SKILLS MANUAL

CHAPTER SIXTEEN

ROPE RESCUE AWARENESS/OPERATIONS & TECHNICIAN

NFPA 1006, 2021 Edition

Effective OCTOBER 1, 2025

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CERTIFICATION SKILLS MANUAL – CHAPTER SIXTEEN

ROPE RESCUE

AWARENESS & OPERATIONS

ROPE RESCUE
AWARENESS LEVEL AND OPERATIONS LEVEL
SKILLS LIST

DISCIPLINE	OBJECTIVE	Skill #	SKILL NAME	NFPA 1006 #
Rope Rescue Awareness & Operations	Individual	1	Individual PPE Inspection and Knots	5.2.2, 5.2.3, 5.2.4
Rope Rescue Awareness & Operations	Individual	2	Individual High-Angle Rope System	5.2.5, 5.2.7, 5.2.9, 5.2.10, 5.2.11, 5.2.13, 5.2.14, 5.2.15, 5.2.16, 5.2.17, 5.2.18
Rope Rescue Awareness & Operations	Individual	3	Individual Low-Angle Rope System	5.2.6, 5.2.7, 5.2.21, 5.2.22
Rope Rescue Awareness & Operations	Team	4	Team High-Angle System	5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.1.3, 5.1.4, 5.1.5, 5.2.1, 5.2.4, 5.2.5, 5.2.7, 5.2.8, 5.2.9, 5.2.10, 5.2.12, 5.2.13, 5.2.14, 5.2.15, 5.2.16, 5.2.19, 5.2.23, 5.2.24
Rope Rescue Awareness & Operations	Team	5	Team Patient Packaging	5.1.5, 5.2.20

There are five total skills that may be drawn for skills testing. Skill numbers four and five are “Team Skills.” Skill numbers one, two, and three are “Individual Skills.” When drawing skills for TCFP designated skills testing, one of the two Team Skills will be randomly selected, and one of the three Individual Skills will be selected. This will ensure that a candidate will be evaluated in both the Awareness level and Operations level Job Performance Requirements (JPRs). Additionally, this will ensure that each candidate demonstrates competence as part of a team as well as demonstrating competence individually.

INSTRUCTIONS
ROPE RESCUE - AWARENESS & OPERATIONS
PERFORMANCE SKILLS

Format

There are five total skills in the Rope Rescue - Awareness Level & Operations Level Certification Skills Manual. These five skills are broken into two sections:

1) **Individual Skills** – Those skills intended to measure the candidate's ability to perform Rope Rescue skills by themselves, without assistance.
   a) Skill 1 – PPE Inspection and Knots
   b) Skill 2 – Build/Operate a High-Angle System
   c) Skill 3 – Build /Operate a Low-Angle System

2) **Team Skills** – Those skills intended to measure the candidate's ability to function within a team and perform Rope Rescue actions consistent with the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and NFPA 1006 requirements. Both of the Team Skills have evaluation criteria for Job Performance Requirements (JPRs) from both the Awareness Level and Operations Level sections of NFPA 1006.
   a) Skill 4 – Team High-Angle System
   b) Skill 5 – Team Patient Packaging

The Commission will select one Individual Skill and one Team Skill for each designated skill testing session. By selecting one skill from each category, this ensures JPRs from both Awareness and Operations sections of NFPA 1006 will be evaluated while at the same time it ensures the individual candidate is evaluated for their ability to perform skills both individually and as part of a team.

Scoring Method

The scoring method is Satisfactory (S) or Unsatisfactory (U) for each step of the skill, and a Pass or Fail for the overall skill sheet. In order to successfully pass a skill, the candidate must receive satisfactory scores in all the steps of the skill.

Any unsatisfactory or individual skill failure shall require the Examiner to explain the reason for the failure in written form in the comments section of the skill sheet.

Preparation and Equipment

Individual Skills – should only be performed by the individual candidate being evaluated. Some of these skills require "assistants" but the assistants should only perform tasks at

the direction of the candidate being evaluated. Candidates that have not been tested for that specific skill shall not be used as an “assistant.”

Team Skills – require multiple candidates and all candidates are evaluated at the same time. The skills sheet for each skill will identify how many candidates are allowed to test at the same time.

The equipment required for each skill is listed at the bottom of each skill sheet. The specific brand, model, and quantity will be driven by the AHJ and their specific technical preferences. For consistency, all students participating in a given testing session should be provided the same equipment (brand, model, and quantity).

Specific Performance Skill Information

Skill 1 – PPE Inspection and Knots

This skill evaluates the individual candidate’s ability to maintain and inspect PPE, and also evaluates the candidate’s ability to tie required knots. The candidate will perform this skill by themselves without assistance. The specific knots selected will be chosen by the AHJ and should be consistent for all candidates testing.

Skill 2 – Build/Operate a High-Angle System and Skill 3 – Build/Operate a Low-Angle System

These skills evaluate the candidate’s ability to individually build lowering and raising systems for the Low- and High-Angle environments. This should be done in a flat terrain (e.g., apparatus bay, parking lot, wooded area).

Skill 4 – Team High-Angle System

This skill is a team event and a location should be selected that allows the team to lower and raise a rescuer or a litter in vertical terrain (e.g. training tower, cliff, top of building). The team will all be evaluated at the same time.

Skill 5 – Patient Packaging

This skill should be performed by a team. The team will all be evaluated at the same time. A patient packaging device consistent with the AHJ requirements should be used and any specific packaging criteria required by the AHJ or the manufacturer should be used.

ROPE RESCUE
AWARENESS & OPERATIONS

EQUIPMENT LIST

Personal Protective Equipment

- Boots – rope rescue
- Gloves – rope rescue
- Helmets – rope rescue

Communication Equipment

- Communication devices
- Community resource lists

Training Devices/Props/Simulators

- Carabiners, locking
- Descent control/ascending devices
- Fall protection/restraint equipment
- Flexible and rigid litter devices
- Harness, rescue
- Harness, victim
- Knot tying rope, cordage, and webbing
- Lanyards, climbing/fall arrest (100% tie off)
- Lanyards, work positioning
- Patient packaging materials
- Personnel accountability system
- Portable anchor device
- Pulleys (single and double)
- Raising/lowering/belay devices
- Rope — life safety
- Rope grab devices
- Spinal immobilization devices, short and long

TCFP-Recommended Additional Items

- Eye protection
- Edge protection
- Equipment bag/container

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations

Performance Standards Evaluation

Individual PPE Inspection & Knots – Skill 1

Written Project and Oral Presentation

NFPA 1006, 2021 Edition **Section 16.101**

5.2.2, 5.2.3, 5.2.4

OBJECTIVE

Maintain hazard-specific PPE, given clothing or equipment for the protection of the rescuers, inspection procedures, cleaning and sanitation supplies, maintenance logs or records, and such tools and resources as are indicated by the manufacturer's guidelines for assembly or disassembly of components during repair or maintenance, so that damage, defects, and wear are identified and reported or repaired, equipment functions as designed, and preventive maintenance has been performed and documented consistent with the manufacturer's recommendations. (5.2.2)

Maintain rescue equipment, given maintenance logs and records, tools, and resources as indicated by the manufacturer's guidelines, inspection procedures, equipment replacement protocol, and organizational standard operating procedure, so that the operational status of equipment is verified and documented, all components are checked for operation, deficiencies are repaired or reported as indicated by standard operating procedure, and items subject to replacement protocol are correctly disposed of and changed. (5.2.3)

Demonstrate knots, bends, and hitches, given ropes, webbing, and a list of knots used by the agency, so that the knots are dressed, recognizable, and backed up as required. (5.2.4)

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective

Given a specific piece of rope rescue equipment, you will be directed to verbalize the steps necessary to inspect and maintain the item per the manufacturer's guidelines and AHJ SOP. Once the inspection is completed, you will then be required to tie the following knots: end-of-line loop, midline loop, gripping rope, secure rope around desired object, joining ropes or webbing ends together.

