

Technical Search Specialist

Task Force Position Description

A. Functional Description

The Technical Search Specialist is responsible for performing the technical search function of the task force incident operation. The Technical Search Specialist reports directly to the Search Team Manager.

B. Description of Duties

The Technical Search Specialist is responsible for the following:

1. Searching structures in US&R environments or other locations indicated in the mission assignment, utilizing appropriate technical search equipment and techniques
2. Documenting and marking locations of victims, potential victims and hazards
3. Making assessments through the use of technical search equipment
4. Land navigation and site mapping
5. Cooperating with and assisting other search and rescue resources
6. Providing accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs of all issued equipment
7. Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned

C. Position Requirements and Criteria

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become Technical Search Specialists in the National US&R Response System. The intent of these requirements is to select competent personnel, fully capable of providing state-of-the-art search techniques and tactics required, in the urban disaster environment.

D. Required Training

The Technical Search Specialist shall adhere to the following:

1. Meet all Administrative and General training requirements
2. Complete the *FEMA US&R Technical Search Specialist Instructor-Led Training* (Course Code: 9P1231)
3. Complete the required technical rescue skill sets and additional required rope rescue skills as defined in Appendix A of this Annex

E. Recommended Training

The Technical Search Specialist should complete the following:

1. Complete the *FEMA US&R Canine Search Specialist - Instructor Led Training* (Course Code: 9P1331)
2. *FEMA US&R Search Planning and Management - Instructor-Led Training* (Course Code: 9G1431)
3. Complete the *FEMA US&R Structural Collapse Specialist – Instructor-Led Training* (Course Code: 9P2631) or a FEMA US&R approved equivalent course.

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E. Recommended Training (continued)

4. Meet the requirements of NFPA 1006 Technical Rescuer at the Technician or Level 2 (Excluding Chapter 1 Administration: Section 1.3.3)
 - 4-1 Job Performance Requirements
 - 4-2 Rope Rescue (Technician or Level 2)
 - 4-3 Confined Space Rescue (Technician or Level 2)
 - 4-4 Trench Rescue (Technician or Level 2)
 - 4-5 Vehicle and Machinery Rescue (Technician or Level 2)
5. A canine emergency field care course