



RESCUE SOUTH AFRICA

DISASTER RESPONSE

FIRE SEARCH AND RESCUE

Preamble

The instructors that will be presenting this program are considered specialists in the field and, as well as having considerable road experience, have all either judged or participated in both National and International Competitions.

Intended Audience

This course is designed for any persons who in the course of their normal duties would be required to extricate and/or rescue a person involved fire incident.

Desired Outcome

After being assessed as competent the candidate will be able to operate as an integral part of a team that undertakes fire search and rescue incidents.

Duration: 5 Days

Min/Max No of Delegates: 8/12

Course Prerequisites

Grade 12 (NQF4) certificate or equivalent ABET / RPL recognition
Medical certificate indicating that you are in good health
Current HPCSA registration
Successful completion of the institutions physical fitness assessment

Core Content

Fire behavior and the fire tetrahedron
Compartment fire behavior
Actions to take in the case of an emergency
Classes of fire
Types of firefighting equipment (handheld extinguishers and hose reels).

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Application of firefighting techniques and classes of fire extinguishers

Course Details

The aim of this module is to focus on the activities surrounding the searching for and rescuing of victims and potential victims of a fire incident. The job of the fire rescue technician is not primarily to put out the fire, although by virtue of his training, on completion of this module he could prove to be a valuable source of assistance for the professional fire fighter.

This fire search and rescue module was designed to provide you with the BASIC fire search and rescue skills as well as the appropriate knowledge and insight needed to keep you safe on a fire ground whilst empowering you to conduct a search in low visibility areas.

One should remember that the learning outcomes of this particular module are not only useful in the fire search & rescue setting but also comprise of many generic rescue skills and important learning outcomes (such as the use of breathing apparatus and working with ladders). Such outcomes are critical components of the foundational knowledge assumed to be in place before you embark upon additional modules as you further your rescue education.

The academic and practical standards of this module are in line with those of the Tertiary Medical Rescue Technology Modules offered as part of the National Diploma Emergency Medical Care, and as such fulfil the specified SAQA outcomes for this field.

Each section has been carefully designed to provide you with important learning tasks and experiences, each of which is linked to an expected learning outcome.

On completion of each section it is important that you refer to the expected learning outcomes stated at the end of the section and ask yourself: "have I achieved all the outcomes as stated?" If the answer is no then the onus is on you to approach your lecturer and or revisit the learning content to ensure that remedial intervention is initiated.

It cannot be overemphasised that you will be assessed both during the module and on completion thereof in order to measure to what extent you have achieved the learning outcomes as stated. Simply put; the assessment criteria are directly linked to the various learning outcomes, failure to achieve the learning outcomes will result in you having to repeat the module.



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A word on safety

Safety is everyone's concern not only the instructors! Since most accidents involve basic errors your attention is drawn to the following:

- (1) You will be heavily penalised if the instructor has to continuously correct safety errors relating to your personal safety gear during rescue operations.
- (2) You will be penalised should you fail to inspect your equipment prior to use.
- (3) You are obliged to immediately report all lost and or damaged equipment to your lecturer.

About the patient

As an aspirant rescue practitioner you are once again reminded that the central focus of any rescue incident is the patient and not the rescue operation. All scenarios will involve a patient and should appropriate medical management according to your registered scope of practice not be applied or provided, you will fail the assessment (regardless of how well your rescue operation was conducted).

Course Outline

- Section A Fire Behaviour
- Section B Personal Protective Equipment
- Section C Fire Fighting Equipment
- Section D Search & Rescue
- Section E Assessment