



OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

California Incident Command Certification System



June 1st, 2026

To: All CICCIS Peer Review Committees
CC: CICCIS Task Force and CalOES Regional and Special Operations Chiefs
From: Scott Vail CICCIS Task Force Chair

Subject: California Incident Command Certification System Historical Recognition Process for CICCIS Technical Search and Rescue positions for California US&R Company Type-1 (Heavy) and California Regional US&R Task Forces (RTF).

The California Incident Command Certification Systems (CICCIS) Historical recognition process is used to provide an opportunity for individuals possessing extensive experience to apply for newly created positions. All Technical Search and Rescue positions identified in the current CICCIS guide are available for historical recognition.

Certification Letters must be received by the Operational Area Peer Review Committees prior to the close of the historical recognition period, July 1, 2027. Only experience and training obtained prior to the commencement of the historical recognition period will be considered.

Prior to submitting Certification Letters, Sponsoring Agencies shall verify that each person applying for a position under historical recognition has the following documentation on file and available for audit upon request:

- CICCIS Application submitted to your Agency Training Officer for each position applied for.
- Required Training: Refer to the attached Position Training Qualifications Documentation for the specific positions being applied for. For class equivalencies, refer to the Historical Recognition Training Equivalency Document.
- Required Experience: Experience shall be verified via one of the following methods:
 - IAP components (ICS-203s and ICS 204s);
 - Incident Action Plans identifying the applicant's assignment at an incident, mobilization exercise or planned training/drills

- ICS 225s (Incident Performance Rating)
- ICS 214s
- Completed Position Task Books (if applicable)
- Recommendation Letters from superiors or other subject matter experts that have supervised, or can validate the necessary knowledge skills abilities (KSA's)
- Pay documents (must include Incident or Training Event information)

*Note – Documentation from Incidents, Mobilization Exercises and Quarterly Drills where personnel performed in the position being applied for WILL count as qualifying events.

The self-certification process will be overseen by a subject matter expert within each operational area that will act as a liaison between the certifying agencies and the CICCPS PEER Review Committees within each operational area.

After the above information and documentation has been verified, Certification Letters will be submitted to the Local Operational Area CICCPS PEER Review Committee for review and approval. **The above-listed documentation should not be submitted with the Certification Letters for each person applying.**

- One letter will be submitted for each position with a list of all personnel who meet the requirements for that position.
- See the attached Agency Form Letter to use as a template.

Once the Certification Letter has been received by the Local CICCPS PEER Review Committee, they will review and approve. Once approved, a signed copy of the Certification Letters will be sent back to the Agency Training Officer to be filed in each person's training file with the above-mentioned training and experience documentation.

For further information or questions contact OES Fire and Rescue Branch Deputy Chief Scott Vail at scott.vail@oes.ca.gov.

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