You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all of the identified steps. Do you understand these instructions?

EXAMINER NOTE:

The candidate should be provided with a single piece of rope rescue equipment (e.g., carabiner, rope, pulley, webbing, harness) for inspection. The examiner will pick one knot, consistent with AHJ SOP, per category (end-of-line loop, midline loop, gripping rope, secure rope around desired object, joining ropes or webbing ends together) for the candidate to tie.

The candidate will not be allowed to review the performance steps at the time of the testing.

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT

Provide the following items to the candidate(s) for this skill:

- A single piece of rope or rope rescue equipment for inspection
- Knot tying rope, cordage, and webbing should be provided to tie the identified knots.

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Individual PPE Inspection & Knots – Skill 1

Candidate: _____ Notes: _____

Dept: _____ _____

School: _____ _____

Examiner(s) _____ / _____ _____

Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations				
Skill 1				
NFPA 1006, 2021 edition: 5.2.2, 5.2.3, 5.2.4				
	TEST		**RETEST**	
The candidate:	**S**	**U**	**S**	**U**
a) Performed inspection of PPE or rope for damage wear and operational readiness				
b) Verbalized replacement protocol and retirement criteria for equipment including disposal according to AHJ SOP and manufacturer requirements				
c) Verbalized completion of logs and records				
d) Verbalized when to clean equipment and what supplies/tools to use				
e) Performed skill in a safe and proficient manner				
The candidate tied the following knots/bends/hitches:	**S**	**U**	**S**	**U**
f) End-of-line loop				
g) Midline loop				
h) Gripping rope				
i) Secured rope around a desired object				
j) Joined rope or webbing ends together				

S = Satisfactorily completed/performed
U = Unsatisfactorily performed/failed to meet objective or grading step

All steps of the skill objective are mandatory and must be scored as "Satisfactory" to pass the skill.

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Examiner/Candidate Comments:

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_____	_____	Overall Skill Sheet Score	
Certifying Examiner	Date	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
_____	_____	Overall Skill Sheet Re-Test Score	
Re-Test Certifying Examiner	Date	Pass ☐	Fail ☐

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Individual High-Angle Rope System – Skill 2

NFPA 1006, 2021 Edition **Section 16.101**

5.2.5, 5.2.7, 5.2.9, 5.2.10, 5.2.11, 5.2.13, 5.2.14, 5.2.15, 5.2.16, 5.2.17, 5.2.18

OBJECTIVE

Construct a single-point anchor system, given life safety rope and other auxiliary rope rescue equipment, so that the chosen anchor system fits the incident needs, meets or exceeds the expected load, and does not interfere with rescue operations, an efficient anchor point is chosen, the need for redundant anchor points is assessed and used as required, the anchor system is inspected and loaded prior to being placed into service, and the integrity of the system is maintained throughout the operation. (5.2.5)

Conduct a system safety check, given rope rescue system and rescue personnel, so that a physical/visual check of the system is made to ensure proper rigging, a load test is performed prior to life-loading the system, and verbal confirmation of these actions is announced and acknowledged before life-loading the rope rescue system. (5.2.7)

Construct a system intended to provide belay within a single- or two-tensioned rope system, given life safety rope, anchor systems, PPE, and rope rescue equipment, so that the system is capable of arresting a fall, a fall will not result in system failure, the system is not loaded unless actuated, actuation of the system will not injure or otherwise incapacitate the belay operator, the belay operator is not rigged into the equipment components of the system, and the system is suitable to the site and is connected to an anchor system and the load. (5.2.9)

Operate a system intended to provide belay within a single- or two-tensioned rope system during a lowering or raising operation, given an operating lowering or raising mechanical advantage system, a specified minimum travel distance for the load, a system, and a load, so that the potential fall factor is minimized, the belay is not actuated during normal lowering and raising operations, the belay system is prepared for actuation at all times during the operation, the belay operator is attentive at all times during the operation, the load's position is continually monitored, and the belay operator moves rope through the belay device as designed. (5.2.10)

Belay a falling load in a high-angle environment, given a belay and a failed line creating a dropped load, so that the belay line is not taut until the load is falling, the belay device is actuated when the load falls, the fall is arrested in a manner that minimizes the force transmitted to the load, the belay operator utilizes the belay device as designed, and the belay operator is not injured or otherwise incapacitated during actuation of the belay system. (5.2.11)

Construct a lowering system, given an anchor system, life safety rope(s), descent control device, and auxiliary rope rescue equipment, so that the system can accommodate the load, is efficient, is capable of controlling the descent, is capable of holding the load in place or lowering with minimal effort over the required distance, and is connected to an anchor system and the load. (5.2.13)

Direct a lowering operation in a high-angle environment, given rescue personnel, an established lowering system, a specified minimum travel distance for the load, and a load to be moved, so that the movement is controlled, the load can be held in place when needed, operating methods do not stress the system to the point of failure, rope commands are used to direct the operation, and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed. (5.2.14)

Construct a simple rope mechanical advantage system, given life safety rope, carabiners, pulleys, rope grab devices, and auxiliary rope rescue equipment, so that the system constructed can accommodate the load, is efficient, and is connected to an anchor system and the load. (5.2.15)

Direct a team in the operation of a simple rope mechanical advantage system in a high-angle raising operation, given rescue personnel, an established rope rescue system incorporating a simple rope mechanical advantage system, a specified minimum travel distance for the load, a load to be moved, and an anchor system, so that the movement is controlled, a reset is accomplished, the load can be held in place when needed, operating methods do not stress the system to the point of failure, commands are used to direct the operation, and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed. (5.2.16)

Construct a compound rope mechanical advantage system, given a load, an anchor system, life safety rope, carabiners, pulleys, rope grab devices, and rope rescue equipment, so that the system constructed accommodates the load and reduces the force required to lift the load, operational interference is factored and minimized, the system is efficient, a system safety check is completed, and the system is connected to an anchor system and the load. (5.2.17)

Direct the operation of a compound rope mechanical advantage system in a high-angle environment, given a rope rescue system incorporating a compound rope mechanical advantage system and a load to be moved, and a specified minimum travel distance for the load, so that a system safety check is performed; a reset is accomplished, and the movement is controlled; the load can be held in place when needed; operating methods do not stress the system to the point of failure; operational commands are clearly communicated; and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed. (5.2.18)

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective

You will be directed to build a lowering system to be used in the high-angle environment. Once the system is built, I will inspect the rigging. Then you, with two assistants, will demonstrate the operation of the lowering system. I will then direct you to build either a Simple or Compound raising system for use in the high-angle environment. Once the system is built, I will inspect the rigging. Then you, with two assistants, will demonstrate the operation of the raising system. During one of the operations there will be a simulated belay activation, and you will need to arrest the simulated falling load.

