

Expanded Emergency Services Qualification Insignia

A proposal for specialty insignias to cover all emergency services qualifications. Currently only a small number of emergency services qualifications have any type of skill designator. This is a proposal to create three specialty insignia to cover the rest. These insignia are:

- Incident Staff Insignia (ISI) – Basic, Leader, and Chief
- Urban Direction Finding Team Insignia – Basic only
- Disaster Response Team – Basic and Leader

The following emergency services qualifications would be associated with the various insignia levels indicated in the table below:

Qualification	MB Basic	MB Senior	MB Master	DR Basic	DR Leader
Air Operations Branch Director.		XX			
Branch Director (other) *		XX			
Communications Unit Leader		XX			
Community Emergency Response Team				XX	
CERT Leader *					XX
Communications Technician/COMT*	XX				
Cost Unit Leader *		XX			
CISM Team Member	XX				
CISM Team Leader *		XX			
Division/Group Supervisor (any) *		XX			
Finance/Administration Section Chief			XX		
Flight Line Marshaller	XX				
Flight Line Supervisor		XX			
Ground Branch Director		XX			
Ground Photographer *				XX	
Liaison Officer		XX			
Logistics Section Chief			XX		
Mission Chaplain (MC)		XX			
Mission Information Technology *	XX				
Mission Radio Operator/RADO	XX				
Mission Safety Officer		XX			
Mission Staff Assistant	XX				
NOC Augmentee	XX				
Operations Section Chief			XX		
Planning Section Chief			XX		
PODS Team Member *				XX	

PODS Team Leader *					XX
Public Information Officer		XX			
Resources Unit Leader *		XX			
Situation Unit Leader *		XX			
Team/Unit Leader (other) *					
Urban Direction Finding Team	UDF Team Badge				

The Mission Base Staff positions are generally grouped as Entry, Leader, and Chief. Entry ratings are the lowest level positions such as Mission Radio Operator or Mission Staff Assistant. Leader positions are the middle level supervisory positions such as unit leaders and directors. Leader also covers those positions that report directly to the IC, but do not head sections – Mission Safety Officer, Liaison Officer, and Public Information Officer. Chiefs are the four section chiefs – Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance/Administration.

Urban Direction Finding Team has a single level insignia as there are no UDF Team leaders. Progression beyond UDF is through the Ground Team track. Recognition of this rating is important as, in several wings, traditional ground team missions have fallen off almost to being non-existent, while UDF missions have increased and taken their place.

The Ground Branch Director would to use the Senior Mission Base Badge, as the GBD is a middle manager and operates at the ICP. The ground team badges would be reorganized so the Master GT badge is worn by Ground Team Leaders who are also CERT, DR, or PODS qualified. Once the Team Leader qualifications are developed for the CERT, DR, or PODS Teams, one of those Team Leader qualifications would be required in addition to the Ground Team Leader qualification for the Master GT badge. The Senior GT badge would be worn by GT Leaders who are not CERT, DR or PODS qualified.

The Disaster Relief Team badge recognizes some qualifications that do not exist in CAP at this time, but as disasters become a larger part of where CAP can provide assistance, it would be foreseeable that some of these specialties be developed. Some already exist in a few wings, but have not been adopted nationally.

The positions listed with an asterisk (*) do not currently exist in the CAP Emergency Services System, but their development is foreseeable.

Following these guidelines, additional qualifications would be easy to incorporate into the specialty insignia system as they are developed and implemented.

Members would be authorized to wear up to two specialty insignia or one aeronautical and one specialty insignia above the ribbons or Civil Air Patrol tape. With the adoption of this system, members would be able to wear either the ES patch (either version) or specialty insignia, but not both. Insignia materials would follow current CAP styles.

The designs for the insignias are below:

Incident Staff Insignia

Using the Incident Commander insignia as a starting point, the form of this insignia helps indicate that it is not a flying or field insignia. The Incident Commander insignia is visually distinctive from the Ground Team Insignia and this distinction carries over to the Incident Staff Insignia. Using the star and wreathed star helps provide an easy identifier as to the level of leadership and management skill the member has, which carries over beyond just Emergency Services.



Since the Urban Direction Finding Team is a ground search unit, the CAP Ground Team Insignia was modified to represent this qualification.



Urban Direction Finding Team Insignia

Since the Disaster Response Team badge is for a field unit, the GT badge serves as the basis for the DR badge as well.

