

SEARCH & RESCUE COURSE INFORMATION 2020-2021 CALENDAR



What's Inside:

Course Progression	6
Courses at a Glance	7
Frequently Asked Questions	8
How to Apply	10
Course Descriptions	11



EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT DIVISION



Emergency Management Division
School of Public Safety
Justice Institute of British Columbia
715 McBride Boulevard
New Westminster, BC V3L 5T4

E-mail: emergency@jibc.ca
Website: www.jibc.ca/emergency

Search and Rescue Program

Phone: 1.604.528.5786
Toll-Free: 1.888.898.5422
Email: sar@jibc.ca
Fax: 1.604.528.5796
Website: www.jibc.ca/sar

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Contents

About the Justice Institute of British Columbia	4
Search and Rescue Training Partners.....	4
Emergency Management British Columbia (EMBC)	4
British Columbia Search and Rescue Association	4
Royal Canadian Mounted Police	4
SAR Training Officer Tips.....	5
SAR Course Progression	6
Courses at a Glance.....	7
Frequently Asked Questions	8
How to Apply for a SAR Course.....	10
For SAR Group Members	10
For SAR Training Officers	10
EMRG Ground Search and Rescue Program	11
EMRG-1711 Ground Search Team Leader	12
EMRG-1783 Search and Rescue Management Level 1	13
EMRG-1784 Search and Rescue Management Level 2	14
EMRG-1790 Ground Search and Rescue Train the Trainer.....	15
EMRG-1735 SAR Rope Rescue Awareness.....	16
EMRG-1736 SAR Rope Rescue Technician 1	17
EMRG-1738 SAR Rope Rescue Technician 2 – Fundamentals	18
EMRG-1751 Organized Avalanche Response Team Member.....	19
EMRG-1752 Organized Avalanche Response Team Leader.....	20
EMRG-1660 Public Safety Lifeline Leadership	21

About the Justice Institute of British Columbia

Justice Institute of British Columbia (JIBC) is Canada's leading public safety educator with a mission to develop dynamic justice and public safety professionals through its exceptional applied education, training and research. JIBC offers internationally recognized education that leads to certificates, diplomas, bachelor's degrees and graduate certificates; exceptional continuing education for work and career-related learning and development; and customized contract training to government agencies and private organizations worldwide. Our education contributes to safer communities and a more just society by providing professionals with the knowledge, skills and abilities to excel at every stage of their careers.

For more than 25 years, the JIBC's Emergency Management Division (EMD), within the School of Public Safety, has been educating students, organizations and communities to prepare for, mitigate, respond to and recover from emergencies and disasters. We provide bachelor, diploma and certificate programs in various areas of emergency management, as well as specialized training within government, private industry, and not-for-profit sectors.

EMD works collaboratively with various partners, including Emergency Management British Columbia, the BC Search and Rescue Association, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, to provide specialized SAR training for provincially sanctioned volunteer groups and members from across British Columbia.

Search and Rescue Training Partners

Emergency Management British Columbia (EMBC)

Emergency Management BC (EMBC) is the province's lead coordinating agency for all emergency management activities, including planning, training, testing and exercising. EMBC works in collaboration with local governments, First Nations, federal departments, industry, non-government organizations and volunteers. EMBC

supports approximately 2,500 registered search and rescue volunteers and their groups, throughout the province. These volunteers may be called upon to assist police in searching for lost persons or to help in accessing and transporting injured people if specialized skills or equipment are needed. EMBC coordinates the SAR program and works with the JIBC for the delivery of SAR training to volunteers.



British Columbia Search and Rescue Association

The British Columbia Search and Rescue Association (BCSARA), was registered in 2002 as a non-profit society and enhances the provision of volunteer search and rescue services in the province by facilitating access to funding, educating the general public on outdoor safety, and providing volunteers with a common link to information and resources. BCSARA actively support SAR members and training in the province.




Royal Canadian Mounted Police

The responsibility for missing persons in British Columbia lies with the police force of jurisdiction. For most of British Columbia, this would be the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). The RCMP support SAR training in the province and enlists SAR volunteers in support of British Columbians.