You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all of the identified steps. Do you understand these instructions?

EXAMINER NOTE:

This skill is intended to be performed in flat terrain (e.g., apparatus bay, parking lot, wooded area). Only the candidate being evaluated can build the system. The Examiner should direct the candidate to build either a simple or a complex haul system. Assistants should only perform tasks at the direction of the candidate being evaluated. Either the Examiner or an assistant can be used as the “load” for the skill. The person acting as a “load” must be wearing a harness.

The candidate will not be allowed to review the performance steps at the time of testing.

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT

Provide the following items to the candidate(s) for this skill station. Specific brand and model of equipment will be determined by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).

- 10 Carabiners
- 3-4 Ropes
- 4 Pieces of webbing or other anchoring material
- 2 Raising/lowering/belay devices
- 3 Rope grab devices
- 4 Single pulleys
- 2 Double pulleys
- Other items as identified by the AHJ that are specific to their methods and techniques

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Individual High-Angle Rope System – Skill 2

Candidate: _____ Notes: _____

Dept: _____ _____

School: _____ _____

Examiner(s) _____ / _____ _____

Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations				
Skill 2				
NFPA 1006, 2021 edition: 5.2.5, 5.2.7, 5.2.9, 5.2.10, 5.2.11, 5.2.13, 5.2.14, 5.2.15, 5.2.16, 5.2.17, 5.2.18				
	TEST		**RETEST**	
The Candidate:	**S**	**U**	**S**	**U**
a) Donned and used the appropriate harnesses and PPE				
b) Evaluated surroundings for potential hazards, selected proper systems, and applied rigging principles				
c) Determined expected loads				
d) Evaluated all anchors for required strength, location, surface contour, and meeting AHJ criteria				
e) Constructed the lowering system properly and met AHJ criteria				
f) Constructed and anchored the hauling mechanical advantage system (either Simple or Compound system) properly				
g) Managed the load appropriately as it moved over terrain				
h) Conducted operation of both systems (lower and raise) using operational commands and ensured system efficiency while directing personnel				
i) Attached belay (or second tensioned rope) properly, tended effectively, and arrested simulated falling load				

j) Communicated clearly that a falling load was arrested				
k) Performed safety checks, evaluated the system and components for compromised integrity and identified any safety concerns				
l) Ensured all knots were adequate and met AHJ criteria				
m) Performed skill in a safe and proficient manner				

S = Satisfactorily completed/performed
U = Unsatisfactorily performed/failed to meet objective or grading step

All steps of the skill objective are mandatory and must be scored as "Satisfactory" to pass the skill.

Examiner/Candidate Comments:

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_____ _____
Certifying Examiner Date

_____ _____
Re-Test Certifying Examiner Date

Overall Skill Sheet Score	
Pass ☐	Fail ☐
Overall Skill Sheet Re-Test Score	
Pass ☐	Fail ☐

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Individual Low-Angle Rope System – Skill 3

NFPA 1006, 2021 Edition **Section 16.101**

5.2.6, 5.2.7, 5.2.21, 5.2.22

OBJECTIVE

Construct a multiple-point anchor system, given life safety rope and other auxiliary rope rescue equipment, so that the chosen anchor system fits the incident needs, the system strength meets or exceeds the expected load and does not interfere with rescue operations, equipment is visually inspected prior to being put in service, the most appropriate anchor points are chosen, the anchor system is system safety checked prior to being placed into service, the integrity of the system is maintained throughout the operation, and the force will be distributed — proportionally or disproportionally — between more than one anchor point. (5.2.6)

Conduct a system safety check, given a rope rescue system and rescue personnel, so that a physical/visual check of the system is made to ensure proper rigging, a load test is performed prior to life-loading the system, and verbal confirmation of these actions is announced and acknowledged before life-loading the rope rescue system. (5.2.7)

Direct a litter-lowering and litter-raising operation in a low-angle environment, given rescue personnel, litter tender(s), an established lowering/mechanical advantage system, a specified minimum travel distance for the load and a victim packaged in a litter to be moved, so that the litter is attached to the lowering/raising and belay systems, movement is controlled; litter tender(s) are used to manage the litter during the lower and raise, the litter can be held in place when needed; operating methods do not stress the system to the point of failure; rope commands are used to direct the operation; and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed. (5.2.21)

Operate as a litter tender in a low-angle lowering or raising operation, given a rope rescue system, a specified minimum travel distance for the litter tender, life safety harnesses, litters, bridles, and specialized equipment necessary for the environment, so that risks to victims and rescuers are minimized; the means of attachment to the rope rescue system is secure; and the terrain is negotiated while minimizing risks to equipment or persons. (5.2.22)

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective

You will be directed to build a lowering system to be used in the low-angle environment. The system shall be anchored to a multi-point anchor. Once the system is built, I will inspect the rigging. Then you, with two assistants, will demonstrate the operation of the lowering system. I will then direct you to build a raising system for use in the high-angle environment. Once the system is built, I will inspect the rigging. Then you, with two assistants, will demonstrate the operation of the raising system. After you have demonstrated the operation of the systems, you will be asked to describe the duties of a litter tender in the low-angle environment.

You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all the identified steps. Do you understand the instructions?

EXAMINER NOTE:

This skill is intended to be performed in flat terrain (e.g. apparatus bay, parking lot, wooded area). Only the candidate being evaluated can build the system. Assistants should only perform tasks at the direction of the candidate being evaluated. Either the Examiner or an assistant can be used as the “load” for the skill. The person acting as a “load” must be wearing a harness.

The candidate will not be allowed to review the performance steps at the time of testing.

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT

Provide the following items to the candidate(s) for this skill station. Specific brand and model of equipment will be determined by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).

- 6 Carabiners
- 2 Ropes
- 2 Pieces of webbing or other anchoring material
- 2 Raising/lowering/belay devices
- 2 Rope grab devices
- 2 Single pulleys
- 1 Double pulleys
- Other items as identified by the AHJ that are specific to their methods and techniques

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Individual Low-Angle Rope System – Skill 3

Candidate: _____ Notes: _____

Dept: _____ _____

School: _____ _____

Examiner(s) _____ / _____ _____

Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations				
Skill 3				
NFPA 1006, 2021 edition: 5.2.6, 5.2.7, 5.2.21, 5.2.22				
	TEST		**RETEST**	
The Candidate:	**S**	**U**	**S**	**U**
a) Donned and used the appropriate harnesses and PPE				
b) Evaluated surroundings for potential hazards, selected proper systems, and applied rigging principles				
c) Selected proper anchor points and ensured multi-point anchor construction was adequate and met AHJ criteria				
d) Determined expected loads				
e) Constructed the lowering system properly and met AHJ criteria				
f) Constructed and anchored the hauling mechanical advantage system properly				
g) Attached load properly to the rope system allowing it to maneuver across terrain and/or managed a litter while suspended from rope				
h) Conducted operation of both systems using operational commands and ensured system efficiency while directing personnel				
i) Performed safety checks, evaluated the system and components for compromised integrity and identified any safety concerns				
j) Ensured all knots were adequate and met AHJ criteria				

k) Ensured low-angle litter tender duties were described and met AHJ criteria				
l) Performed skill in a safe and proficient manner				

S = Satisfactorily completed/performed
U = Unsatisfactorily performed/failed to meet objective or grading step

All steps of the skill objective are mandatory and must be scored as "Satisfactory" to pass the skill.

