



Australian Government

POLSAR008 Undertake initial search and rescue actions

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
1	This unit was released in POL Police Training Package release 1.0 and meets the Standards for Training Packages.

Application

This unit describes the skills required to conduct initial search and rescue (SAR) actions, including identifying search areas and conducting briefings when commencing a search and rescue operation.

This unit applies to those working as police staff involved in police search and rescue 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 resource deployment, conducting briefings and debriefings and work health and safety (WHS).

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 environment.

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

Competency Field

Search and rescue

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
Elements describe the essential outcomes	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where bold italicised text is used, further information is detailed in the range of conditions section.
1. Plan initial search and rescue actions	1.1 Identify mission to prosecute search and rescue operation. 1.2 Identify resources to facilitate search and rescue operation. 1.3 Determine initial actions and resource deployment in accordance

	with nature of search and rescue incident. 1.4 Establish lines of communication with internal and external stakeholders to facilitate sharing of information/progress of operation.
2. Identify search area	2.1 Identify last known position of the target. 2.2 Apply search planning models. 2.3 Define initial search area to commence initial search and rescue operations. 2.4 Determine probability of detection and coverage for allocation of resources.
3. Conduct initial search and rescue activities	3.1 Deploy resources to carry out initial actions. 3.2 Assess and monitor search and rescue situation to adapt response. 3.3 Negotiate resource acquisition to facilitate search and rescue operation. 3.4 Prioritise tasks to maximise efficiency and effectiveness of resources.
4. Conduct briefings	4.1 Identify stakeholders to inform them of situation. 4.2 Collate information to develop briefings. 4.3 Deliver briefing to facilitate flow of information. 4.4 Communicate required follow-on actions for ongoing coordination of search and rescue operation.

Foundation Skills

The foundation skills demands of this unit have been mapped for alignment with the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF). The following tables outline the performance levels indicated for successful attainment of the unit.

ACSF levels indicative of performance:

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Learning NA					Reading					Writing					Oral communication					Numeracy				

Performance variables:

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Support					Context					Text complexity					Task complexity				

Further information on ACSF and the foundation skills underpinning this unit can be found in the Foundation Skills Guide on the GSA website.

Unit Mapping Information

No equivalent unit.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=98c3984e-2cf1-48a8-8ed1-85e4b92e7351>

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Assessment Requirements for POLSAR008 Undertake initial search and rescue actions

Modification History

Release	Comments
1	These Assessment Requirements were released in POL Police Training Package release 1.0 and meet the Standards for Training Packages.

Performance Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence must satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria. If not otherwise specified the candidate must demonstrate evidence of performance of the following on at least one occasion.

- establishing mission and deploying resources to commence search and rescue operation
- evaluating information to commence search and rescue operation
- coordinating initial search and rescue
- communicating with stakeholders
- reading and interpreting maps/charts
- performing calculations

Knowledge Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence must satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria. If not otherwise specified the depth of knowledge demonstrated must be appropriate to the job context of the candidate.

- contextual considerations which impact on search and rescue situation
- resources available to respond to search and rescue situations
- capabilities of assets and resources
- jurisdictional procurement processes relating to external agencies and resources
- communication search tools
- information technology systems to support search and rescue operation
- jurisdictional communication systems
- jurisdictional briefing and debriefing requirements
- media requirements for search and rescue situations
- the requirements of Defence Assistance to the Civil Community (DACC)
- jurisdictional legislation, policies and procedures relating to WHS

Assessment Conditions

This unit contains no specific industry-mandated assessment conditions. Guidance on suggested and recommended conditions and methods can be found in the Implementation Guide.

Consideration must be given to holistic assessment for this unit. Refer to advice in the companion volumes.

Assessors must satisfy the NVR/AQTF mandatory competency requirements for assessors.

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