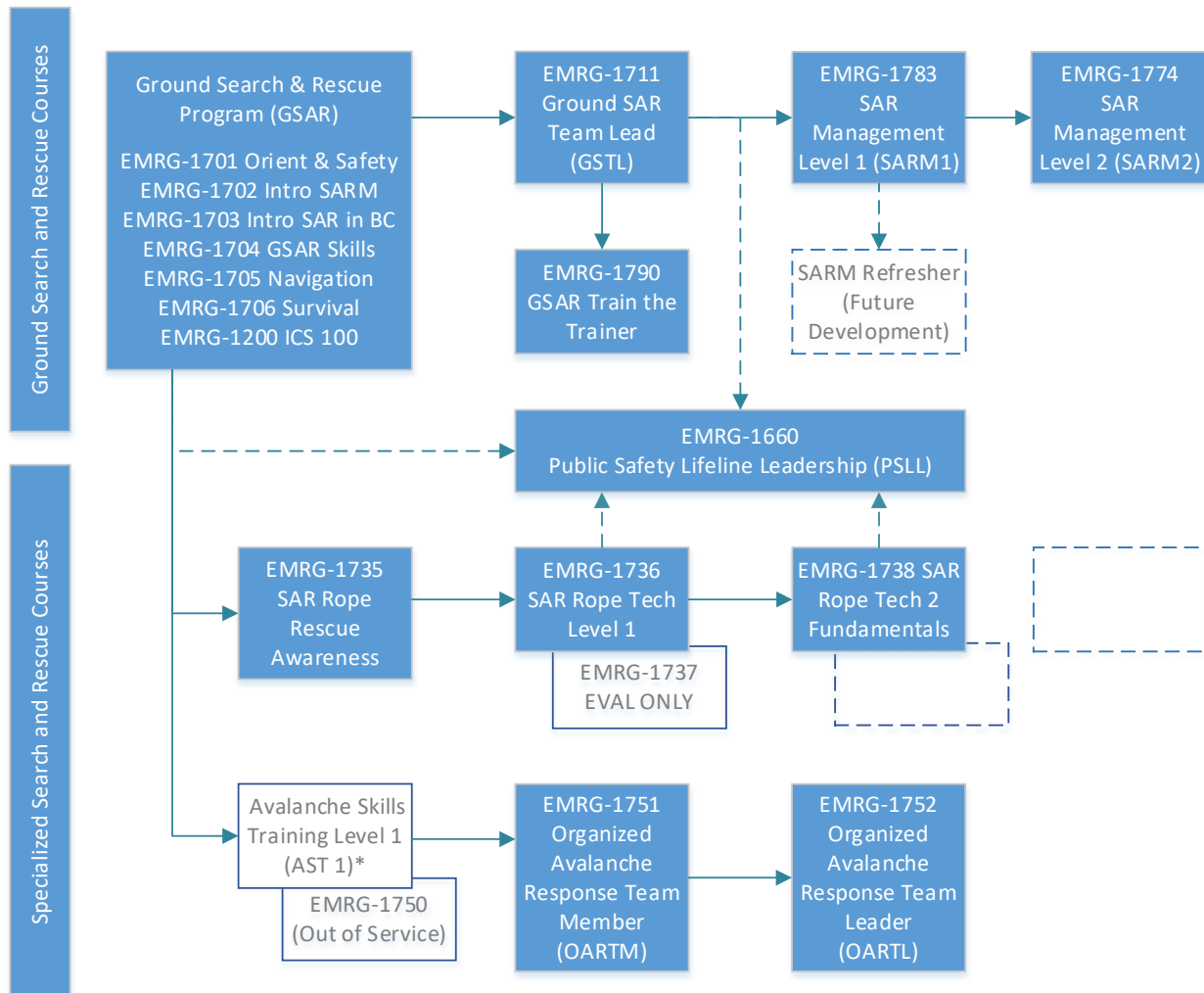
SAR Training Officer Tips

Coordination and oversight of your SAR Group's training needs can be a significant task! Here are some tips to help you stay on top of the task and ensure the JIBC training that your members do runs smoothly.

- Review the *Guide for Training Officer of Ground and Inland Water Search and Rescue* on the BCSARA member's website at www.bcsara.com.
- Familiarize yourself with this JIBC SAR *Course Information Calendar*, including the available courses, course prerequisites, and the guidelines for identifying suitable candidates.
- Check the annual JIBC training schedule at www.jibc.ca/sar and make note of course application deadlines. This schedule may be updated throughout the year, so always check to see that you have the most current version.
- Subscribe to the JIBC email distribution list to get training news, course announcements, and course change information. All SAR members are encouraged to sign up by clicking on the "SIGN-UP FOR SAR E-MAILS" button at www.jibc.ca/sar. 
- Circulate the JIBC Training Schedule and any relevant announcements to all group members.
- Complete the current course application form:
 - download the form at www.jibc.ca/sar (we updated it regularly with new details or courses);
 - ensure all fields are completed by the SAR volunteer (birthdates help us differentiate between accounts with similar names, and up-to-date addresses ensure you get course materials or certificates in a timely manner);
 - complete course application forms electronically (typed) whenever possible, so that information is easier to read; this reduces data-entry errors;
 - Assist SAR members with their course applications; make sure they check their JIBC records to confirm they have the required prerequisites. All JIBC students can check their past training by logging in to their account at www.myjibc.ca.
- Submit completed applications to sar@jibc.ca by the course application deadline. If you do not receive a confirmation of receipt for the applications, please follow-up with the JIBC.
- If you or any of your members have questions about JIBC SAR training, please review this course calendar and if needed, contact sar@jibc.ca for more information.

