



Caroline Thomas Jacobs,
Director

**CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES &
HOMELAND SECURITY**

Law Enforcement Branch

3650 Schriever Avenue
Mather, California 95655
Phone: (916) 845-8700
Fax: (916) 845-8314



Donald M. O'Keefe, Chief

**Direction and Control of the Search Function
"Winter SAR Operations"
WINTER SEARCH MANAGEMENT
SEARCH AND RESCUE COURSE
Hosted By:
Mono County Sheriff's Office
January 25, 2027 – January 29, 2027
POST Control #: 9410-23110-26-001**

The "Direction and Control of the Search Function - Winter SAR Operations" is a 5-Day, 40-hour POST approved classroom and field instruction course with trained, professional, experienced instructors. The course is designed by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Branch for search and rescue coordinators in agencies that may need to conduct a search and rescue mission during severe winter conditions. The course is directed toward search and rescue coordinators, their alternates, team leaders and others having those management responsibilities. Course objectives include:

- How to properly manage a winter search
- Understand the importance of the Winter Search Pre-plan
- Identification and utilization of winter resources; discuss their functions and limitations
- Special considerations for cold weather operations
- Understanding cold weather medical injuries and hypothermia
- The selection of mountain backpacks, contents, and personal clothing
- Identify key factors in avalanche rescue
- Utilization of aircraft in winter operations

- Winter ground search mobility (Nordic skiing, snow shoeing, special equipment, etc.)
- Personal survival in “winter” conditions (sheltering)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

For success, students will need to bring a laptop (no tablets please) and will need to download the CALTopo app on their smartphone. There will be extended periods utilizing laptops for tabletop scenarios, students should bring back up power options such as an extension cord, strip, or battery pack.

STRONGLY ENCOURAGED:

Cal Topo has a mapping and incident response course available at <https://training.caltopo.com/firstresponse/course>. This self-paced course gives students a strong foundation in computer mapping which will assist them in getting the most out of the Direction and Control of the Search Function Advanced Course, and it is strongly encouraged that students complete it prior to the class.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- ✓ Carry chains and check mountain passes for road closures prior to departing
- ✓ A full attendee equipment list for the course will be provided
- ✓ Volunteers, please obtain prior approval from your Sheriff's SAR Coordinator

COURSE INFORMATION:

DATE:

January 25, 2027 – January 29, 2027 (Monday - Friday) 0800-1700
Check-in Sunday, January 24, 2027

TRAINING LOCATION:

Mammoth Mountain Inn
10400 Minaret Road
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

LODGING / RESERVATIONS

Book your group rate for The Mono County Sheriff's Office

You will find the information for your online reservation link below. If you have questions or need help with the link, please do not hesitate to ask. We appreciate your business and look forward to a successful event.

Individuals may book **ONLINE OR VIA PHONE** until the room cutoff date by accessing the following link:

ONLINE:

<https://groups.mammothmountain.com/mammothresort/rlp/20CalOESWinterSearchRescueTraining27>

PHONE:

Call 800-MAMMOTH (1-800-626-6684) before Friday, December 25, 2026 and reference the group name "CalOES Winter Search & Rescue Training 2027" or use booking ID: 38297.

Mammoth Resort Lodging for \$135 - \$235 USD per night
Last Day to Book: Friday, December 25, 2026

Check in is 1600 hours, checkout is 1100 hours. We have the room Friday for ½ day with a noon checkout.

Book early, last year they ran short on rooms!

PARKING:

There is a \$25/ night resort fee, which allows internet access and one parking spot.

COURSE REGISTRATION / APPLICATION PROCESS:

Cal OES and the host agency provide this course free of cost. Enrollment is on a first-come, first-served basis. Applicants should register as soon as possible since applications are accepted as they are received, and class size is limited. When your application is accepted, you will receive notification by email.

Please click on the link below or scan the QR Code and complete the application. You will receive e-mail verification of receipt.

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/g/zyfzCt7kxN>



POST CERTIFIED:

This course is certified by California Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) under Plan IV for full-time regular law enforcement officers.

This course is certified by the California Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) under Plan IV, for full-time, regular law enforcement officers. Each student receives a manual, patch, and a certificate upon course completion.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Course Specific Questions:

Troy Clegg

(916) 531-5456

Troy.Clegg@caloes.ca.gov

General Questions:

CalOESSar@caloes.ca.gov