



Australian Government

POLSAR020 Assess search and rescue requirements

POLSTAR020 Assess search and rescue requirements

Modification History

Release	Comments
1	This unit of competency was first released in POL Police Training Package Release 11.0.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to gather and assess information to inform a search and rescue (SAR) operation, including communicating with stakeholders and conducting appreciations. These skills would be applied when receiving a request to commence SAR operations.

This unit applies to those working as police staff involved in police SAR and incident management operations.

The skills and knowledge described in this unit must be applied within the legislative, regulatory and policy environment in which they are carried out. Organisational policies and procedures must be consulted and adhered to, particularly those related to information management.

Those undertaking this unit would work autonomously and within teams while remaining responsible for reporting to senior staff. They would perform a range of complex tasks and demonstrate adaptability across a broad range of contexts, either in the field or within police station/office environments.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Pre-requisite unit(s)

No pre-requisite units

Competency field(s)

Search and Rescue

Unit sector(s)

N/A

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Gather incident information.	1.1 Gather information about the incident from relevant sources.
	1.2 Collate and validate relevant information and intelligence about the incident.
	1.3 Identify points of contact from which to gather additional information.
	1.4 Evaluate gathered information and intelligence to determine whether the incident requires SAR response.
	1.5 Identify the relevant stakeholders to which information and intelligence should be disseminated, in line with jurisdictional legislation, policy and procedure.
	1.6 Disseminate information and intelligence about SAR incident to relevant stakeholders.
2. Assess SAR incident.	2.1 Determine roles and responsibilities based on the assessment of the SAR incident.
	2.2 Conduct appreciation of SAR incident to identify courses of action.
	2.3 Conduct risk and search urgency assessment to inform level of response.
	2.4 Communication responsibilities to SAR stakeholders for coordination and control of SAR operations.

Range of conditions

N/A

Assessment Requirements for POLSAR020 Assess search and rescue requirements

Performance Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all the requirements of the elements and performance criteria on at least one occasion and include:

- gathering and evaluating information relating to potential SAR operation
- assessing SAR incidents
- conducting appreciations
- determining SAR requirements, including level of response and courses of action
- communicating SAR requirements to relevant stakeholders.

Knowledge Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all the requirements of the elements and performance criteria and include knowledge of:

- Commonwealth, national, state and territory legislation and arrangements relating to SAR
- jurisdictional legislation, policies and procedures relating to SAR operations
- jurisdictional legislation, policies and procedures relating to work, health and safety (WHS) and wellbeing requirements
- jurisdictional policies and procedures relating to SAR systems
- roles and responsibilities for responding to SAR incidents
- SAR terminology
- SAR emergency phases
- common characteristics of SAR incidents
- distress and emergency signals
- process for conducting risk and search urgency assessments
- information collection and dissemination techniques
- jurisdictional information management systems
- jurisdictional information sources
- resources to facilitate SAR responses.

Assessment Conditions

Mandatory Workplace Requirements

Assessment of performance evidence may be in a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents a real workplace.

Unit Mapping Information

Previous Code and Title	Equivalence	Comments
POLSAR007 Assess search and rescue requirements	Equivalent	Updated code, application, packaging rules and Foundation Skills added

Links

Companion volumes, including implementation guides, are found on the national training register - <https://training.gov.au/training/details/POL>.