SAR Course Progression

This diagram provides an overview of the JIBC SAR training courses and their relationships.



Note: Consult individual course descriptions for course prerequisites. This course progression diagram is a recommendation and may not align directly with prescribed course prerequisites.

* Avalanche Canada's AST 1 course is not offered through the JIBC. Go to www.avalanche.ca/training for information on this training.

Courses at a Glance

Review course details prior to applying, so you are clear on requirements and commitments.

Course	JIBC Course Prerequisites	Required Practical Experience/Training	Course Commitment
Ground Search & Rescue Program (GSAR) (7 courses)	None	Interest in SAR, accepted by local SAR group	97 hrs – 6 courses delivered by SAR group, 1 online course, 7 hour First Aid course
EMRG-1660 Public Safety Lifeline Leadership (PSLL)	None	GSAR Program Certificate or EMRG-1700 recommended	2-day classroom-based course
EMRG-1711 Ground Search Team Leader (GSTL)	GSAR Program Certificate or EMRG-1700	Two or more years of experience in a SAR group recommended	2.5-day field course, online pre-course assignment & reading, ICS 100 if needed
EMRG-1735 SAR Rope Rescue Awareness	GSAR Program Certificate or EMRG-1700	Interest in future rope rescue tasks or training	7 hrs – online self-directed course
EMRG-1736 SAR Rope Rescue Tech 1	EMRG-1735	Member of SAR group with a sanctioned rope rescue team, minimum of 10 hrs of rope practice with local team	Two 2.5-day field weekends, extensive team practice & online component.
EMRG-1737 SAR Rope Rescue Tech 1 – Evaluation ONLY	EMRG-1735	Verified local training including minimum of 44 hrs of rope training and practice locally	2.5-day field evaluation session, pre-course field practice and online element
EMRG-1738 SAR Rope Rescue Tech 2 - Fundamentals	EMRG-1736 or EMRG-1737	Active member of a rope rescue team, competent with DCTTRS rope systems, practice time with over the edge skills	Two 2.5-day field weekends, extensive team practice & online component.
EMRG-1751 Organized Avalanche Response Team Member (OARTM)	EMRG-1750 or AST1	Experience in back-country winter travel on skis or snowshoes (or snowmobile proficiency, when applicable)	2.5-day field course, students to bring personal equipment for winter travel conditions
EMRG-1752 Organized Avalanche Response Team Leader (OARTL)	EMRG-1751	Experienced back-country winter traveller, physically able to travel 10km & 800m elev	4-day physically demanding field course. Students to bring personal equipment for winter travel conditions
EMRG-1783 SAR Management Level 1 (SARM1)	GSAR Program Certificate or EMRG-1700	Minimum of 3-4 years of task experience, EMRG-1711 GSTL strongly recommended	Intensive 4-day classroom-based course, online pre-course assignments & reading, ICS 200 required
EMRG-1784 SAR Management Level 2 (SARM2)	EMRG-1783	Previous SAR management experience on multi-operational period operations	Intensive 3-day classroom-based, online pre-course assignments & reading
EMRG-1790 GSAR Train-the-Trainer	GSAR Program Certificate or EMRG-1700	Minimum of 2-3 years of task experience, EMRG-1711 GSTL strongly recommended, experience as instructor or facilitator	2-day classroom-based course (multi-year commitment with local group to engage as GSAR trainer/facilitator)

Frequently Asked Questions

Where do I find the SAR training schedule?

You can download or view a PDF of the current SAR Training Schedule at www.jibc.ca/sar. You may also find links to this schedule on BCSARA and EMBC's websites. The schedule may be adjusted throughout the year, so check the website regularly to make sure you have the most recent version.

Where do I find the course application form?

The course application form can be found at www.jibc.ca/sar. The application is a fillable PDF form which can be downloaded, completed on your computer, and submitted by email.

Who can apply to take a course?

