

FEMA US&R RESPONSE SYSTEM
Position Description
RESCUE SQUAD OFFICER

The Rescue Squad Officer is responsible for managing and supervising one or more of the rescue squads of the task force during incident operations. The Rescue Squad Officer reports directly to the Rescue Team Manager.

Description of Duties

The Rescue Squad Officer is responsible for:

- Directly supervising a squad of Rescue Specialists.
- Adhering to all safety procedures.
- Implementing the rescue component of the Task Force Action Plan.
- Coordinating and supervising all rescue squad activities at a specific rescue site.
- Determining rescue organizational and logistics needs of the rescue squad or working site.
- Providing situation reports and maintaining records and reports.
- Prepares performance evaluations (FEMA Form 90-106) for assigned personnel.
- Accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs for all issued equipment.
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned during a mission.
- Evaluating and modifying rescue tactics and methods at the assigned work site.

Position Requirements and Criteria

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become Rescue Squad Officers in the FEMA US&R Response System. The intent of these requirements is to select functional officers capable of effectively managing and supervising the rescue squad personnel in the urban disaster environment. The requirements and criteria for the position are identified in the following categories:

Knowledge
Skills
Abilities

Knowledge

1. Must possess all the certifications and requirements of a Rescue Specialist.
2. Comprehensive knowledge of urban search and rescue operations and tactics.
3. Knowledge of available technology used to support US&R missions and objectives.
4. Must possess a basic knowledge of the construction industry.

Skills

1. Must fulfill all the requirements and be competent in the application of practical skills identified for the Rescue Specialist position.
2. Have experience and training in personal safety in confined spaces, below-grade, and compromised conditions.
3. Must be able to identify incident stress.
4. Ability to use all the rescue equipment possessed by the task force.

Abilities

1. Capable of supervising and directing rescue specialists in specific rescue operations.
2. Possess strong interpersonal communications skills.
3. Ability to manage rescue squad personnel, specialized equipment, and local support resources.
4. Ability to effectively communicate orally and in writing.
5. Must be physically fit as governed by the sponsoring organization (annual physical and PT test).