



PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY

ROPE RESCUE TECHNICIAN SKILL STATIONS

NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition) Chapter 5

Effective March 1, 2026:

- All certification candidates are required to maintain an active Acadis user portal account. (Acadis portal location = OSFC website/ Training and Certification Portal, or click here: [ENVISAGE Acadis®](#))
- All certification candidates are to be registered with the designated test site and rostered for the certification test.

Skill Stations

NFPA 1006 Rope Technician – Chapter 5 (2021 Edition)

Station A	Ascend, Descend, & Self-Rescue (2 Evaluators)	Mandatory Station
Station B	Rescue a Suspended Victim (2 Evaluators)	Mandatory Station
Station C	High-Angle Horizontal Transfer (2 Evaluators)	Mandatory Station
Station D	Interact with an Emotional Victim at Height (2 Evaluators)	Mandatory Station
Station E	Structure Climb & Traverse (1 Evaluator)	Mandatory Station
Station F	Litter Tender: High Angle (1 Evaluator)	Mandatory Station

All skills in the Rope Rescue Operation Level Skills Menu are Mandatory. All skills in the Rope Rescue Operations level MUST be passed with 100% of tasks being checked "YES." Any task checked "NO" in a skill station is a failure of that skill.

HOWEVER, skills C and D are broken into " SECTIONS. " Candidates who are unsuccessful at completing a section of skill C or D will only have to retest on the section that they failed.

Candidates who are unsuccessful at two or more sections in Skill Station C, "High-Angle Horizontal Transfer," or two or more in Skill Station D, "Interact with an Emotional Victim at Height," will have to retest the entire skill station.

AT NO TIME will a candidate, evaluator, participant, facility staff, etc., approach any edge where a fall of more than three (3) feet is possible without being attached to a fall protection system or a travel restraint system unless they are attached to the main line and belay line or a twin tensioned system. Failure to follow these instructions will be an automatic failure of the station.

Minimum PPE for Rope Rescue Testing:

- Helmet/hardhat with chinstrap
- Gloves – to be worn anytime that the candidate is handling moving rope
- Boots
- ANSI Approved Eye Protection
- Class III Harness



PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY

ROPE RESCUE TECHNICIAN SKILL STATIONS

NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition) Chapter 5

STATION A – Ascend, Descend, & Self-Rescue		Reference NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition), Chapter 5 Mandatory Station: JPRs 5.3.9, 5.3.10, 5.3.11	
Test Site	Test Date	Candidate #	Check the Test Type ____ Initial ____ Retest

Evaluator Note: The candidate will ascend a fixed rope, transition to a descent, and descend to an obstruction, bypass the obstruction, and descend to the ground. A belay system will be utilized throughout this station.

Directions: Given a fixed rope system, a belay system, and rope rescue PPE and equipment, the candidate will ascend 20' on a fixed rope, transition to a descent and descend to an obstruction, bypass the obstruction, and descend to the ground so that all maneuvers are safe and secure.

Performance Outcome: Pass / Fail is determined by **All** tasks correctly performed.

No.	Tasks	Yes	No
1	Dons required PPE		
2	Checks ascending and descending equipment prior to use		
3	Performs a system safety check on the mainline (fixed rope), belay, PPE, and rescue equipment		
4	Attaches ascending equipment to the rope in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations		
5	Maintains a minimum of two (2) points of contact during ascending maneuver		
6	Ascends to designated height (20')		
7	Converts ascent into a descent on the rope		
8	Descends to obstruction in the rope and bypasses the obstruction		
9	Descends to the ground		
10	Completes all maneuvers in a safe and controlled manner		
Please indicate skill outcome		PASS	FAIL

Evaluator Comments:

Evaluator Signature: _____ **Evaluator #** _____



PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY

ROPE RESCUE TECHNICIAN SKILL STATIONS

NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition) Chapter 5

STATION B – Rescue a Suspended Victim		Reference NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition), Chapter 5 Mandatory Station: JPRs 5.3.2, 5.3.3	
Test Site	Test Date	Candidate #	Check the Test Type ____Initial ____Retest

Evaluator Note: The station scenario will require the candidate to perform a pick-off maneuver on a suspended victim.