JIBC Search and Rescue course are ONLY open to active members of recognized Search and Rescue groups within British Columbia. All applications must first be approved by a SAR group training officer or president prior to submission.

What is the cost to take the training?

There are no tuition or course fees charged to SAR students. All students must be active members of sanctioned SAR groups in British Columbia. Course costs are paid by province of British Columbia (EMBC), BC Search and Rescue Association, or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police – depending upon the course.

Who pays student travel costs?

The responsibility to pay travel, accommodation, or meal costs while on a regional course is the responsibility of the member and/or their team. On some provincially scheduled courses eligible student travel expenses can be reimbursed through the JIBC. Contact the JIBC for more information on what is considered an eligible expense.

What is the difference between a provincial course and a regional course?

Regional courses draw students to courses which are offered within their region. Provincial courses are offered in a central location and draw students from across the province. Eligible student expenses can be claimed through the JIBC for provincial courses.



Can I attend a course without the prerequisites?

No. Applicants must complete the required prerequisites prior to applying for a course. Applications submitted without the necessary prerequisites will be returned and are the responsibility of the sponsoring team to address before re-submitting.

How do I view my training records with JIBC?

JIBC students can access their training history by going to www.myjibc.ca. Individual training records can be viewed online, printed for your reference or to share with your Training Officer.



How do I find out if I have been accepted in a course?

Students who apply will be notified of the status of their application by email. Notification timelines vary by course and circumstance. If you are unsure of your course status, please contact sar@jibc.ca. Joining instructions will be emailed to all accepted applications within 2-4 weeks of the course date – depending on pre-course needs.

How do I get more information about JIBC SAR Training?

You can contact JIBC’s Emergency Management Division and the SAR Training Program through any of the following methods: Phone: 1.604.528.5786

Toll-Free 1.888.898.5422

Email: sar@jibc.ca

Fax: 1.604.528.5796

How do I subscribe to the JIBC SAR Training email announcements?

Subscribe to the JIBC SAR email distribution list and receive training news, course announcements, and course change information, at www.jibc.ca/sar and click on the “SIGN-UP FOR SAR E-MAILS” button.

Can my SAR Groups request additional courses?

SAR Groups should be in regular communication with their BCSARA Regional Director to share training needs. If BCSARA is unable to fund further training, SAR Groups can contact the JIBC to see if a course can be arranged on a fee-for-service basis directly with the local SAR Group. Contact the JIBC at sar@jibc.ca for more information.



How to Apply for a SAR Course

For SAR Group Members

Contact your groups Training Officer for more information and to apply for a course.

For SAR Training Officers

1. Review the course description and schedule you are interested in and ensure all applicants have the required prerequisites and are available on the scheduled delivery dates.
2. Download a current version of the EMBC SAR Course Application Form from www.jibc.ca/sar.

3. Have applicable SAR members complete all fields in Section A and B of the form and return it to you (the Training Officer).

Note: It is recommended that the form be filled out on a computer so that information can be typed. The form is a fillable PDF document.

4. Review Section A and B of the application form, to ensure all required information has been provided. In particular, confirm:

- date of birth has been entered correctly (mandatory to maintain student records).
- correct course selection has been checked.
- prerequisites have been met.

5. Complete Section C of the application with your information and ranking each applicant by the order the SAR group would like them considered. Forms need to be signed by the Training Officer or the SAR Group President.

Note: For convenience, if you are submitting via email you can bypass the signature if the email address of the sender clearly identifies their name or role as the Training Officer or President.

6. Submit to sar@jibc.ca prior to the deadline identified on the course schedule.

Note: If you do not receive a confirmation of receipt for your application(s) within 3 business days, please contact sar@jibc.ca to make sure they have been received.

The image shows the EMBC Search and Rescue Course Application Form. It is divided into three main sections: Section A: Applicant Information, Section B: Course Selection, and Section C: Training Officer / SAR President Approval. Section A includes fields for Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial, Mailing Address, City/Town, Postal Code, Phone, Date of Birth, and Email. Section B includes a table for Course Selection with columns for Course (Select ONE ONLY), Required Course Pre-Prerequisites, and Course Location. Section C includes fields for Name of Training Officer/President, Signature, Date, and Email Address. There are also checkboxes for 'Incomplete or late application may not be accepted' and 'Refer to the provincial training schedule for course applications deadlines'.

Consult training dates and prerequisites prior to submission:

- Ensure applicants have checked their calendar prior submitting. If they are registered and then cancel, this can delay the registration process for all applicants.
- Students must have all prerequisites to apply. If in question, ask applicants to show you their JIBC training record. Student can access their records by going to www.myjibc.ca. When applicants are put forward without prerequisites, it can delay the registration process for all applicants.

