.
4. Avalanche/Winter searcher safety level assignment (GAR) and awareness.
5. Water safety and searcher safety level assignment (GAR) and awareness.
6. Searcher fatigue
7. Identify basic searcher safety priorities, contained in a briefing and the IAP.



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17. Helicopter Safety

Through written evaluation the applicant will demonstrate knowledge of the helicopter safety involved in Search and Rescue in the State of Washington.

Refer to Reference Documents for current training material Revision.

1. Define the basic requirements for a LZ or heliport.
2. Define five (5) basic general helicopter safety elements.
3. When and how to properly approach and depart a helicopter.

18. Quality Records

None.

19. Form(s)

None.