

Application for Search and Rescue Weber County Sheriff's Office

When you apply for membership in Search and Rescue for Weber County you must indicate the areas in which you have specific skills. The information below is from the Weber County Sheriff's Office Directives for Search and Rescue. A complete copy of the directives can be obtained from the Internet at:

webersar.org

SAR Skill Groups. In all cases, the statement, "one year of experience..." is understood to mean substantial and aggressive experience, not simply being involved in the activity a few times during the past year. It is required that all members are skilled enough to be self sufficient in wilderness situations. All Unit members are required to have the "ten essentials" which are:

- flashlight and headlamp
- extra clothing
- extra food and water
- water proof matches
- candle or fire starter or stove
- pocket knife
- personal first aid kit
- compass and GPS
- emergency shelter (e.g. space blanket or bivi bag)
- sunglasses

Due to the all-weather nature of SAR operations, all members are required to have adequate foul weather gear. In particular, all members must have a clothing system that is not based on cotton or other non-wicking fabrics. All members must have an outer shell layer of waterproof/wind-proof/breathable material such as Gore-Tex.® Members arriving for a call out with inadequate clothing will not be allowed into the field.

The "Required Training" listed in the following groups is considered as an absolute minimum and should be supplemented by attending training sessions for other groups. "Outside" training may be substituted for required training if approved by the Executive Committee. An example would be members who are also ski patrollers that receive medical training or avalanche training, some evidence of proof of training would be required. Since it is important to know the abilities of your teammates, outside training shall account for no more than one third of the required training for a particular individual. All groups are expected to know how the Incident Command System works which is considered a part of the minimum training for everyone.

Divers (D): *Typical call-out scenario*—Recovery of drowning victims in "still water" such as ponds, lakes, reservoirs, etc. Recovery of submerged vehicles (cars, trucks, boats, aircraft, etc.) or crime scene evidence from "still" water. *Required skills*—Rescue Diver Certification. Dark water experience. *Required training*—underwater search, underwater recovery/salvage, ice diving, basic first aid/CPR. *Required personal equipment*—full wet suit or dry suit, tanks, regulator, buoyancy compensator, mask, snorkel, fins, depth gauge/dive computer, log book.

Swift Water (SW): You must be a member of one of the other groups. *Typical call-out scenario*—Search/rescue/recovery of victims trapped in flowing water defined as rivers and creeks. *Required skills*—One year of water related experience such as diving, boating, kayaking, white water rafting, or canoeing. Strong swimmer. *Required training*—swift water rescue, helicopter, map/compass/GPS, basic first aid/CPR. *Required personal equipment*—personal floatation device, full wet suit (hood optional) or dry suit, harness, carabiner & sling, and helmet.

Airboat (AB): *Typical call-out scenario*—SAR for downed aircraft, lost boaters, lost hunters, etc. in the Great Salt Lake or other areas accessible by airboat. *Required skills*—One year of experience piloting airboats. Strong swimmer. *Required training*—search, helicopter, map/compass/GPS, swift water rescue, familiarization rides, basic first aid/CPR. *Required personal equipment*—personal floatation device, airboat.

Technical Climbers (TC): *Typical call-out scenario*—SAR in any high angle terrain including situations requiring roped lead climbing on rock, ice or snow for access. *Required skills*—Able to lead 5.7 with natural protection and one year of natural protection lead climbing experience. *Required training*—all those listed under “climbers,” aid climbing, ice climbing, avalanche, transceiver search, probe line search, snow anchors, and SKED. *Required personal equipment*—all that listed under “climbers,” crampons, two ice axes (or one ice axe and two ice tools), snow shoes or telemark skis or mountaineering skis, avalanche transceiver, shovel, and probe poles.

Climbers (C): *Typical call-out scenario*—SAR in any high angle terrain in which roped access can be gained from above and that doesn’t require lead climbing and anchor setting. Support for Technical Climbers. *Required skills*—Able to follow and clean 5.6 with natural protection. One year of class 5 (roped) climbing experience. Skilled with all standard climbing knots: figure 8, water knot and grapevine knot. *Required training*—all training listed under “Search,” rappelling and ascending past knots, litter attending (specifically in high angle situations), raising/lowering systems, Tyrolean traverse, tension traverse, *Required personal equipment*—harness, helmet, head lamp, belay/rappel device, 3 locking carabiners, 3 prusik ropes, climbing shoes.