Ground Search and Rescue Program

This program will provide GSAR Members-in-Training with an understanding of the “big picture” structure and responsibilities for SAR in BC.

Prerequisites

- Participant must be a member of an EMBC-recognized SAR group.

Program Description

The SAR training model begins with the foundational Ground Search and Rescue training, which is required in order to be recognized as an EMBC-supported SAR volunteer.

The Ground Search and Rescue program is the combination of several courses that are delivered through local SAR Groups and online through self-study. Courses include a combination of overall awareness of search and rescue practices as well as the development of critical skills required for participating in various types of operations.

Course Delivery

This training is led by local volunteer GSAR instructors selected by the SAR Group who are trained by the JIBC. This series of courses is taught by an experienced and local SAR Member who has completed leadership courses, including EMRG 1790 (GSAR Train the Trainer).

Self-registration for EMRG 1703 – Introduction to SAR in BC

Do you have potential volunteers who want to get a head start, or learn about Search and Rescue before they commit? Anyone can self-register for EMRG 1703 (Intro to SAR in BC) at <http://catalogue.jibc.ca> for this online course – a comprehensive introduction to SAR in BC.

Course Name	Hours*
Online/correspondence/self-study	
<i>EMRG-1703 Introduction to Search and Rescue in British Columbia (available for self-registration)</i>	7
<i>EMRG-1200 Incident Command System Level 100</i>	7
In-class training delivered by SAR Groups	
<i>EMRG-1701 GSAR Volunteer Orientation and Safety Guidelines</i>	12
<i>EMRG-1702 Introduction to Search Management: overview and field communications</i>	9
<i>EMRG-1704 GSAR Skills; Search skills, tracking and clues, subject evacuation.</i>	16
<i>EMRG-1705 Navigation Skills</i>	25
<i>EMRG-1706 Wilderness Survival for GSAR</i>	21
Total	97

Suitable Candidate

Individuals who are 18 years of age (or 16 with parental consent), have been screened by their local SAR and show an interest and aptitude to support the SAR Group and make a longer-term volunteer commitment. These members are referred to as Members-in-Training, or MITs. All GSAR volunteers must obtain a minimum of a 7 hour First Aid course certification prior to completion of the Ground Search and Rescue (GSAR) Course, and maintain at least that level of certification while a registered GSAR volunteer.

EMRG-1711 Ground Search Team Leader

Having completed the Ground Search Team Leader course, the learner will be able to safely and effectively plan, organize, lead, supervise, and execute a Ground Search Team mission/assignment.

Prerequisites

- Ground Search and Rescue Program

Course Description

The intent of this course is to provide trained, experienced ground search and rescue volunteers with the knowledge and practical team leader skills necessary to safely and effectively plan, organize, lead, supervise and execute a ground search and rescue team assignment. The course focuses on the roles and responsibilities of the ground search team leader as they relate to each aspect of a GSAR assignment, covering topics that include basic leadership skills, safety guidelines, reporting and documentation requirements, team briefing/debriefing, advanced search tactics, liability protection, and an overview of the Incident Command structure as it applies to SAR. The course consists of extensive evaluative components including a navigation skills assessment, oral briefing presentation, team leader simulation and final written examination.

Course Delivery and Commitment

This is a hybrid course that requires online readings and work that must be completed prior to the face to face classroom and field activities.

The face to face portion is 2.5 days and generally runs Friday evening (classroom) and all-day Saturday and Sunday (in the field).

What to bring or do prior to course:

Students should be prepared to spend approximately 10-12 hours to complete the pre-course assignments and pre-reading, plus the time to practice navigation and AMDR skills, if necessary. Details will be sent in the confirmation of enrollment email.

Suitable Candidate

Active SAR volunteers who have field experience, leadership potential, solid knowledge of GSAR skills (including map and compass skills), and several years of experience with their local group. This is course is suitable for those who wish to make a long-term commitment to their SAR Group.



EMRG-1783 Search and Rescue Management Level 1

The goal of the Search and Rescue Management Level 1 course is to provide participants with the knowledge and skills to safely and effectively manage a basic search and/or rescue operation.

