

taking this course will be required to provide clothing adequate for the environment, footwear appropriate for the outdoors and materials for taking notes. Hosting organizations, for contracted classes, are required to provide a classroom site adequate for size of class and power point presentations and a field location adequate for the field evolutions.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Course Scheduling Information

For open enrollment Ski Patrol Missing Person Search Operations course visit www.wildernesseri.com.

To set up a course or if you have a question contact -
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Ski Patrol Missing Person Search Operations



20- Hour Course

The Emergency Response Discipline

Ski Resorts can cover a great range of territory and terrain. A resort can be located anywhere from the middle of a wilderness location to a location right next to an urbanized area. Regardless of the location, from time to time individuals are reported missing on Resort property and the ski patrol is typically the emergency response agency that receives the call.

A ski patroller has to be able to deal with these missing person incidents from the time the individual is reported missing until the person is found or until the search exceeds the capabilities of the resort's ski patrol. To respond to these types of emergencies, a patroller needs to be trained in initial search management techniques, initial search operation techniques and basic search skills. Unfortunately there has been limited formal training in this area of response for ski patrollers.

All too often a ski patrol candidate receives very minimal search training (usually 1 to 2 hours) during their candidate year. When the missing person incident occurs, the same patroller will be expected to perform a search with no additional training. These skills are usually never covered again during the patroller's career (volunteer and paid).

Although searching for missing individuals is somewhat the same regardless if the person is missing in a ski resort, in a wilderness area or in an urban environment, there is also something unique in each type of search.

The National Association for Search and Rescue® as well as other organizations offer search classes for emergency responders; however, no organization provides missing person search courses specific for ski patrols. To meet this missing area of emergency response training, Wilderness Emergency Response Institute has addressed this problem in the class [Ski Patrol Missing Person Search Operations](#).

The Course

A group of search and rescue personnel, all of which are Ski Patrollers (paid and volunteer) or Patrol Directors created the Ski Patrol Missing Person Search Operations course. The course is a 20 hour course based on national standards and consists of 10 hours of lecture (covering: utilizing the incident command system for search operations, creating search preplans and SOPs, rescuer survival, personal equipment and protective equipment (search pack), investigation techniques, interviewing techniques, land navigation

and orienteering, search operations, search philosophy, search tactics, search resources, clue orientation, search philosophy, estimating POD, handling evidence, clue consciousness, search crew responsibilities, legal aspects for searchers, initiating a search, search planning, obtaining subject information, lost person behavior, setting search priorities, briefing and debriefing tactics, documentation techniques, operating a search base, dealing with external influences, SAR technology, the role of the Hill Boss during SAR operations) 6 hours of classroom exercises (covering: assigning probabilities of area (POA), determining the search area, land navigation and orienteering)and 4 hours of field exercises (covering: practical search techniques and navigation practice).

General Information

Ski Area insurance companies typically emphasis the need for missing person search preplans, SOPs and training. This class helps a ski patrol and resort achieve this level of training and preparedness. All students who successfully complete the course will receive a certificate of completion.

This class is offered in both open enrollment and contracted courses, which are brought right to your resort. Students