Search (S): *Typical call-out scenario*—SAR in terrain inaccessible to horses and four wheel drive vehicles. Support for technical teams in Swift Water and Climbing situations. *Required skills*—Good physical condition (able to assist in litter handling/loading and other strenuous activities such as hiking with a 30 pound pack). Comfortable scrambling on terrain steep enough to require both hands. Basic first aid training. Experienced with backcountry over night travel. *Required training*—Search, litter setup and attending, scree evacuation, helicopter, map/compass/GPS, basic first aid/CPR, plus attend trainings from at least one other skill group. *Required personal equipment*—helmet, harness, head lamp, 24 hour (three season) all weather field capable. * Search Extreme Team

K-9 (Dog Team) (K): *Typical call-out scenario*—Search for lost hikers, avalanche victims, or drowning victims. *Required skills*—Trained as a SAR dog handler as per WCSO standards. Dogs trained in protection or bite-work will not be allowed on the team. *Required training*—Search, helicopter, map/compass/GPS, basic first aid/CPR, and dog-team-specific training. *Required personal “equipment”*—SAR dog, helmet, head lamp, 24 hour (three season) all weather field capable.

Off Highway Vehicle (OHV): *Typical call-out scenario*—Large terrain search accessible by off highway vehicles, e.g., lost hiker or hunter in the Monte Cristo area. Motorized support, e.g., personnel, material and/or litter transport. *Required skills*—One year experience with off highway 4X4 travel. Either familiar with local terrain or skilled with topographic maps. *Required training*—Search, logistics and support, OHV operations, helicopter, map/compass/GPS, basic first aid/CPR. *Required personal equipment*—Four wheel drive truck with adequate ground clearance, an off highway vehicle (a.k.a. a “four wheeler”) or motorcycle, hand held or other directable search light, shelter and clothing to be able to spend the night in all weather (3 season) conditions, personal first aid kit.

Winter (Snowmobile/Snow Cat) (W): *Typical call-out scenario*—SAR for an overdue snowmobiler or cross-country skier. *Required skills*—One year experience riding snowmobiles or snow cats. Deep snow (“sugar” snow) experience. Steep and tight terrain experience. *Required training*—Avalanche, transceiver search, probe line search, snow anchors, search, helicopter, map/compass/GPS, basic first aid/CPR, winter patient packaging and litter setup/loading, winter injury training (frostbite, etc.). *Required personal equipment*—snowmobile and the ability to transport it (or be a snow cat operator), head lamp, snowshoes, avalanche transceiver, shovel, probes, helmet, clothing and shelter to be able to survive the night, personal first aid kit. * Winter Extreme Team

Winter Back-Country (BC): *Typical call-out scenario*—SAR for overdue skiers, back country skiers, out-of-bounds downhill resort skiers. Support for Snowmobile team if terrain is involved that is too steep or deep for snowmobiles. *Required skills*—Two seasons experience in winter backcountry travel in steep terrain. Experience on snowshoes or skis while wearing a backpack. *Required training*—Avalanche, transceiver search, probe line search, snow anchors, search, helicopter, map/compass/GPS, basic first aid/CPR, winter patient packaging and litter setup/loading, winter injury training (frostbite, etc.). *Required personal equipment*—Snowshoes or

telemark/randonee skis with skins. (Non-metal-edged skis are not acceptable.) Avalanche probe poles, avalanche transceiver, avalanche shovel, harness, helmet, head lamp, large winter backpack, -5°F rated sleeping bag, bivi bag or tent, sleeping pad, winter capable stove (no butane), appropriate clothing (e.g., shell, poly, wool, but no cotton), personal first aid kit. * Back-Country Extreme Team

Mounted SAR horse team (H): *Typical call-out scenario*—SAR for lost hikers and riders in terrain accessible to horses. Support, e.g., personnel, material and/or litter transport. *Required skills*—One year off trail riding experience. *Required training*—Search, helicopter, map/compass/GPS, basic first aid/CPR. *Required personal equipment*—Horse, horse trailer and tack, personal first aid kit. Horse must meet temperament standards.

Medical Support (M): *Typical call-out scenario*—Provide patient care as needed by the groups listed above. It will be the responsibility of the team to provide access to the scene. For example, the technical climbers might lower a Medical Support member to a ledge to provide patient care to a fallen hiker. *Required skills*—EMT-I, paramedic, nurse, or physician. You must be able to work in extreme conditions such as on narrow ledges or in heavy rain. *Required training*—Helicopter, and participate in various training sessions for the above skill groups. You will also be expected to assist in running the medical related training sessions. *Required personal equipment*—helmet, climbing harness, head lamp, and all-weather (four season) clothing.