Prerequisites

- Ground Search and Rescue Program

Course Description

The aim of this course is to educate and train prospective SAR Managers to safely and effectively manage the most common search and rescue operations in British Columbia on behalf of an EMBC-authorized requesting agency (e.g., RCMP, municipal police, BCAS, etc.). Students will gain the knowledge and skills necessary to fulfill the responsibilities of a Level 1 SAR Manager before, during, and after a basic, single operational period search and/or rescue response. Topics covered include the structure and resources in place to support the SAR Manager role, use of pre-plans, risk assessment, and the specifics of managing a basic search and/or rescue operation. Students will be given an opportunity to integrate their knowledge and gain the confidence to use their newly acquired skills through practice scenarios. The course also introduces participants to leadership and management skills, SAR Command roles based on the Incident Command System, as well as the SAR Safety Program Guide and Provincial Operating Guidelines. Students will be evaluated during tabletop scenarios and with a written exam administered at the completion of the course.

Course Delivery and Commitment

This is a hybrid course that requires online readings and work that must be completed prior to the face to face classroom and field activities.

The face to face portion of this 4-day course generally runs all day Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday (field and classroom)

What to bring/do prior to course:

Pre-reading of specific course material is required, and an online quiz must be completed before attending the course.

Suitable Candidate

This course is suitable for those with significant task experience (4 - 5 years), and who are prepared to accept the responsibility and accountability that is required to make the decisions required of a SAR Manager. Experience as a Team Leader and proven leadership experience with their SAR Group is strongly recommended.



EMRG-1784 Search and Rescue Management Level 2

This course will prepare experienced SAR managers for more complex management roles and responsibilities in extended and large-scale search and rescue responses.

Note: Course frequency, prerequisites and participant experience required are under review.

Prerequisites

- EMRG 1783 – Search and Rescue Management Level 1

Course Description

Participants will build on their knowledge of search and rescue response, applying management strategies in more complex and complicated search and rescue situations. The course continues from the topics addressed in EMRG-1783 and provides more in-depth coverage on such areas as search and rescue management processes, search theory, logistics, command structures and communications.

Course Delivery and Commitment

This is a hybrid course that requires online readings and work that must be completed prior to the face to face classroom and field activities.

This 2.5-day course generally runs Friday evening and all-day Saturday and Sunday (field and classroom)



EMRG-1790 Ground Search and Rescue Train the Trainer

This goal of this course is to train participants to effectively fulfill their role as a JIBC GSAR Instructor, using learner centered instructional techniques.

Prerequisites

- Ground Search and Rescue Program

Course Description

This course is intended for inland and water search and rescue volunteers in BC who have completed the GSAR course and are active members of a SAR team. The course prepares these individuals to deliver the Ground Search and Rescue Program (formally EMRG-1700 Ground Search and Rescue) GSAR training program at the team level throughout the province. This course includes GSAR course lesson plans, classroom management and provides an opportunity for the practical application of the skills learned. A review of adult learning principles and instructional techniques is also included during this course. Upon completion, participants will be able to facilitate the instruction of the GSAR course using learner centered approaches that incorporate research on how adults learn best.

Course Delivery and Commitment

The face to face portion of this two-day course generally runs all day Saturday and Sunday.

Students will be expected to deliver short lessons in class.

Suitable Candidate

This course is for an experienced GSAR member who wish to share their knowledge with MITs (Members in Training). GSAR Trainers should have good communication and organization skills for classroom preparation and delivery. On completion, students of this course will be registered with JIBC's online GSAR Instructor Portal that contains all lessons, assessments, and administrative documentation needed to teach in the GSAR program.



EMRG-1735 SAR Rope Rescue Awareness

Provides an awareness of the wildland rope rescue structure, responsibilities and general practices which will enhance safety and prepare personnel for higher level rope rescue training, based on the EMBC provincial training standard.

Prerequisites

- Ground Search and Rescue Program

Course Description

Search and Rescue (SAR) Rope Rescue Awareness is the first of several provincial training courses designed to prepare SAR volunteers to perform rope rescue operations in wildland situations. This course follows the Emergency Management British Columbia (EMBC) established curriculum as outlined in *EMBC SAR Rope Rescue Manual Section 1: Rope Rescue Awareness* and covers introductory rope rescue topics that aim to increase the awareness of new rope rescue personnel. This online course will review introductory aspects of the wildland rope rescue structure, system and organization in British Columbia as well topics such as core principles, roles and responsibilities, planning considerations, site assessments, and equipment considerations.

Course Delivery and Commitment

This course is delivered entirely online, and is available for self-registration at <https://catalogue.jibc.ca/>

This online course must be completed in 4 weeks and will take 3 to 7 hours.

Suitable Candidate

Someone who has participated in GSAR call-outs and has demonstrated an interest in the local rope rescue team.



EMRG-1736 SAR Rope Rescue Technician 1

This course will prepare EMBC SAR volunteers to participate in rope rescue as a team member.

