

Professional Standard: Registered Air Attack Supervisor

Authority

This standard was endorsed by the AFAC Emergency Management Professionalisation Scheme Panel on 29 September 2021.

Context

The AFAC Emergency Management Professionalisation Scheme (the Scheme) is a program to recognise the skills, abilities and experience of emergency management practitioners.

Established by AFAC, the National Council for fire, land management and emergency service agencies in Australia and New Zealand, the Scheme is an initiative designed to promote emergency management as a profession.

The Scheme is open to career and volunteer personnel of AFAC member agencies, as well as individuals from other approved organisations or who have AFAC member agency support.

Scope of application

This standard applies to applicants seeking registration in the role of Air Attack Supervisor.

Hazard specific expertise is evaluated as part of the education component of eligibility and is a matter for the assessing agency to determine. Registration is limited to the role and is not separated into hazard classes.

Applicants may be career staff or volunteers of AFAC member agencies or personnel from approved government, commercial or other entities.

Credential

The Registered Air Attack Supervisor credential is awarded to an individual who has successfully fulfilled all eligibility requirements.

The Air Attack Supervisor is responsible for supervising aerial fire suppression activities and other tactical missions from the air.

The Air Attack Supervisor normally operates from a separate aircraft to the tactical aircraft in order to observe the incident ground and the activities of the tactical aircraft. However, an Air Attack Supervisor may also operate from the ground. The Air Attack Supervisor assigns specific tactical actions to the pilots of the tactical aircraft.

The Air Attack Supervisor also assists with the development of the Air Operations Plan, in conjunction with the Air Operations Manager, where appointed, other members of the Air Operations Unit and the Operations Officer and Planning Officer.

An Air Attack Supervisor operating from a lead plane supervising a Large Air Tanker (LAT) requires additional training. The additional training requirements for this role are outside the scope of this credential.

Reports to: Air Operations Manager, where appointed, or the Operations Officer

Education requirements for Air Attack Supervisor

Applicants must be able to provide documented evidence of successful completion of the education components and all associated prerequisites as specified in Table 1.

Table 1:

Course or Program
PUAFIR012 Supervise aerial firefighting operations 22459VIC – Course in the Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System (AIIMS) <i>And</i> Hold the required competencies as an Air Observer (Fire), with a statement of attainment in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PUAFIR005 Observe fire from an aircraft.
SPECIAL NOTE: Where an Applicant held the competencies specified for the role of Air Attack Supervisor under the superseded Fire Aviation Training and Assessment Framework (2011), then, so long as they have maintained their currency they are deemed to have fulfilled the equivalent education requirements for this Standard.

Experience requirements for Air Attack Supervisor

Applicants must be able to provide documented evidence to demonstrate that he or she:

- has committed to the EMPS Code of Ethics 2017
- is endorsed by their agency as an Air Attack Supervisor
- has at least two years’ experience as an Air Attack Supervisor
- has at least one operational season’s experience as an Air Attack Supervisor without mentoring or supervision
- is supported by their home agency or jurisdiction.

Definitions

<i>Two years’ experience</i>	Is active experience over at least two operational seasons during which the individual has carried out the role of Air Attack Supervisor.
<i>Operational season</i>	Is that part of a 12-month period in which the natural hazard class managed by an agency is likely to occur with greatest frequency. There is only one operational season in a 12-month period.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

To maintain currency, the Air Attack Supervisor must complete 10 hours of CPD each financial year. This must include a practical CPD activity, performing the role whilst airborne during an actual or simulated operational situation.

Note: Practical CPD (airborne) for Air Attack Supervisor also counts for Air Observer (Fire) and Air Observer (Non Fire).

Review

This standard will commence 29 September 2021. The Panel will review this standard after five years or as required.

Related professional standards

- Code of Ethics (2017)
- Professional Standard: Continuing Professional Development (2018).