



National Resource Sharing Centre

State air operations coordinator

Functional Area

Aviation

Core Capability Area

Operations

Role Summary

The state air operations coordinator coordinates the allocation and strategic placement of aircraft and specialist aviation personnel and support equipment within the state or territory.*

The aircraft include those contracted by NAFC and aircraft directly acquired by the state or territory.

The national aircraft fleet and associated support resources are highly mobile across jurisdictions and the level of skill involved in coordinating these resources at the state or territory level, particularly during major emergencies is significant.

Depending upon the type of incident, the aircraft may be involved in a range of aerial operations including aerial fire detection and suppression, intelligence collection, aerial incendiary operations, helicopter insertion into remote areas and general transport of people and equipment.

Specialist personnel may include both agency and contract personnel performing a range of tactical, strategic and support roles.

Specialist equipment may include such things as fuel tankers, aerial ignition equipment, fire suppressions products and associated equipment, and equipment for collecting incident intelligence such as infrared scanners and cameras.

* These missions may involve fire response, however in the interest of maintaining an inclusive, all-hazards approach, it is necessary to emphasise the vital role that aviation positions such as these can play in combatting severe weather events of all kinds. It is also necessary to highlight the contemporary emerging shift in staffing to rely on those personnel from supporting agencies who may not have an express need to hold any fire training. In this way, personnel from wider supporting agencies can engage in key roles that allow them to use their expertise where it is most beneficial.

Key duties

The state air operations coordinator:

- establishes aviation resource coordination for state or territory.
- monitors the need for state or territory aviation resources.
- recommends and engages state or territory aviation resources.
- prioritises and allocates aviation resources.
- supervises the deployment of aviation resources.
- responds to reports of aircraft occurrences.
- reviews coordination arrangements in accordance with agency procedures and regulatory requirements
- prepares reports in accordance with agency procedures and regulatory requirements.

Reporting Arrangements

Reports to

State or territory operations coordinator, in accordance with agency requirements.

Direct reports

State air desk operator, in accordance with agency requirements.

Role Considerations

A state air operations coordinator must hold a statement of attainment in:

- PUAFIR001 Coordinate state aerial operations. (40 hrs)
- 22459VIC Course in the Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System (AIIMS) (16 hrs_
- 22541VIC Course in Basic Wildfire Awareness (or equivalent). (6 hrs)

AFAC EMPS Credentials

The following AFAC EMPS credentials are relevant to this role:

- None

Fitness or Other Standards

The following fitness or other standards are applied by AFAC member agencies to persons undertaking this role:

- Authorisation to perform this role is subject to an agency endorsement period of 5 years.

Please note, this role type has been developed in tandem with the Fire and Emergency Aviation Training and Assessment Framework (2020), therefore references will focus on fire response. However, in the interests of pursuing an 'all hazards' approach to incident management, it is necessary to highlight that the above is not an exhaustive list, and personnel may undertake these duties in responding to events entirely separate from fire response. To this end, key duties and training may vary depending on unique incidents that these resources are deployed in response to.

Additionally, it is necessary to note that there may arise a need for personnel with experience in a variety of aircraft and qualifications or awareness that are not listed within the NPC. Examples include remotely

piloted aircraft systems (RPAS) and associated skills and experience such as Remote Pilots Licences (RePL), extended visual line of sight (EVLOS), and night visual line of sight (NVLOS).

In so doing, this outcome aims to reflect the descriptive nature of National Position Catalogue templates, serving as a framework from which agencies can springboard into specific events and responses.

References

- *Fire and Emergency Aviation Training and Assessment Framework (2020)*