Examiner/Candidate Comments:

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Certifying Examiner Date

_____ _____
Re-Test Certifying Examiner Date

Overall Skill Sheet Score	
Pass ☐	Fail ☐
Overall Skill Sheet Re-Test Score	
Pass ☐	Fail ☐

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Team High-Angle Rope System – Skill 4

NFPA 1006, 2021 Edition **Section 16.101**

5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.1.3, 5.1.4, 5.1.5, 5.2.1, 5.2.4, 5.2.5, 5.2.7, 5.2.8, 5.2.9, 5.2.10, 5.2.12, 5.2.13, 5.2.14, 5.2.15, 5.2.16, 5.2.19, 5.2.23, 5.2.24

OBJECTIVE

Assist a team in operation of the haul line of a rope mechanical advantage system raising operation, given rescue personnel, an established rope rescue system, a load to be moved, and an anchor system, so that the movement is controlled; a reset is accomplished; the load can be held in place when needed; commands are followed in direction of the operation; and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed. (5.1.1)

Size up a rope rescue incident, given background information and applicable reference materials, so that the scope of the rescue is determined, the number of victims is identified, the last reported location of all the victims is established, witnesses and reporting parties are identified and interviewed, resource needs are assessed, primary search parameters are identified, and information required to develop an initial incident action plan is obtained. (5.1.2)

Recognize incident hazards and initiate isolation procedures, given scene control barriers, personal protective equipment (PPE), requisite equipment, and available specialized resources, so that all hazards are identified; resource application fits the operational requirements; hazard isolation is considered; risks to rescuers, bystanders, and victims are minimized; and rescue time constraints are taken into account. (5.1.3)

Recognize the need for technical rescue resources at an operations- or technician-level incident, given AHJ guidelines, so that the need for additional resources is identified, the response system is initiated, the scene is secured and rendered safe until additional resources arrive, and awareness-level personnel are incorporated into the operational plan. (5.1.4)

Support an operations- or technician-level incident, given an incident, an assignment, an incident action plan, and resources from the tool kit, so that the assignment is carried out, progress is reported to command, environmental concerns are managed, personnel rehabilitation is facilitated, and the incident action plan is supported. (5.1.5)

Perform size up of a rescue incident, given background information and applicable reference materials, so that the type of rescue is determined, the number of victims is identified, the last reported location of all victims is established, witnesses and reporting parties are identified and interviewed, resource needs are assessed, search parameters

are identified, and information required to develop an incident action plan is obtained. (5.2.1)

Demonstrate knots, bends, and hitches, given ropes, webbing, and a list of knots used by the agency, so that the knots are dressed, recognizable, and backed up as required. (5.2.4)

Construct a single-point anchor system, given life safety rope and other auxiliary rope rescue equipment, so that the chosen anchor system fits the incident needs, meets or exceeds the expected load, and does not interfere with rescue operations, an efficient anchor point is chosen, the need for redundant anchor points is assessed and used as required, the anchor system is inspected and loaded prior to being placed into service, and the integrity of the system is maintained throughout the operation. (5.2.5)

Conduct a system safety check, given a rope rescue system and rescue personnel, so that a physical/visual check of the system is made to ensure proper rigging, a load test is performed prior to life-loading the system, and verbal confirmation of these actions is announced and acknowledged before life-loading the rope rescue system. (5.2.7)

Place edge protection, given life safety rope or webbing traversing a sharp or abrasive edge, edge protection, and other auxiliary rope rescue equipment, so that the rope or webbing is protected from abrasion or cutting, the rescuer is safe from falling while placing the edge protection, the edge protection is secure, and the rope or webbing is securely placed on the edge protection. (5.2.8)

Construct a system intended to provide belay within a single- or two-tensioned rope system, given life safety rope, anchor systems, PPE, and rope rescue equipment, so that the system is capable of arresting a fall, a fall will not result in system failure, the system is not loaded unless actuated, actuation of the system will not injure or otherwise incapacitate the belay operator, the belay operator is not rigged into the equipment components of the system, and the system is suitable to the site and is connected to an anchor system and the load. (5.2.9)

Operate a system intended to provide belay within a single- or two-tensioned rope system during a lowering or raising operation, given an operating lowering or raising mechanical advantage system, a specified minimum travel distance for the load, a system, and a load, so that the potential fall factor is minimized, the belay is not actuated during normal lowering and raising operations, the belay system is prepared for actuation at all times during the operation, the belay operator is attentive at all times during the operation, the load's position is continually monitored, and the belay operator moves rope through the belay device as designed. (5.2.10)

Construct a fixed rope system, given an anchor system, a life safety rope, and rope rescue equipment, so that the system constructed can accommodate the load, is efficient, and is connected to an anchor system and the load, and a system safety check is performed and the results meet the incident requirements for descending or ascending operations. (5.2.12)

Construct a lowering system, given an anchor system, life safety rope(s), descent control device, and auxiliary rope rescue equipment, so that the system can accommodate the load, is efficient, is capable of controlling the descent, is capable of holding the load in place or lowering with minimal effort over the required distance, and is connected to an anchor system and the load. (5.2.13)

Direct a lowering operation in a high-angle environment, given rescue personnel, an established lowering system, a specified minimum travel distance for the load, and a load to be moved, so that the movement is controlled, the load can be held in place when needed, operating methods do not stress the system to the point of failure, rope commands are used to direct the operation, and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed. (5.2.14)

Construct a simple rope mechanical advantage system, given life safety rope, carabiners, pulleys, rope grab devices, and auxiliary rope rescue equipment, so that the system constructed can accommodate the load, is efficient, and is connected to an anchor system and the load. (5.2.15)

Direct a team in the operation of a simple rope mechanical advantage system in a high-angle raising operation, given rescue personnel, an established rope rescue system incorporating a simple rope mechanical advantage system, a specified minimum travel distance for the load, a load to be moved, and an anchor system, so that the movement is controlled, a reset is accomplished, the load can be held in place when needed, operating methods do not stress the system to the point of failure, commands are used to direct the operation, and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed. (5.2.16)

Negotiate an edge while attached to a rope rescue system during a high-angle lowering and raising operation, given a rope rescue system, a specified minimum travel distance for the rescuer, life safety harnesses, an edge to negotiate during the lower and raise, and specialized equipment necessary for the environment, so that risk to the rescuer is minimized; the means of attachment to the rope rescue system is secure; and all projections and edges are negotiated while minimizing risks to the rescuer or equipment. (5.2.19)

Direct a litter-lowering or litter-raising operation in a high-angle environment, given rescue personnel, an established lowering/mechanical advantage system, a specified minimum travel distance for the load, a victim packaged in a litter to be moved, and a means for negotiating edges and projections along the travel path, so that the litter is attached to the lowering/raising and belay systems, an edge is negotiated during a lower and raise; tag lines are used to manage the litter during the lower and raise; the litter can be held in place when needed; operating methods do not stress the system to the point of failure; rope commands are used to direct the operation; and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed. (5.2.23)

Terminate a technical rescue operation, given an incident scenario, assigned resources, and site safety data, so that rescuer risk and site safety are managed, scene security is maintained and custody transferred to a responsible party, personnel and resources are returned to a state of readiness, record keeping and documentation occur, and post event analysis is conducted. (5.2.24)

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective

Given the high-angle terrain provided you will build a two-rope lowering and raising system to lower and raise either a litter or a rescuer. You will perform both a raise and a lower. One of you (selected by me) will be the team leader and will direct the operation. The others will perform tasks as directed by the team leader. All of you will be graded as part of this skill.

