

# Professional Standard: Registered Field Liaison Officer

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## Authority

This standard was endorsed by the AFAC Emergency Management Professionalisation Scheme Panel on 22 November 2022.

## Context

The Emergency Management Professionalisation Scheme (the Scheme) is a program to credential emergency management practitioners who have completed a process to formally recognise their skills, abilities and experience.

Established by AFAC, the national council and peak body for fire, land management and emergency service agencies in Australia and New Zealand, the Scheme is a new initiative specifically designed to reinforce emergency management as a profession.

The Scheme is open to career and volunteer personnel of AFAC member agencies, as well as individuals from commercial or government entities.

## Scope of application

This standard applies to applicants seeking registration in the role of a Field Liaison Officer. A proficient Field Liaison Officer provides liaison in a field setting on behalf of an agency, or multiple agencies from the same jurisdiction, that have deployed resources to an incident.

The Field Liaison Officer is required to liaise with the authorities having overall management of the emergency response to support the effective sharing of resources and promote the sharing of information and strategic resource planning.

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 commercial or other government entities.

## Registration

Registration as a Field Liaison Officer is available to an individual who has successfully fulfilled all eligibility requirements. Individuals will be recognised as proficient in management of the Field Liaison Officer role, as defined in AIIMS, will have demonstrated experience in carrying out the liaison functions in connection with deployment of emergency management resources.

Registration is intended for those personnel who have a particular interest and expertise and experience in performing the field liaison role during moderate and high impact emergency events.

## Education requirements for Registered Field Liaison Officer

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

**Table 1:**

Course or Program
PUAOPE033 Undertake field liaison in a deployment context.
An AFAC member agency course for Field Liaison Officers which is formally assessed against criteria equivalent to PUAOPE033 Undertake field liaison in a deployment context.
A qualification which was awarded after formal assessment and which in the view of the Panel provides evidence of the Applicant’s competence to perform the role of the Field Liaison Officer equivalent to PUAOPE033 Undertake field liaison in a deployment context.

## Eligibility – Registered Liaison Officer during emergency events

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

- Has signed and committed to the Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct 2017.
- Has successfully fulfilled the role of Field Liaison Officer, for at least two years and in a minimum of three instances, with at least one instance being in the 12 months before applying.
- Is in compliance with the *Professional Standard: Continuing Professional Development*.
- Is supported by their home agency or jurisdiction.

## Definitions

<b><i>A moderate to high impact event</i></b>	Is a Level 2 or level 3 incident or equivalent as described in the AIIMS Manual and as determined by the Panel.
<b><i>Instance</i></b>	Is an operational incident, an exercise involving a realistic simulation of an operational incident, or a pre-formed incident management team stood up in anticipation of an operational incident.

## Review

This standard will commence November 2022. The Panel will review this standard after five years or as required.

## Related professional standards

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