Prerequisites

- EMRG-1735 Rope Rescue Awareness

Course Description

Search and Rescue (SAR) Rope Rescue Technician 1 is the second of several provincial training courses designed to prepare SAR volunteers to perform rope rescue operations in wildland situations. This course follows the Emergency Management British Columbia (EMBC) established curriculum as outlined in *EMBC SAR Rope Rescue Manual Section 2: Rope Rescue Technician 1*. The course will review the basic physics of Force Limiting Systems, selection of anchors, building and operating Dual Capability Two Tensioned Rope (DCTTR) Systems, edge management and subject packaging. Through demonstration, self-study and hands-on practice, students will be equipped to help build, operate and participate in DCTTRS and rope rescue, under the direction of a Rope Rescue Team Leader.

Subsequent rope rescue course(s) are under development.

Course Delivery and Assessment

This is a two-weekend course, with 3-5 weeks for practice between the teaching and assessment weekend. To successfully complete the course, students are expected to:

- Complete pre-course reading, study, and online quiz during the two weeks prior to the first training weekend.
- Participate in training weekend – (18 hours, generally Friday evening, and all day Saturday and Sunday)
- Complete a minimum of 16 hours of team training/practice between course weekends and the second online quiz prior to the second course weekend.
- Pass the final practical assessment weekend – (14 hours: generally all day Saturday and Sunday)

What to bring/do prior to course

You will be expected to come with your personal rope protection equipment (harness, helmet, gloves), and to practice rope rescue techniques with the Rope Rescue team in your SAR Group, or in a neighbouring group.

Suitable Candidate

A GSAR member with demonstrated interest and aptitude in Rope Rescue through a minimum of 10 hours of practice with their rope rescue team. Students should be recommended by their Rope Rescue Team Leadership, who has verified their training log and potential for success.



SAR Groups with advanced rope skills and comprehensive in-house instruction can apply for an “evaluation only” weekend (EMRG 1737). No instruction will be provided and a minimum number of registrants is required. Contact sar@jibc.ca for more details.

EMRG-1738 SAR Rope Rescue Technician 2 – Fundamentals

This course will prepare existing rope rescue volunteers to participate in over the edge situations.

Prerequisites

- EMRG-1736 or 1737 Rope Rescue Tech 1

Entry Requirements

- Member of a provincially approved Rope Rescue Team
- Competent with DCTTRS raises and lowers.
- Previous practice ascending, descending, stretcher handling and pick-offs with their team.



Course Description

Search and Rescue *Rope Rescue Technician 2 – Fundamentals* is the third in a series of provincial training courses designed for Search and Rescue volunteers. This course prepares experienced rope rescue team members to perform “over the edge” skills within wildland rescue situations. The course draws on select content from *Emergency Management British Columbia’s SAR Rope Rescue Manual, Section 3: Rope Rescue Technician 2*. Course delivery is focused on the Technician 2 core skills to provide learners with a fundamental knowledge in performing “over the edge” activities. Through demonstration, self-study and hands-on practice, students will enhance their skills in the areas of descending and ascending, high-angle stretcher handling, and pick-offs, as well as improved functionality with dual capability two tensioned rope systems (DCTTRS). Advanced techniques and the full variation of over the edge skills are not covered in this course – the focus is on fundamental over the edge skills to allow a team member to safely operate as part of their rope rescue team.

Course Delivery and Assessment

This is a two-weekend course, with 6 or more weeks between teaching weekend and assessment weekends. This break is to allow students to work with their team to practice and perfect their new skills. To successfully complete the course, students are expected to:

- Complete pre-course practice with their team, required reading/study, and an online quiz in the two weeks leading up to the training weekend
- Fully participate in training weekend, Friday afternoon and evening, Saturday and Sunday
- Complete team training/practice between course weekends and a second online quiz
- Pass the final practical assessment weekend

What to bring/do prior to course

Further details will be provided successful course applicants – previous practice will be essential.

Suitable Candidate

An active Rope Rescue Team member who has demonstrated competency with the DCTTRS rope system and has practiced over the edge skills with their team. Students must be recommended by their Rope Rescue Team Leaders/Training Officer, who have verified their training experience and interest to perform over the edge activities.

EMRG-1751 Organized Avalanche Response Team Member

As a result of having completed Organized Avalanche Response Team Member, the learner will be able to safely participate, as part of a team, in avalanche search and rescue operations.

Prerequisites

- Ground Search and Rescue Program and
- EMRG-1750 Avalanche Skills for SAR OR the CAC Avalanche Skills Training Level 1 (AST 1) course. A copy of your AST 1 certificate must be provided with your application.