You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all the identified steps. Do you understand the instructions?

EXAMINER NOTE:

Skill should be performed by a group not to exceed five candidates. Additional roles can be filled with “assistant(s)” and the candidates should be provided a training site with vertical terrain of at least 20-feet (e.g., training tower, cliff, top of building). One student should be selected as the team leader to lead the operation. The Examiner should randomly choose either a litter or a rescuer to be raised and lowered.

The candidates will not be allowed to review the performance steps at the time of testing.

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT

Provide the following items to the candidate(s) for this skill station. Specific brand and model of equipment will be determined by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)

- 10 Carabiners
- 4 Ropes
- 4 pieces of webbing or other anchoring material
- 2 Raising/lowering/belay devices
- 3 Rope grab devices
- 4 Single pulleys
- 2 Double pulleys
- Edge protection
- Harnesses as needed for fall protection
- Rescue litter (if doing a litter operation)
- Patient packaging materials
- Other items as identified by the AHJ that are specific to their methods and techniques

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Team High-Angle Rope System – Skill 4

Candidate: _____ Notes: _____

Dept: _____ _____

School: _____ _____

Examiner(s) _____ / _____ _____

Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations				
Skill 4				
NFPA 1006, 2021 edition: 5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.1.3, 5.1.4, 5.1.5, 5.2.1, 5.2.4, 5.2.5, 5.2.7, 5.2.8, 5.2.9, 5.2.10, 5.2.12, 5.2.13, 5.2.14, 5.2.15, 5.2.16, 5.2.19, 5.2.23, 5.2.24				
	TEST		**RETEST**	
The Candidate:	**S**	**U**	**S**	**U**
a) Performed a size up and identified hazards using technical rescue reference materials, gathered information, interviewed people on site and relayed any pertinent information				
b) Verbalized that this is a rope rescue requiring operations level responders, identified incident hazards, and placed control barriers				
c) Implemented operational protocols after identifying incident hazards, placed control barriers, worked within the incident management system following the incident action plan, and reported task status to their supervisor				
d) Donned and used the appropriate harnesses and PPE				
e) Evaluated surroundings for potential hazards, selected proper systems, and applied rigging principles				
f) Determined expected loads				
g) Evaluated all anchors for required strength, location, surface contour, and meeting AHJ criteria				

h) Ensured two ropes supported the load by either a main/belay or a two tensioned rope system with the system status relayed as needed				
i) Attached belay (or second tensioned rope) properly and tended effectively				
j) Constructed the lowering system properly and met AHJ criteria				
k) Constructed and anchored the hauling mechanical advantage system (either Simple or Compound system) properly				
l) Conducted operation of both systems (lowering and raising) using operational commands and ensured system efficiency while directing personnel				
m) Used edge protection, secured the rope(s) and edge protection in place, and protected the rescuers working near the edge				
n) Ensured the litter or rescuer transitioned the edge safely while attached to ropes/harnesses, maneuvered across projections, and evaluated the edge for hazards				
o) Performed safety checks, evaluated the system and components for compromised integrity and identified any safety concerns				
p) Ensured all knots were adequate and met AHJ criteria				
q) Terminated scenario and accounted for all personnel according to AHJ criteria for personnel tracking and data collection				
r) Performed skill in a safe and proficient manner				

S = Satisfactorily completed/performed
U = Unsatisfactorily performed/failed to meet objective or grading step

All steps of the skill objective are mandatory and must be scored as "Satisfactory" to pass the skill.

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Examiner/Candidate Comments:

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_____	_____	Overall Skill Sheet Score	
Certifying Examiner	Date	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
_____	_____	Overall Skill Sheet Re-Test Score	
Re-Test Certifying Examiner	Date	Pass ☐	Fail ☐

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Team Patient Packaging – Skill 5

NFPA 1006, 2021 Edition **Section 16.101**

5.1.5, 5.2.20

OBJECTIVE

Support an operations- or technician-level incident, given an incident, an assignment, an incident action plan, and resources from the tool kit, so that the assignment is carried out, progress is reported to command, environmental concerns are managed, personnel rehabilitation is facilitated, and the incident action plan is supported. (5.1.5)

Prepare for transfer of victims, given diagnostic and packaging equipment and an actual or simulated EMS agency, so that rescuers and victims are protected from hazards, victim injuries or illnesses are managed, and victims are delivered to the EMS provider with information regarding the history of the rescue activity and victim conditions. (5.2.20)

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective

Wearing the appropriate PPE, the team will package a patient into a litter according to AHJ SOP and manufacturer recommendations. One person will be selected as the team leader.

You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all of the identified steps. Do you understand these instructions?

EXAMINER NOTE:

Skill should be performed by a group of 3-5 candidates. One candidate should be selected as the team leader to lead the operation. A litter used by the AHJ and a person (not being evaluated) or a training manikin that is at least 5-feet, 6-inches tall should be provided. Consistent height of patient or manikin needs to be maintained to allow for consistent lashing methods.

The candidates will not be allowed to review the performance steps at the time of testing.

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT

Provide the following items to the candidate(s) for this skill station. Specific brand and model of equipment will be determined by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).

- Litter
- Patient packaging materials
- Manikin or simulated patient
- Other items as identified by the AHJ that are specific to their methods and techniques

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Team Patient Packaging – Skill 5

Candidate: _____ Notes: _____

Dept: _____ _____

School: _____ _____

Examiner(s) _____ / _____ _____

Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations				
Skill 5				
NFPA 1006, 2021 edition: 5.1.5, 5.2.20				
	TEST		**RETEST**	
The Candidate:	**S**	**U**	**S**	**U**
a) Identified who the team leader/supervisor was and functioned within an incident management system				
b) Applied operational protocols				
c) Selected an appropriate litter				
d) Secured patient properly into the litter according to AHJ criteria and manufacturer recommendations				
e) Provided treatment methods appropriate for the situation and gave patient transfer reports in verbal or written format				
f) Performed skill in a safe and proficient manner				

S = Satisfactorily completed/performed
U = Unsatisfactorily performed/failed to meet objective or grading step

All steps of the skill objective are mandatory and must be scored as "Satisfactory" to pass the skill.

