



National Search and Rescue School

U.S. COAST GUARD TRAINING CENTER
YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA 23690-5000
(757) 856-2273, fax (757) 856-2242
E-mail: TCY-PF-InlandSAR@uscg.mil

28 April 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR: SAR Coordinators, On-Scene Commanders, and Decision Makers

SUBJECT: Inland SAR Planning Course Schedule for Federal Fiscal Year 2015

1. The FY15 National Search and Rescue School Inland SAR Planning Course schedule is listed below.

<u>Course Number</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u> <i>(Specific locations are subject to change)</i>	<u>Application Deadline</u>
15-01	20-24 October 2014	Topeka, KS	8 Sep 2014
15-02	03-07 November 2014	Tucson, AZ	22 Sep 2014
15-03	08-12 December 2014	Yorktown, VA	27 Oct 2014
15-04	12-16 January 2015	Robertsdale, AL	1 Dec 2014
15-05	02-06 February 2015	Honolulu, HI	15 Dec 2014
15-06	02-06 March 2015	Baltimore, MD	20 Jan 2015
15-07	06-10 April 2015	San Juan, PR	23 Feb 2015
15-08	04-8 May 2015	Cheyenne, WY	23 Mar 2015
15-09	15-19 June 2015	Springfield, MA	4 May 2015
15-10	27-31 July 2015	Albuquerque, NM	15 June 2015
15-11	10-14 August 2015	Fort Indiantown Gap, PA	29 Jun 2015
15-12	14-18 September 2015	Valdosta, GA	3 Aug 2015

2. The Inland SAR planning class is not for beginners. It is an advanced course for experienced on-scene decision makers, planners, operations leaders, and direct support staff members. It presents mathematically based search planning tools with solid theoretical underpinnings, along with some allied topics, focused on improving overall SAR response and success.

3. Openings in each class are limited and must be shared between a variety of agencies and student backgrounds, experience levels, and organizational tiers. While the school accepts applications directly, it is preferred the state or agency SAR Coordinator review applications to make certain he/she is kept abreast of what is happening in the state and to ensure the right people are selected.

a. Application deadlines are approximately 40 - 45 days before class start dates. A welcome package will be sent to confirm attendance approximately 30 days before class start dates and students must firmly commit to attend at that time. Interested agencies should contact the school early to reserve quotas.

b. CAP members **must** apply through their wing training office to CAP National HQ only.

4. The classes are offered tuition-free to US citizens involved directly in SAR. However, each student or their organization is responsible for all personal expenses, travel, lodging, meals, etc.

5. For questions, registration information, or to discuss sponsoring a class in FY16, please contact the school at (757) 856-2273, by fax at -2242, or by e-mail to TCY-PF-InlandSAR@uscg.mil. You can also check the school web page at <http://www.uscg.mil/tcyorktown/Ops/SAR/Inland/default.asp> for more information.

Sincerely,

CLIFTON HICKS, Lt Colonel, USAF
Director, USAF National SAR School

"Always Ready, That Others May Live"



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INLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE PLANNING COURSE

(Education & Training Course Announcements course number: E5AZG1C371-00AA)

The National Search & Rescue School was established in 1966 as a facility devoted exclusively to training professionals to conduct search and rescue (SAR). The school is currently located at USCG Training Center Yorktown, Virginia, and teaches a variety of maritime and inland search planning courses. Graduates number over 22,000 men and women, civilian and military, including over 1,800 from 103 foreign nations.

The 5-day Inland SAR Planning course is a comprehensive look at inland search theory and its application to land and air searches for missing persons and aircraft with a focus on wilderness, not urban, searches.

The course consists of classroom lessons and practical, tabletop exercises. This course does not incorporate field training. Emphasis is on the planning necessary for effective area-type searching during an extended search using Probability of Success (POS), rather than just a few elements of POC (POA) or POD, to predictively allocate limited resources to their best effect. In essence, what to do after the rapid (hasty) search and specialty resources have not found the missing person. Additional topics include pre-plan development, legal aspects, the federal role in SAR, and related subjects. The course does not teach search tactics or technical procedures, as those are well covered from other readily available sources.

The course is directed toward SAR leaders in federal, state, and local emergency services and law enforcement, as well as Civil Air Patrol, international, and volunteer SAR agencies -- **those few people who are responsible for the planning and overall conduct of inland search missions.** The target audience includes on-scene incident commanders and their planners, operations leaders, and up-channel reporting chain. The general searcher or search team leader, while arguably the most important part of the SAR team, will not find this course useful.

Aiming to "find the objective fast," the course centers on tools to help SAR decision makers determine where to search, how to divide an area between limited search resources, and how to craft the overall search effort to gain the best increases in likelihood of success at each step. The tools are mathematically based and not for the faint of heart; they help quantify the uncertainties of the search problem to allow consistent application throughout a mission.

Classes begin promptly at 0800 on the convening date and graduate by 1500 on the fifth day.

Prior to class, students should review and be conversant on the following from their own agencies in order to make class discussions more useful and help integrate class materials with their own search environments back home:

- o Search pre-plans
- o Decision making guidelines for where/when/how to search
- o Agreements and relationships with other SAR agencies
- o How their agency organizes on scene
- o Recent search missions

A firm grounding in SAR terminology and employment techniques, practical SAR experience, basic arithmetic and calculator skills, an understanding of local SAR mission management requirements, and **an open mind** are essential.

Requested Course Dates: _____ Location: _____ E-mail application information to: TCY-PF-InlandSAR@uscg.mil Mail and faxes also accepted at: National SAR School (tsar) USCG Training Center Yorktown Yorktown, VA 23690-5000 757-856-2273, fax -2242	NATIONAL SAR SCHOOL COURSE APPLICATION	
	Full Name	_____
	Title/Position	_____
	Organization	_____
	Mailing Address	_____ _____ _____
	Phone	_____ fax _____
	E-mail address:	_____

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