

Medical Subgroup



Position: Medical Subgroup Member (Specialist)

Background

Search and rescue operations in the urban disaster environment require the close interaction of all task force elements—search, rescue, medical, and technical personnel—for safe and successful survivor extrications. Once one or more entrapped survivors have been located, rescue extrication, coupled with appropriate medical treatment and survivor removal operations, must be conducted in an organized and safe manner. Members of the Medical Subgroup are subject matter experts in disaster medical techniques, procedures and the current tactical considerations and general strategies that should constitute a foundation for task force medical force protection. The Medical Subgroup is responsible for developing and maintaining their respective area and integrating them into the System. The members of the group are chosen based on their management and/or technical expertise to provide advice and recommendations upon which decisions are based. These decisions will be made through consensus, whenever possible.

Under the direction of the Medical Subgroup Leader within the Operations Functional Group in the Advisory Organization, a system wide recruitment for Medical Subgroup members with the knowledge, skills and abilities to assist both the US&R Branch and US&R Task Forces.

Knowledge

- Thorough understanding of disaster medicine policy and procedures
- Thorough understanding of task force wellness and medical force protection
- Understanding of emergency pre-hospital medicine, techniques.
- Understanding of medical conditions common to US&R including, but not limited to blunt and penetrating trauma, crush syndrome, resp. Emergencies, hyper and hypothermia
- Understanding of the application and use of equipment on USAR cache list.
- Understanding of how the medical team integrates with local, state, and other federal agencies on deployment
- General understanding of all 19 positions and function for Type I US&R Team.
- General understanding of a US&R Incident Support Team (IST)
- General Understanding of an Incident Management Team (IMT)
- General understanding of System Program Directives
- Familiarity with the USAR strategic plan and Strategic Training plan.
- Familiarity with the Training Program and Administration Manual (TPAM)

Skills

- Communicate effectively in writing as appropriate for the needs of the audience.
- Good interpersonal communication skills. Give full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, and asking questions as appropriate.
- Convey information effectively.
- Prioritize work assignments.

- Breakdown complex problems and related information to develop procedures
- Utilize computer programs such as: Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Visio, and Adobe products

Abilities

- Currently certified / licensed as an EMT-Paramedic and have met all the requirements in their local jurisdiction. Must be actively participating in pre-hospital care.

OR

Physician Assistant, Registered Nurse-Practitioner or Registered Nurse who is currently certified / licensed as a Physician Assistant, Registered Nurse-Practitioner or Registered Nurse – certified within an accredited organization or municipality and meets the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedic Standards or State certification requirements and actively practices advanced pre-hospital life support. Must be certified and maintain the following, BTLs, ACLS, and PALS regimens (or equivalent).

- Complete the FEMA US&R Medical Team Training Course
- Qualified as a Medical Specialist rostered on one of 28 FEMA US&R Task Forces
- Ability to communicate effectively with multidisciplinary US&R audiences to promote safe and successful survivor extrications
- Ability and willingness to research new equipment and techniques
- Ability to speak and lead large groups through complex rescue procedures.
- Member must have support from his/her sponsoring agency to fulfill role which may involve travel.