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Awareness & Operations
Performance Standards Evaluation

Examiner/Candidate Comments:

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_____	_____	Overall Skill Sheet Score	
Certifying Examiner	Date	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
_____	_____	Overall Skill Sheet Re-Test Score	
Re-Test Certifying Examiner	Date	Pass ☐	Fail ☐

CERTIFICATION SKILLS MANUAL – CHAPTER SIXTEEN

ROPE RESCUE

TECHNICIAN

ROPE RESCUE
TECHNICIAN LEVEL
SKILLS LIST

DISCIPLINE	OBJECTIVE	Skill #	SKILL NAME	NFPA 1006 #
Rope Rescue Technician	Individual	1	Individual Fixed Rope Descent/Ascent	5.3.9, 5.3.10, 5.3.11
Rope Rescue Technician	Individual	2	Individual Climbing Aids	5.3.7
Rope Rescue Technician	Team	3	Team Based Pick-off	5.3.1, 5.3.2, 5.3.3, 5.3.8
Rope Rescue Technician	Team	4	Team Horizontal Rope System	5.3.4, 5.3.5, 5.3.6

There are four total skills that may be drawn for skills testing. Skill numbers three and four are “Team Skills”. Skill numbers one, and two are “Individual Skills”. When drawing skills for testing, one of the two Team Skills will be randomly selected, and one of the two Individual Skills will be selected. This will ensure that a candidate will be evaluated in multiple Technician Level Job Performance Requirements (JPRs). Additionally, this will ensure that each candidate demonstrates competence as part of a team as well as demonstrating competence individually.

INSTRUCTIONS
ROPE RESCUE - TECHNICIAN
PERFORMANCE SKILLS

Format

There are four total skills in the Rope Rescue - Technician Level Certification Skills Manual. These four skills are broken into two sections:

1) **Individual Skills** – Those skills intended to measure the candidate's ability to perform Rope Rescue skills by themselves, without assistance.
   a) Skill 1 – Fixed Rope Descent/Ascent
   b) Skill 2 – Climbing Aids

2) **Team Skills** – Those skills intended to measure the candidate's ability to function within a team and perform Rope Rescue actions consistent with the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and NFPA 1006 requirements.
   a) Skill 4 – Team Based Pick-off
   b) Skill 5 – Horizontal System

The Commission will select one Individual Skill and one Team Skill for each designated skill testing session. By selecting one skill from each category, this ensures multiple JPRs from the Technician sections of NFPA 1006 will be evaluated while at the same time it ensures the individual candidate is evaluated for their ability to perform skills both individually and as part of a team.

Scoring Method

The scoring method is Satisfactory (S) or Unsatisfactory (U) for each step of the skill, and a Pass or Fail for the overall skill sheet. In order to successfully pass a skill, the candidate must receive satisfactory scores in all the steps of the skill.

Any unsatisfactory or individual skill failure shall require the Examiner to explain the reason for the failure in written form in the comments section of the skill sheet.

Preparation and Equipment

Individual Skills – should only be performed by the individual candidate being evaluated. Some of these skills require "assistants" but the assistants should only perform tasks at the direction of the candidate being evaluated. Candidates that have not been tested for that specific skill shall not be used as an "assistant".

Team Skills – require multiple candidates and all candidates are evaluated at the same time. The skills sheet for each skill will identify how many candidates are allowed to test at the same time.

The equipment required for each skill is listed at the bottom of each skill sheet. The specific brand, model, and quantity will be driven by the AHJ and their specific technical preferences. For consistency, all students participating in a given testing session should be provided with the same equipment (brand, model, and quantity).

Specific Performance Skill Information

Skill 1 – Fixed Rope Decent/Ascent/Escape

This skill evaluates the individual candidate's ability to descend and ascend a fixed rope. Additionally, it will evaluate the candidate's ability to perform a changeover and escape from a jammed descender.

Skill 2 – Build/Operate a High-Angle System

This skill evaluates the candidate's ability to use climbing aids (fall protection) to traverse natural or man-made features.

Skill 3 – Team Based Pick-off

This skill is a team event and will evaluate the candidates' ability to remove a stranded victim who is suspended from rope. This will be done with one candidate being suspended from rope and managing a victim in an emotional or psychological crisis.

Skill 4 – Horizontal Rope System

This skill should be performed by a team. The team will all be evaluated at the same time. The team will direct the construction and operation of a horizontal rope system used by the AHJ.

ROPE RESCUE - TECHNICIAN LEVEL
EQUIPMENT LIST

Personal Protective Equipment

- Boots – rope rescue
- Gloves – rope rescue
- Helmets – rope rescue

Communication Equipment

- Communication devices
- Community resource lists

Training Devices/Props/Simulators

- Carabiners, locking
- Descent control/ascending devices
- Fall protection/restraint equipment
- Flexible and rigid litter devices
- Harness, rescue
- Harness, victim
- Knot tying rope, cordage, and webbing
- Lanyards, climbing/fall arrest (100% tie off)
- Lanyards, work positioning
- Patient packaging materials
- Personnel accountability system
- Portable anchor device
- Pulleys (single and double)
- Raising/lowering/belay devices
- Rope — life safety
- Rope grab devices
- Spinal immobilization devices, short and long

TCFP- Recommended Additional Items

- Eye protection
- Edge protection
- Equipment bag/container

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Technician
Performance Standards Evaluation

Individual Fixed Rope Descent/Ascent/Escape – Skill 1

NFPA 1006, 2021 Edition **Section 16.102**
5.3.9, 5.3.10, 5.3.11

OBJECTIVE
Ascend a fixed rope in a high-angle environment, given an anchored fixed-rope system, a specified minimum distance for the rescuer, a system to allow ascent of a fixed rope, a structure, a belay system, a life safety harness worn by the person ascending, and PPE, so that the person ascending is secured to the fixed rope in a manner that will not allow him or her to fall, the person ascending is attached to the rope by means of an ascent control device(s) with at least two points of contact, injury to the person ascending is minimized, the person ascending can stop at any point on the fixed rope and rest suspended by his or her harness, the system will not be stressed to the point of failure the person ascending can convert his or her ascending system to a descending system, obstacles are negotiated, the system is suitable for the site, and the objective is reached. (5.3.9)

Descend a fixed rope in a high-angle environment, given an anchored fixed-rope system, a specified minimum travel distance for the rescuer, a system to allow descent of a fixed rope, a belay system, a life safety harness worn by the person descending, and PPE, so that the person descending is attached to the fixed rope in a manner that will not allow him or her to fall, the person descending is attached to the rope by means of a descent control device, the speed of descent is controlled, injury to the person descending is minimized, the person descending can stop at any point on the fixed rope and rest suspended by his or her harness, the system will not be stressed to the point of failure, the system is suitable for the site, and the objective is reached. (5.3.10)

Demonstrate the ability to escape from a jammed or malfunctioning device during a fixed-rope descent in a high-angle environment, given an anchored fixed-rope system with a simulated malfunctioning descent control device, a system to allow escape from the malfunctioning device, a belay system, a life safety harness worn by the person descending, and PPE, so that the person descending is attached to the fixed rope in a manner that will not allow him or her to fall, the person descending is attached to the rope by means of a descent control device, the means for escape will allow the rescuer to escape either upward or downward from the malfunctioning descent control device, injury potential to the rescuer is minimized, the system will not be stressed to the point of failure, the system is suitable for the site, and the objective is reached. (5.3.11)

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective
You will be directed to don your harness with a descending and ascending system. You will then build a fixed rope (mainline) system, and a belay (back-up) system. You will connect your personal vertical system to the fixed ropes and descend to a designated

point. Once at this point, you will demonstrate how you would escape from a jammed descender. Then you will convert your descending system to ascent and ascend to the designated distance. Once at this point you will convert your ascent system back to descent and descend to the ground.

You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all the identified steps. Do you understand the instructions?

