Prospective New Member Self-Assessment

The Santa Fe Search and Rescue Group (SFSAR) asks that each prospective new member complete this form. It will help you – and our group – to assess your interests and experience. After you complete this assessment, please contact your Sponsor to arrange a face-to-face meeting. During the meeting, you will review this assessment, have the opportunity to ask questions, discuss our work and the SFSAR Group's expectations of its members, and decide on the next steps.

Please keep in mind that we don't expect new members to be skilled in all the areas mentioned here. Rather, our goal is to get you thinking about some of the challenges involved in our search work and about your ability and desire to participate.

Our members contribute to SFSAR, its search mission, and the search commander in several ways:

A. Ground Pounders: SFSAR primarily searches for lost or over-due subjects on foot (that is, hiking), or on snow shoes during the winter. Ground pounders work in small teams, typically comprised of four searchers. They also assist in evacuation and provide first aid to injured subjects.
B. Additional Roles: Team members who can't or don't wish to participate in ground pounding may provide other forms of support. For example, they might choose to be a member of the Communications Unit, assist with fundraising, organize events, or act as Duty Officer to initiate call outs. Of course, most members participate in a variety of ways.

The nature of the work and expectations of these roles are a little different. In all cases, we will assist new members with becoming properly trained and qualified to pursue their area or areas of interest.

Please check the box that most closely matches your ability or experience. Be honest with yourself – don't short yourself nor overestimate your abilities, skills, and experiences.

1. Ability to hike 6 to 8 miles at altitudes over 10,000 feet, carrying a moderately heavy pack (20 to 30 pounds)

No experience	beginning		average		excellent
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Comments:
_____
_____

2. Ability to snowshoe at altitude with a moderately heavy pack (20 to 30 pounds)

No experience	beginning		average		excellent
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Comments:

_____

_____

3. Hiking in a wide range of terrains – mountains, desert, off trail, etc, as well as at night and in adverse weather conditions.

No experience	beginning		average		excellent
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Comments:

_____

_____

4. Ability to use USGS topographical maps, a compass and a GPS unit (global positioning system) for navigation, or a cellphone GPS navigation system

No experience	beginning		average		excellent
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Comments:

_____

_____

5. Ability to use a basic radio or amateur (ham) radio for communications

No experience	beginning		average		excellent
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Comments:

_____

_____

6. Ability / experience in basic first aid skills

No experience	beginning		average		excellent
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Describe:

_____

_____

7. Ability / experience in climbing, mountaineering, and rope work.

No experience	beginning		average		excellent
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Comments:

_____

_____

8. Have or be willing to obtain outdoor, non-cotton hiking gear (rain gear, pack, wicking layered clothing, boots, etc.) for both summer and winter weather.

None	beginning		average		excellent
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Comments:

_____

_____

9. Experience in the backcountry / wilderness including backpacking or expeditions.

No experience	beginning		average		excellent
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Comments:

_____

_____

10. Experience with Search and Rescue or disaster response organizations, such as the Red Cross or Team Rubicon

No experience	beginning		average		excellent
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Describe:

_____

_____

11. How much experience do you have functioning as part of a team under challenging circumstances?

No experience	beginning		average		excellent
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Describe:

_____

_____

12. Ability to meet the time commitment to for training, meeting participation, and attending missions. (See bylaws for requirements to maintain Active Membership.)

No experience	beginning		average		excellent
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Describe:

_____

_____

13. Please tell us about your interest and experience in the outdoors, and anything else not covered above that you would like to tell us about.

_____

_____

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_____

Santa Fe Search and Rescue Group

Application for Membership

Full name/nickname _____/_____

Address _____

_____

Telephones Home _____ Age _____

Work _____

Mobile _____

Email address _____

Emergency Contact Name _____

Phone _____

Relationship _____

What SAR skills/previous experience to you have? _____

_____

Why do you want to join SFSAR? _____

_____

Please read the following statements carefully before signing this application:

1. I have read and agree to abide with the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) of the Santa Fe Search and Rescue Group (see website).
2. I either have or agree to procure the necessary personal equipment to participate in search and rescue missions appropriate to my type of participation.
3. I am willing to participate, without compensation, in all activities of the Group, including monthly meetings, training exercises, and actual search and rescue missions, as outlined in the team SOPs.
4. In the case of actual search and rescue missions, I agree to follow the appointed leadership of a mission. I understand that I may refuse any assignment.
5. I agree to hold the Santa Fe Search and Rescue Group, and the members thereof, harmless in the case of personal injury or death.
6. My health and level of fitness is adequate for the activities in which I plan to participate.

_____ _____ _____

Signature of Applicant Date Sponsoring Member