



**NATIONAL SEARCH AND RESCUE SCHOOL**  
**1 U.S. COAST GUARD TRAINING CENTER**  
**YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA 23690-5000**

23 August 2019

MEMORANDUM FOR SAR Coordinators, Training Officers, and Search Mission Coordinators

FROM: United States Air Force National Search and Rescue School

SUBJECT: Inland SAR Planning Course Schedule for Federal Fiscal Year 2020

Course Number	Dates	Location <i>(Specific locations subject to change)</i>	Registration Links	Application "Deadline"
20-01	9-13 December 2019	Las Vegas, NV	<a href="https://signupforms.com/registrations/19797">https://signupforms.com/registrations/19797</a>	28 Oct 2019
20-02	3-7 February 2020	Denver, CO	<a href="https://signupforms.com/registrations/19799">https://signupforms.com/registrations/19799</a>	16 Dec 2019
20-03	2-6 March 2020	Moundsville, WV	<a href="https://signupforms.com/registrations/19917">https://signupforms.com/registrations/19917</a>	13 Jan 2020
20-04	23-27 March 2020	Chattanooga, TN	<a href="https://signupforms.com/registrations/19919">https://signupforms.com/registrations/19919</a>	10 Feb 2020
20-05	4-8 May 2020	San Diego, CA	<a href="https://signupforms.com/registrations/19921">https://signupforms.com/registrations/19921</a>	30 Mar 2020
20-06	1-5 June 2020	Helena, MT	<a href="https://signupforms.com/registrations/19926">https://signupforms.com/registrations/19926</a>	20 Apr 2020
20-07	22-26 June 2020	Spokane, WA	<a href="https://signupforms.com/registrations/19927">https://signupforms.com/registrations/19927</a>	11 May 2020
20-08	13-17 July 2020	Anchorage, AK	<a href="https://signupforms.com/registrations/19928">https://signupforms.com/registrations/19928</a>	26 May 2020
20-09	3-7 August 2020	Harrisburg, PA	<a href="https://signupforms.com/registrations/19942">https://signupforms.com/registrations/19942</a>	15 June 2020
20-10	24-28 August 2020	Hayward, WI	<a href="https://signupforms.com/registrations/19944">https://signupforms.com/registrations/19944</a>	6 July 2020
20-11	14-18 September 2020	El Paso, TX	<a href="https://signupforms.com/registrations/19945">https://signupforms.com/registrations/19945</a>	27 July 2020

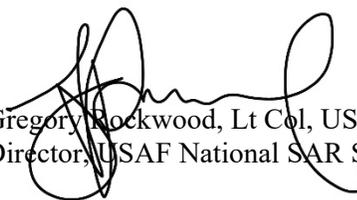
1. The Inland SAR Planning Course is an advanced course for experienced SAR decision makers, planners, operations leaders, and direct support staff members. We present mathematically based search planning tools with solid theoretical bedrock, along with related topics focused on improving overall SAR response and success.

2. A welcome package will be sent to confirm attendance 30 days before class. Applications after the deadline will be accepted if there is still space in the class, although rosters will be built soon after the application deadline in order to guarantee students a seat with a reasonable lead time. Civil Air Patrol members **must** apply through the **ISPC registration links** above **in addition to** registering through **CAP National HQ website** at: [https://missions.caphq.gov/ops/inland\\_sar](https://missions.caphq.gov/ops/inland_sar)

3. Seats in each class are limited and must be shared among a variety of agencies. The classes are offered tuition-free. However, each student or their organization is responsible for all personal expenses, travel, lodging, meals, etc.

4. For questions, registration information, or to discuss sponsoring a class in FY21, please contact the school at (757) 856-2273 or by e-mail to [TCY-PF-InlandSAR@uscg.mil](mailto:TCY-PF-InlandSAR@uscg.mil). For more information, please visit the National SAR School web page at <http://www.forcecom.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/FORCECOM-UNITS/TraCen-Yorktown/Training/Maritime-Search-Rescue/Inland-SAR/>.

Sincerely,

  
Gregory Rockwood, Lt Col, USAF  
Director, USAF National SAR School

*"Always Ready, That Others May Live"*



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**INLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE PLANNING COURSE**

(USAF Air Education & Training 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, may 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; 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, practical SAR experience, basic arithmetic and calculator skills, an understanding of local SAR mission management requirements, and **an open mind** are essential.

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