EXAMINER NOTE:
This skill should be performed in vertical terrain; examples include: training tower, building, cliff, etc. The exact distance of the descent and ascent will be determined by the AHJ keeping in mind that the NFPA 1006 appendix for 5.3.9* in states “the travel distance should depict accurately the typical distance that would be experienced by the person performing the skill”.

The candidate will not be allowed to review the performance steps at the time of testing.

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT
Provide the following items to the candidate(s) for this skill station. Specific brand and model of equipment will be determined by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).

- 6 Carabiners
- 2 Ropes
- 2 Pieces of webbing or other anchoring material
- 2 Ascending devices
- 1 Descent devices
- 1 Belay device
- Other items as identified by the AHJ that are specific to their methods and techniques

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Technician
Performance Standards Evaluation

Individual Fixed Rope Descent/Ascent/Escape – Skill 1

Candidate: _____ Notes: _____

Dept: _____ _____

School: _____ _____

Examiner(s) _____ / _____ _____

Rope Rescue – Technician				
Skill 1				
NFPA 1006, 2021 edition: 5.3.9, 5.3.10, 5.3.11				
	TEST		**RETEST**	
The Candidate:	**S**	**U**	**S**	**U**
a) Selected, donned and used the appropriate harnesses and PPE with ascending and descending equipment				
b) Evaluated the surroundings for potential hazards				
c) Performed maneuvers around the environment and system specific obstacles				
d) Performed the action of attaching to the fixed rope system with both the descent and ascent systems				
e) Configured and made connections for both the descent and ascent systems				
f) Converted the ascending system to a descending system				
g) Converted the descending system to ascending system				
h) Operated the descent control device				
i) Used safe rigging principles and techniques for the high-angle environment				
j) Selected a system/technique for escaping a malfunctioning descent control device based on the appropriate selection criteria (design, intended purpose, and operation)				

k) Identified common hazards posed by malfunctioning descent control devices				
l) Operated the escape system malfunctioning descent control device properly				
m) Used the escape system to maneuver upward or downward from the malfunctioning descender				
n) Performed skill in a safe and proficient manner				

S = Satisfactorily completed/performed
U = Unsatisfactorily performed/failed to meet objective or grading step

All steps of the skill objective are mandatory and must be scored as "Satisfactory" to pass the skill.

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Technician
Performance Standards Evaluation

Examiner/Candidate Comments:

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_____ _____
Certifying Examiner Date

_____ _____
Re-Test Certifying Examiner Date

Overall Skill Sheet Score	
Pass ☐	Fail ☐
Overall Skill Sheet Re-Test Score	
Pass ☐	Fail ☐

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Technician
Performance Standards Evaluation

Individual Climbing and Traversing Using Climbing Aids – Skill 2

NFPA 1006, 2021 Edition **Section 16.102**
5.3.7

OBJECTIVE
Climb and traverse natural features or man-made structures that require the use of climbing aids, positioning equipment, or fall prevention systems to prevent the fall or unwanted movement of the rescuer, given the equipment used by the agency and a task that reflects the anticipated rescue environment, so that the objective is achieved, the rescuer can perform the required task, and fall prevention is maintained. (5.3.7)

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective
You will be directed to use the appropriate climbing aids designated by the AHJ. You will demonstrate the ability to climb the vertical, or near vertical, object and traverse on surfaces of either man-made structures or natural features. You will use climbing aids, positioning equipment, or other fall protection systems to prevent a fall or unwanted movement of the rescuer.

You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all the identified steps. Do you understand the instructions?

EXAMINER NOTE:
This skill is intended to be performed at height on a fixed structure (Examples: vertical ladders, power transmission tower, vertical ladder cage, etc).

The candidate will not be allowed to review the performance steps at the time of testing.

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT
Provide the following items to the candidate(s) for this skill station. Specific brand and model of equipment will be determined by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).

- 1 Harness
- 1 Positioning lanyard
- 1 Fall protection lanyard
- Other items as identified by the AHJ that are specific to their methods and techniques

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Technician
Performance Standards Evaluation

Individual Climbing and Traversing Using Climbing Aids – Skill 2

Candidate: _____ Notes: _____

Dept: _____ _____

School: _____ _____

Examiner(s) _____ / _____ _____

Rope Rescue – Technician				
Skill 2				
NFPA 1006, 2021 edition: 5.3.7				
	TEST		**RETEST**	
The Candidate:	**S**	**U**	**S**	**U**
a) Donned and used the appropriate harnesses and PPE				
b) Demonstrated the ability to safely climb vertical or near-vertical paths and traverse horizontal path				
c) Demonstrated the ability to safely use positioning equipment, maintaining fall protection for the duration of the climb and traverse				
d) Performed skill in a safe and proficient manner				

S = Satisfactorily completed/performed
U = Unsatisfactorily performed/failed to meet objective or grading step

All steps of the skill objective are mandatory and must be scored as "Satisfactory" to pass the skill.

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Technician
Performance Standards Evaluation

Examiner/Candidate Comments:

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_____ Certifying Examiner	_____ Date	Overall Skill Sheet Score	
		Pass ☐	Fail ☐
_____ Re-Test Certifying Examiner	_____ Date	Overall Skill Sheet Re-Test Score	
		Pass ☐	Fail ☐

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Technician
Performance Standards Evaluation

Team Based Pick-off – Skill 3

NFPA 1006, 2021 Edition **Section 16.102**
5.3.1, 5.3.2, 5.3.3, 5.3.8

OBJECTIVE
Direct a team in the operation of a rope rescue system to remove a victim stranded on or clinging to a natural or manmade feature in a high-angle environment, given a victim stranded on or clinging to a feature and a means of removal of the victim to the ground or other safe area, so that risks to victims and rescuers are minimized, injury to the victim is minimized, the means of attachment to the rope rescue system is maintained, the victim is removed and brought to a safe area for transfer to EMS. (5.3.1)

Direct a team in the operation of a rope rescue system to remove a victim suspended from rope or webbing in a high-angle environment, given a victim suspended by a harness attached to anchored rope or webbing, systems for removal of the victim from the rope or webbing, and a means of removal of the victim to the ground or other safe area, so that risks to victims and rescuers are minimized, injury to the victim is minimized, the means of attachment to the rope rescue system is maintained, the victim is removed from the rope or webbing, and the victim is brought to a safe area for transfer to EMS. (5.3.2)

While suspended from a rope rescue system, perform the transfer of a victim suspended from rope or webbing in a high-angle environment to a separate rope rescue lowering or mechanical advantage system, given a rope rescue system, a specified minimum travel distance for the victim, victim transfer systems, and specialized equipment necessary for the environment, so that risks to victims and rescuers are minimized, undesirable victim movement during the transfer is minimized, the means of attachment to the rope rescue system is maintained, the victim is removed from the static line and lowered or raised to a stable surface, victim positioning is managed to reduce adverse effects associated with suspension-induced injuries, selected specialized equipment facilitates efficient victim movement, and the victim can be transported to the local EMS provider. (5.3.3)

Interact with a person at height who is in an emotional or psychological crisis given an environment consistent with the mission of the agency, the policies and procedures of the organization, and a person in a crisis scenario so that the condition is recognized and communicated to the team, the rescuer is prevented from harm, and the actions of the rescuer do not escalate the incident. (5.3.8)

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective
Given the high-angle terrain provided, you will encounter a person in an emotional or psychological crisis. The person will be either stranded on or clinging to a given high-angle feature or suspended by a harness to a fixed rope or webbing. You will transfer the person to a separate lowering or haul system and remove them to the ground or other

safe area. One of you (selected by me) will be the team leader and will direct the operation. The others will perform tasks as directed. All of you will be graded as part of this skill.

