

MEDICAL SPECIALIST

I. Functional Description

The Medical Specialist is responsible for performing the medical function of the task force incident operation. The Medical Specialist reports directly to the Medical Team Manager.

The Medical Specialist is responsible for the following:

- The general health considerations of and delivery of medical care to all task force personnel, victims, and search dogs, while under the supervision of the Medical Team Manager, during disaster events
- Implementing the medical action plans specified by the Medical Team Manager
- Accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs for all issued equipment
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned during a mission

II. Position Requirements and Criteria

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become Medical Specialists in the National US&R Response System. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel fully capable of providing medical care required by the task force in the urban disaster environment.

III. Required Training

The Medical Specialist must be actively participating in pre-hospital care. He/she shall either be currently certified/licensed as an EMT-Paramedic and have met all the requirements in their local jurisdiction or meet the requirements listed below:

- Physician Assistant
- Registered Nurse-Practitioner
- Registered Nurse who is currently certified / licensed as a Physician Assistant
- Registered Nurse- Practitioner or Registered Nurse – certified within an accredited organization or municipality and meets the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedic Standards or State certification requirements and actively practices advanced pre-hospital life support
- Must be certified and maintain the following, BTLS, ACLS, and PALS regimens (or equivalent)

The Medical Specialist must also have completed the following:

- All administrative and general training requirements
- The FEMA/US&R Medical Team Training Course
- The FEMA/US&R WMD considerations for the medical team
- Technical rescue skill sets and additional required rope rescue skills as defined in Appendix D at the end of this manual

IV. Recommended Training

The Medical Specialist should complete a canine emergency medical course.