

# Professional Standard: Registered Liaison Officer (IMT)

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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 Liaison Officer (IMT). A proficient Liaison Officer will support the coordination of assistance between an organisation managing an emergency response and/or recovery and another organisation providing services or assistance in these efforts. The role a Liaison Officer (IMT) will depend on the size and nature of the incident, and the role their organisation plays in it.

The role of the Liaison Officer (IMT) can be performed by personnel involved in emergency response and/or recovery within or by emergency service organisations, private sector businesses, critical infrastructure owners and operators, community groups, not for profit organisations and community event committees.

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 Liaison Officer (IMT) is available to an individual who has successfully fulfilled all eligibility requirements. Individuals will be recognised as proficient in management of the liaison role as defined in AIIMS will have demonstrated experience in establishing and performing the Liaison Officer role, contributing to organisational planning, maintaining situational awareness and concluding and reviewing activities associated with the role.

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

## Education requirements for Registered Liaison Officer (IMT)

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
PUAOPE029 Conduct liaison during emergency events.
An AFAC member agency course for Liaison Officers (IMT) working in developed incident management structures which is formally assessed against criteria equivalent to PUAOPE029 Conduct liaison during emergency events.
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 Liaison Officer in incident management structures equivalent to PUAOPE029 Conduct liaison during emergency events.

## Eligibility – Registered Liaison Officer (IMT)

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 Liaison Officer (IMT), 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>A moderate to high impact event</b>	Is a Level 2 or level 3 incident or equivalent as described in the AIIMS Manual and as determined by the Panel.
<b>Instance</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).