

Communications Subgroup



Position: Communications Subgroup Member

Background

FEMA's National Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Response System (the System) reorganized the advisory structure into a new Advisory Organization found in the National US&R Response System Administrative Manual Annex A. The working groups were redesigned into four Functional Groups. Under these Functional Groups will be sub groups dealing with specific areas. The Logistical Functions Group has been comprised of three sub groups: Equipment (9 members), Transportation (5 members) and Communications (9 members). These Members are considered "subject matter experts" in the field of FEMA US&R Logistics.

The Communications Sub Group member takes an active role in the FEMA US&R communications program. A member will expect to be tasked with any number of assignments which could include but not limited to: researching new technology, developing training programs, maintenance of the communications cache list, representing assigned taskforces, etc. As a member, written documents, inter-group communication, and taskforce outreach will be required for tasks and assignments.

Knowledge

- Be rostered as a primary position of communications specialist on any of the 28 taskforces.
 - Have deployed a minimum of three (3) times on an actual incidents in the position of communications specialist is highly desired
- Above competent working knowledge of all US&R Communications equipment
- General understanding of a US&R Incident Support Team (IST)
- General understanding of an Incident Management Team (IMT)
- Working knowledge of the NIMS framework
- Familiarity with the Training Program and Administration Manual (TPAM)
- General understanding of Mobile Emergency Communications Support (MERS)
- Additional knowledge that is preferred, but not required:
 - Deployed five (5) or more times on incidents in the position of communications specialist
 - Experience in public safety communications
 - Experience in I.T. related to public safety
 - Experience in Military/DOD/DHS communications
 - Experience in positions with IMTs/IST

Skills

- Understanding of basic computer programs such as: Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Visio, and Adobe products
- Effective teaching skills.
- Preferred qualifications:
 - NWCG RADO
 - NWCG INCM

- NWCG COMT
- NWCG COML
- FEMA COMN (NEW QUALIFICATION)
- NIMS COMT
- NIMS COML
- Maintain and write accurate documents, records and reports

Abilities

- Member must have support from his/her sponsoring agency to fulfill role, which may involve travel.
- Member must participate in conference calls and meetings.
- Member must take an active role and participate with Sub Group; assignments, projects, and programs
- Member must be able to work with other Sub Group members at a professional level and be able to work to consensus on matters that are presented by the group.
- Member must be able to conduct him or herself in a professional manner while participating in group discussions, meetings, conference calls, etc.
- Ability to follow timelines and to produce deliverables on time
- Respond to all communications in a timely manner
- Member must be able to follow chain of command