Course Description

The Organized Avalanche Response Team Member course provides participants with the skills necessary to safely respond to winter SAR incidents through or in avalanche terrain. The focus of the course is on organized avalanche search and rescue techniques such as wandering, probing, transceiver searching, shoveling, and transportation of subjects. The course also includes aspects of higher ICS functions in OAR operations, group safety measures, specialized equipment used in avalanche response, and identifying potential avalanche terrain from maps. The course is intended for SAR volunteers who may respond through or within avalanche terrain.

Your enrollment confirmation email will include details of course times, a full equipment list and location.

Course Delivery

This is a hybrid course that requires online readings and work that must be completed prior to the face to face classroom and field activities. Classroom hours are generally Friday evening (classroom) and all-day Saturday and Sunday (in the field).

What to bring/do prior to course:

Students are expected to bring personal equipment appropriate for winter conditions, including

- Avalanche transceiver (457mhz) and spare batteries
- Probe, Shovel, Avaluator v2.0 (if you have one from your previous SAR150 or AST1 course)

Students may be asked to bring additional SAR team gear by the instructors if it is deemed necessary.

Suitable Candidate:

The field portions of this course are physically taxing. Students must be able to travel for several kilometers in winter conditions using backcountry skis or snowshoes.



EMRG-1752 Organized Avalanche Response Team Leader

Prerequisites

- EMRG-1751 Organized Avalanche Response Team Member (OARTM)

Course Description

The Organized Avalanche Response Team Leader course provides participants with the skills necessary to work effectively and safely as a team leader during an organized rescue in avalanche terrain. The course focuses on go-no-go decision-making criteria, different aspects of communications with team, base and other outside resources involved, ongoing collection of weather data and the use of hasty pits and stability analysis. Navigation in mountainous terrain and varying weather conditions including route finding, route flagging and track setting are also discussed. Participants are assessed on their leadership skills and ability to respond safely and effectively as a team leader in mock scenarios. The 4-day course, one quarter classroom based and three quarters in the field, is demanding and intended for Search and Rescue volunteers who will be acting in a leadership capacity.

Course Delivery and Commitment

This 4-day course generally runs all day Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday (field and classroom)

Participants should also have strong map and compass skills; have strong radio communications skills; be an experienced backcountry winter traveller with own gear; be physically fit, capable of travelling at least 10km and elevation gain of at least 800m per day; and be proficient at locating multiple buried beacons.

What to bring/do prior to course

A complete personal equipment list is sent with the confirmation of enrollment.

Suitable Candidate

Potential students with significant winter experience and who have participated in Avalanche related call-outs, and wish to take a leadership role in their avalanche team. The field portions of this course are physically taxing. Students must be able to travel for several kilometers in winter conditions using backcountry skis or snowshoes.



EMRG-1660 Public Safety Lifeline Leadership

The purpose of this course is to provide skill-based training to better equip Public Safety Lifeline volunteers to fulfill their management or leadership roles.

Prerequisites

- Applicants must be a member of an EMBC-recognized SAR group

Course Description

Leadership involves providing your team with a vision and direction and motivating them to commit their time and energy to achieving the team's goals. The purpose of this course is to introduce participants to the fundamental components of effective leadership. The focus is on leadership skills that can be applied to any Public Safety Lifeline leadership role. Students will learn to identify and/or demonstrate general leadership skills including conflict management, communication, giving and receiving feedback, motivation, problem solving, and decision making. Course coverage will include the components of successful meetings, briefings and debriefings – important skills for any SAR team lead.

Courses have limited spots; all applications will be reviewed for a final approval by the Provincial Training Committee.

Course Delivery and Commitment

This is a 2-day course (generally delivered all-day Saturday and all-day Sunday)

Suitable Candidate

The course is intended for members of EMBC's Search & Rescue community who have significant experience with their teams and who are in, or under consideration for, a management or leadership role. You should be comfortable with the self-reflection required to assess your own personal leadership style. This course is recommended for those who lead specialized teams (such as GSAR, Rope Rescue, OAR or Swiftwater) and other leadership roles such as SAR leadership team members.



Emergency Management Division
School of Public Safety
Justice Institute of British Columbia
715 McBride Boulevard
New Westminster, BC V3L 5T4

E-mail: emergency@jibc.ca
Website: www.jibc.ca/emergency

Search and Rescue Program

Phone: 1.604.528.5786
Toll-Free: 1.888.898.5422
Email: sar@jibc.ca
Fax: 1.604.528.5796
Website: www.jibc.ca/sar