Logistics and Support (L): *Typical call-out scenario*—Assist in base operations and communications as needed by the incident commander. Provide support for incident command and for all groups as needed. *Required skills*—Knowledge of SAR operations along with a special skill such as computer mapping, radio communications, equipment handling, etc. *Required training*—Helicopter, map/compass/GPS, basic first aid/CPR, logistics, plus you must participate in various training sessions for the above skill groups. *Required personal equipment*—head lamp and all-weather (four season) clothing.

* **Extreme Team (X):** *Typical call-out scenario*—This team is called out when weather or other conditions are especially hazardous, thus requiring a quick response from the most highly skilled members of The Unit. *Required skills*—Requires “Team Leader” status in at least one of the skill groups listed below. Must be 48 hour, four season, all weather field capable. *Required skills and training*—Advanced first aid (EMT, OEC, or higher), patient packaging, litter attending, helicopter, map/compass/GPS, search, all training listed for one of the groups listed below. *Required personal equipment*—head lamp, personal shelter (tent/bivi sack, sleeping bag, pad), and stove/utensils.

Application for WCSSAR

Please use one form for each volunteer! Please print very clearly.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (hm) _____, (wk) _____

Mobile Phone: (hm) _____ (provider) _____

E-mail: _____

To help us place you please fill out the following team interest and skills sheet. You do not need all skills listed for a particular group, but it helps. We are not a basic skills training organization, we expect you to already have many skills. We do provide comprehensive SAR training.

Skill Groups Areas of extensive skill and/or certification

Previous SAR experience: ____ years. What Team? _____

Divers: Rescue diver certified (attach copy of certification) black-water
I have ____ years general diving experience. ice diving

Swift Water: white water kayaking white water raft piloting
 swift water SAR experience/training throw bag experience
I have ____ years swift water experience. I can navigate grade ____ rapids.

Airboat: I own an airboat. I have piloted an airboat.
I have ____ years airboat experience.

Technical Climbers: I lead climb at 5. ____ . ice climber
 I own my own lead rack. big wall experience big mountain experience
I have ____ years technical climbing experience.

Climbers: I can follow a roped climb of 5. ____ difficulty. I have a harness & helmet.
 I know the standard climbing knots ("8," water knot, grapevine).
I have ____ years roped climbing experience.

Search: I can hike mountain trails with a 30+ pound pack.
 GPS/map/compass 4-season all-weather wilderness skills
 I have backpack and camping gear.

- K-9:** I am a certified SAR dog handler and have a certified SAR dog.
I have _____ years of SAR dog handling experience.
I was certified by/to the following standards: _____
Please attach a photocopy of any SAR dog certification materials.
- Off Highway Vehicle:** I own an ATV. I own a dirt bike.
Make/Model/Year/Type: _____
I have _____ years off-trail riding experience.
- Winter:** I own a snowmobile. I own a snowcat. I have operated a snowcat.
Make/Model/Year: _____
 avalanche probe poles, shovel and a beacon. snowmobile/cat trailer
I have _____ years snowmobile or snowcat experience.
- Backcountry Ski Skills:** telemark/Randonee Skier snowboarder-snowshoer
I have _____ years backcountry winter travel experience.
- Mounted Posse:** I own a horse and trailer. Off-trail experienced.
I have _____ years horseback riding experience.
- Medical:** M.D. Nurse Paramedic EMT or OEC
 First Responder CPR only Basic First Aid
Please attach a copy of your medical certification(s).
- Logistics & Support:** Previous SAR experience. Where: _____
 computer mapping skilled radio skilled (e.g. ham)
- Specific Technical skills:** avalanche raising/lowering litters litter attending
 orienteering 48 hr winter survival or camping exp.
 helicopter LZ operations GPS/map/compass
 snow caves welding and/or mechanical repair
 Other: _____

Deliver all completed application forms to the sheriff's office or mail to:

SAR Coordinator, Weber County Sheriff's Office, 721 West 12th St., Ogden, UT 84404

Operator's License and Police Background Check

The following information is required of every person who might operate a county-owned vehicle and/or will be representing the sheriff on official SAR missions. This information and the results of the background check will be kept confidential.

Name: _____

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yy): ___/___/___

Driver's License #: _____

Class of license: _____

Expiration of License: _____

Restrictions as noted on license: _____

I verify that the above information is correct and I currently possess a valid Utah operator's license. I understand that I may not drive vehicles for which I do not have the appropriate license or have not been properly trained. I consent to the Weber County Sheriff's Office checking the validity, restrictions and my driving and police record prior to acceptance of my application and at anytime during the time that I'm representing the Sheriff's Office as a volunteer SAR member. I also understand that it is my responsibility to inform the sheriff's SAR coordinator as soon as my license has been suspended, revoked or modified in any way. I further understand that these responsibilities are a condition of my continued membership on the SAR team.

Signature: _____

Date: _____