You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all the identified steps. Do you understand the instructions?

EXAMINER NOTE:
Skill should be performed by a group of no more than 10 students and the candidates should be provided a training site with vertical terrain of at least 20-feet (e.g. training tower, cliff, top of building). Candidates should be provided with a person either hanging from a rope or clinging to an object (while wearing fall protection). One student should be selected as the team leader to lead the operation.

The candidates will not be allowed to review the performance steps at the time of testing.

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT
Provide the following items to the candidate(s) for this skill station. Specific brand and model of equipment will be determined by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).

- 10 Carabiners
- 4 Ropes
- 4 Pieces of webbing or other anchoring material
- 2 Raising/lowering/belay devices
- 2 Rope grab devices
- 4 Single pulleys
- 2 Double pulleys
- Other items as identified by the AHJ that are specific to their methods and techniques

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Technician
Performance Standards Evaluation

Team Based Pick-off – Skill 3

Candidate: _____ Notes: _____

Dept: _____ _____

School: _____ _____

Examiner(s) _____ / _____ _____

Rope Rescue – Technician				
Skill 3				
NFPA 1006, 2021 edition: 5.3.1, 5.3.2, 5.3.3, 5.3.8				
	TEST		**RETEST**	
The Candidate:	**S**	**U**	**S**	**U**
a) Donned and used the appropriate harnesses and PPE				
b) Determined the condition of the victim				
c) Identified correct methods of approach, communication, and interaction for subjects with unknown psychological or emotional states, that minimizes risk to the rescuer, and does not escalate the incident				
d) Used interview techniques that provide insight into the motives and state of mind of the victim				
e) Determined specialized equipment needs for the victim's movement				
f) Selected, constructed, and demonstrated a safe transfer system for rapid removal of the victim from the given environment or static rope				
g) Performed the transfer to a lowering or mechanical advantage system				
h) Manage operation of the selected systems				
i) Reduced hazards for the rescuer and victim				
j) Performed skill in a safe and proficient manner				

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Technician
Performance Standards Evaluation

S = Satisfactorily completed/performed
U = Unsatisfactorily performed/failed to meet objective or grading step

All steps of the skill objective are mandatory and must be scored as "Satisfactory" to pass the skill.

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Technician
Performance Standards Evaluation

Examiner/Candidate Comments:

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_____	_____	Overall Skill Sheet Score	
Certifying Examiner	Date	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
_____	_____	Overall Skill Sheet Re-Test Score	
Re-Test Certifying Examiner	Date	Pass ☐	Fail ☐

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Technician
Performance Standards Evaluation

Team Horizontal Rope System – Skill 4

NFPA 1006, 2021 Edition **Section 16.102**
5.3.4, 5.3.5, 5.3.6

OBJECTIVE
Perform the activities of a litter tender in a high-angle lowering or raising operation, given a rope rescue system, a specified minimum travel distance for the litter tender, life safety harnesses, litters, bridles, and specialized equipment necessary for the environment, so that risks to the victims and rescuers are minimized; the means of attachment to the rope rescue system is secure; and the travel path is negotiated while minimizing risks to equipment or persons. (5.3.4)

Participate as a member of a team in the construction of a rope rescue system intended to move a suspended rescue load along a horizontal path to avoid an obstacle, given rescue personnel, life safety rope, rope rescue equipment, and a suitable anchor capable of supporting the load, so that personnel assignments are made and clearly communicated; the system constructed can accommodate the load; tension applied within the system will not exceed the rated capacity of any of its component's parts; a system safety check is performed; movement of the load is efficient; and loads can be held in place or moved with a minimal effort over the required distance. (5.3.5)

Direct a team in the operation of a rope system to move a suspended rescue load along a horizontal path, given rescue personnel, an established system, a target for the load to be moved, and PPE, so that the movement is controlled; the load is held in place when needed; operating methods do not stress the system to the point of failure; personnel assignments are made; tasks are communicated; and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed. (5.3.6)

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective
You will build a Horizontal Rope System that is capable of moving a litter, with a rescue load attached, along a horizontal path in order to clear an obstacle, and land on the target I have designated. One of you (selected by me) will be the team leader and will direct the operation. The system shall be anchored so as to not exceed the load ratings and capabilities of the equipment being used, or the load ratings of the actual anchor(s). Once the system is built, I will inspect the rigging. Then you along with your team will demonstrate the operation of the system following any and all safety precautions so as to not harm or injure any of your team members or bystanders.

You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all the identified steps. Do you understand the instructions?

EXAMINER NOTE:

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Technician
Performance Standards Evaluation

This skill is intended to be performed in a high-angle environment. Skill should be performed by a group not to exceed ten candidates. Additional roles can be filled with "assistant(s)" and the candidates should be provided a training site with vertical terrain of at least 20-feet (e.g. training tower, cliff, top of building). One student should be selected as the team leader to lead the operation. The Examiner should randomly choose either a litter or a rescuer to be raised and lowered.

The candidate will not be allowed to review the performance steps at the time of testing.

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT
Provide the following items to the candidate(s) for this skill station. Specific brand and model of equipment will be determined by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).

- 20 Carabiners
- 4 Ropes
- 6 pieces of webbing or other anchoring material
- 2 Raising/lowering/belay devices
- 6 Rope grab devices or Prusiks
- 6 Single pulleys
- 2 Double pulleys
- 1 Pulley or device to act as a trolley
- Harnesses as needed for fall protection
- Flexible or Rigid litter device
- Patient packaging materials
- Other items as identified by the AHJ that are specific to their methods and techniques for this particular exercise

TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Technician
Performance Standards Evaluation

Team Horizontal Rope System – Skill 4

Candidate: _____ Notes: _____

Dept: _____ _____

School: _____ _____

Examiner(s) _____ / _____ _____

Rope Rescue – Technician				
Skill 4				
NFPA 1006, 2021 edition: 5.3.4, 5.3.5, 5.3.6				
	TEST		**RETEST**	
The Candidate:	**S**	**U**	**S**	**U**
a) Demonstrated the ability to select and use rescuer harness and PPE for common environments				
b) Attached the life safety harness to the rope rescue system				
c) Maneuvered the litter past obstacles or natural structural features				
d) Managed the litter while attached to the rope rescue system				
e) Evaluated surroundings for potential hazards				
f) Demonstrated the ability to determine incident needs as related to construction of a system				
g) Evaluated an incident site as related to interference concerns and setup, and identified the obstacles or voids to be negotiated				
h) Selected a system for defined task and performed system safety checks and communicated with personnel effectively.				
i) Used rigging principles that limited excessive force to system components				
j) Managed movement of the load, and evaluated for any potential problems				
k) Performed skill in a safe and proficient manner				

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION
Rope Rescue – Technician
Performance Standards Evaluation

Examiner/Candidate Comments:

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_____	_____	Overall Skill Sheet Score	
Certifying Examiner	Date	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
_____	_____	Overall Skill Sheet Re-Test Score	
Re-Test Certifying Examiner	Date	Pass ☐	Fail ☐