

Tempe Fire Department Policies and Procedures
Special Operations Team Assignment
410.02I
Rev 10-07-09

PURPOSE

To define eligibility and procedures for assignment to Special Operations Teams.

POLICY

The Tempe Fire Department will provide staffing, training and resources as deemed appropriate to maintain a Hazardous Materials Response Team, Technical Rescue Team, and Squad as a component of the Tempe Rapid Response Team.

PROCEDURE

To receive assignment pay, a member must:

Be permanently assigned to a team position.

Successfully complete the State certified 200 hour Hazardous Materials Technician Course (HMT200) successfully complete the State certified 200 hour Technical Rescue Technician Course (TRT 200) /or complete 6 months on the team with no opportunity to attend a HMT 200 or TRT 200 hour course.

Once a member starts receiving assignment pay, a two year commitment to remain on that Special Operations team goes into affect.

A member may decline one opportunity to attend an approved technician class. Any member who declines a second opportunity may be removed from the team and the position will be opened for bid and assignment pay will be forfeited.

To maintain assignment to the Hazardous Materials Response Team, each member is required to meet the requirement of OSHA 29CFR 1910.120(q) and NFPA Standard 472. This will also include a minimum of 40 hours of continuing education attended on an annual basis. Hours will be calculated from January 1st through December 31st of each year. This continuing education will include monthly training sessions and quarterly skills evaluations. Technicians may be requested to demonstrate minimum skills by written examination, hands on demonstration or a combination of both. Each member is authorized 24 hours of overtime per year to meet the continuing education requirement. Members are responsible for the documentation of continuing education and reporting it to the Emergency Management/ Special Operations Chief. Attendance of seminars or other classes approved by the Emergency Management/Special Operations Chief may be used to obtain the minimum hours of continuing education.

Members who are involuntarily reassigned away from the team may continue to receive assignment pay, providing they continue to meet all continuing education and training requirements on an annual basis and they place a bid and accept the assignment at the first opportunity for any team opening at their rank regardless of shift or company. If either condition is not met, the member forfeits assignment pay.

Members who have been assigned to the team for more than one year, who are temporarily involuntarily reassigned away from the team, will have an opportunity to attend a Technician Course when staffing permits.

Members who are moved for probationary training reasons will continue to get special operations pay and that move does not constitute reassignment. Upon promotion, voluntary transfer, or trade, special operations pay will stop immediately. It is incumbent upon the member to confirm that his/her assignment pay has been discontinued once they have left the team. Transfers from TRT to Haz Mat, or vice versa, are not unilateral. These are two separate disciplines and members must fulfill the requirements for each separately in order to

receive pay. Example: If a member is receiving pay for TRT and transfers to Haz Mat that member will not receive special operations pay unless and until all of the requirements for Haz Mat are met.

Members who transfer back onto a team will begin receiving special operations pay as soon as they demonstrate to the Emergency Management/Special Operations Chief that they have maintained all continuing education requirements, otherwise they will be eligible as outlined above.

Any member who is permanently reassigned due to promotion will be released from their letter of commitment and will no longer receive assignment pay.