

Minimum Participation to be Rated as Qualified

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY SEARCH AND RESCUE (CCSAR)

The intent of this policy is to encourage teamwork, training, and team cohesion. Search & Rescue is a team effort, and it is important members know and be familiar with each other in order to be an effective team. You may be well-trained (outside of CCSAR), but if you do not participate regularly in CCSAR activities you are not as effective as a member of the CCSAR team. The policy in no way limits the amount of training you take outside of that with CCSAR, and we in fact encourage members to take additional training to enhance their skills.

Being rated as “Qualified” means that you are on the call-out list for searches.

At the beginning of the year, once the calendar is established, the Core Team will determine the potential number of hours of regular participation. This number will be announced to CCSAR members by email.

Monthly meetings will be allocated one hour each. Weekend training will be allocated a minimum of three hours each but may be adjusted depending on the specific training being offered. The total number of hours will be totaled to establish a baseline number of hours. For example:

11 monthly meetings:	11 hours
5 weekend practice searches: 3 hours each:	15 hours
1 Land Navigation (weekend):	6 hours
3 other weekend training:	<u>9 hours</u>
Total baseline hours:	41 hours

If the actual time to complete a particular event (training, practice search, etc.) is more than the baseline time, the actual time will be recorded. For example, if a practice search takes 4.5 hours, then each member participating will be credited 4.5 hours instead of 3 hours. All monthly meetings will be recorded a minimum of one hour or the actual time of the meetings. Participation time will be recorded to the nearest 15 minutes (quarter of an hour).

If a monthly meeting or scheduled training is cancelled, those hours will be subtracted from the baseline total.

Time spent in a required SARGOT class will not be counted toward the minimum number of hours but will be recorded as volunteer hours. However, if an extra SARGOT class is taken, then the extra class will be counted toward minimum hours. GSAR, offered by the Illinois

Search and Rescue Council, can be taken as a substitution for SARGOT to be considered current for that requirement but it will not count toward minimum hours.

Baseline hours for new members will be prorated starting with the month after they have joined.

Members must participate in a minimum of 50 percent of the total baseline hours for the year to maintain "Qualified" status for search callouts, in addition to being current for SARGOT/GSAR.

Participation hours will be evaluated by the Core Team every six months, and the Qualified list will be adjusted at that time.

Callouts for searches are made from the Qualified list of members. To be Qualified, you must be current with SARGOT (every two years) and have the minimum number of participation hours required for the previous 12 months.

Adopted March 10, 2026. retroactive to January 1, 2026