Directions: Given a rope rescue PPE and equipment, the candidates will construct a lowering system to remove a victim suspended from rope or webbing. The rescuer will be lowered by a team to a suspended victim, transfer the victim to the rescuer's rope system, and be lowered to the ground with the victim so that all maneuvers were safe and secure. All candidates will rotate through the position of rescuer.

Performance Outcome: Pass / Fail is determined by **All** tasks correctly performed.

No.	Tasks	Yes	No
1	Assesses the incident and attempts to contact the victim		
2	Dons required PPE		
3	Checks lowering and belay equipment prior to use		
4	Performs a system safety check on the mainline, belay, PPE, and rescue equipment		
5	Lowered and stops above the suspended victim		
6	Connects belay to the victim		
7	Connects pick-off device to the victim's harness and to the rescuer's descent device		
8	Raises the victim to relieve the victim's weight from the victim's rope system		
9	Frees victim from their suspension rope/webbing		
10	Continues lower with the victim		
11	Communicates to the team throughout the operation		
12	The victim is brought to EMS		
13	Completes all maneuvers in a safe and controlled manner		
Please indicate skill outcome		PASS	FAIL

Evaluator Comments:

Evaluator Signature: _____

Evaluator # _____



PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY

ROPE RESCUE TECHNICIAN SKILL STATIONS

NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition) Chapter 5

STATION C – High-Angle Horizontal Transfer		Reference NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition), Chapter 5 Mandatory Station: JPRs 5.3.5, 5.3.6	
Test Site	Test Date	Candidate #	Check the Test Type ____Initial ____Retest

Evaluator Note: The station scenario will require the candidates, working as a team, to construct, operate, and direct the operation of a highline horizontal transfer system. The system will require a reeving system to maneuver a rescuer to a simulated victim.

Directions: Given a simulated rescue scenario, life safety rope, and rope rescue equipment, the candidate, working as a member of a team, will construct, operate, and direct the operation of a highline horizontal transfer system with a Reeving System so that a victim and attendant are safely transferred across the system, in a secure and controlled manner.

Performance Outcome: Pass / Fail is determined by **All** tasks correctly performed.

No.	Tasks	Yes	No
Section 1: Highline & Control Line Construction			
1	Assesses the incident and attempts to contact the victim		
2	Dons required PPE		
3	Checks rope, PPE, and equipment prior to use		
4	Establishes communications between team members		
5	Extends track-line(s), control lines, and reeve line(s) between transfer points		
6	Constructs, positions, and secures artificial/structural high-directionals as required		
7	Constructs track-line(s) and control lines		
8	Pretensions track-line system to an acceptable force		
9	Checks control lines for operation and verifies that they can capture the load if the track-line fails		
10	Performs a system safety check prior to pretension and loading of the system		
11	Completes all maneuvers in a safe and controlled manner		
Section 2: Reeve System Construction			
12	Checks reeve system for operation and load capture if the reeving line fails		
Reeving System Created ☐ English ☐ Norwegian ☐			
13	Rigs for a rescuer horizontal transfer		
14	Reviews rescuer safety protocols for victim transfer		
15	Completes all maneuvers in a safe and controlled manner		

Continued on next page.



PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY

ROPE RESCUE TECHNICIAN SKILL STATIONS

NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition) Chapter 5

Station C: High-Angle Horizontal Transfer (Page 2)

No.	Tasks	Yes	No
Section 3: Victim Rescue			
16	Secures rescuer to the system		
17	Lowers and raises attendant on the reeving system		
18	The catenary angle is within the desired range of 120° or less		
19	Directs a rescue team in the transfer operation of a victim in a high-angle environment using a rope rescue system		
20	Transfer operation is smooth and controlled		
21	The rescuer communicates with the team throughout the operation		
22	Completes all maneuvers in a safe and controlled manner		
Please indicate skill outcome		PASS	FAIL

Evaluator Comments:

Evaluator Signature: _____

Evaluator # _____



PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY

ROPE RESCUE TECHNICIAN SKILL STATIONS

NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition) Chapter 5

STATION D – Interact with an Emotional Victim at Height		Reference NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition), Chapter 5 Mandatory Station: JPRs 5.3.1, 5.3.8	
Test Site	Test Date	Candidate #	Check the Test Type ____Initial ____Retest

Evaluator Note: The station scenario will require the candidate to perform a rescue maneuver on a stranded emotional victim in a high-angle environment.

Directions: Given a rope lowering system, a belay system, and rope rescue PPE and equipment, the candidate, working as a member of a team, will lower a rescuer to a stranded emotional victim, establish communications with the victim, gain the victim's confidence and expressed willingness to be rescued, so that the victim and rescuer are lowered to the ground and that all maneuvers were safe and secure.

Performance Outcome: Pass / Fail is determined by **All** tasks correctly performed.

No.	Tasks	Yes	No
Section 1: Scene Control; Situational Awareness			
1	Initiates scene control, isolation procedures, and hazard control strategies		
2	Dons required PPE		
3	Establishes communications with the victim		
4	Determines the victim's state of mind and threat level from law enforcement personnel		
5	Communicates rescue response actions/events to the victim		
6	Identifies the victim's condition and location		
7	Reassures victim throughout the rescue process		
Section 2: Rigging			
8	Selects anchor points that will capture anticipated load forces		
9	Constructs and operates a rope-lowering system		
10	Constructs and operates a belay system (single or two-tension rope system)		
11	Constructs an anchor systems that will accommodate the anticipated load		
12	Performs a system safety check prior to loading and operating the systems		
13	Attaches rescuer securely to the lowering system; safely lowers rescuer to the victim's location		
14	Constructs systems to capture the load when input forces are released from the system		
15	Rescuer brings the required PPE and equipment needed to lower the victim		
16	Completes operation in a safe and controlled manner		

Continued on next page.



PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY

ROPE RESCUE TECHNICIAN SKILL STATIONS

NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition) Chapter 5

STATION D – Interact with an Emotional Victim at Height (Page 2)

No.	Tasks	Yes	No
Section 3: Victim Rescue			
17	Ensures that the victim's PPE is properly donned and secured		
18	Communicates the rescue actions/events to the victim and team		
19	Reassures victim actions are calculated and safe prior to lowering		
20	Connects victim securely to the lowering system and the belay system		
21	Performs a system safety check prior to lowering the victim		
22	Directs the operation of a lowering system		
23	Lowers victim and rescuer safely to the ground		
24	Completes operation in a safe and controlled manner		
Please indicate skill outcome		PASS	FAIL

Evaluator Comments:

Evaluator Signature: _____

Evaluator # _____



PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY

ROPE RESCUE TECHNICIAN SKILL STATIONS

NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition) Chapter 5

STATION E – Structure Climb & Traverse		Reference NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition), Chapter 5 Mandatory Station: JPRs 5.3.7	
Test Site	Test Date	Candidate #	Check the Test Type ____ Initial ____ Retest

Evaluator Note: The candidate will climb and traverse a natural or man-made structure using any of the listed devices: climbing lanyards, travel limiters, lead climb slings, flip lines, or buck straps.

Directions: Given rope rescue PPE and equipment, the candidate will climb and traverse a natural or man-made structure using proper fall protection, so that the climb is completed in a safe and controlled manner.

Performance Outcome: Pass / Fail is determined by **All** tasks correctly performed.

No.	Tasks	Yes	No
1	Assesses the incident and structure		
2	Dons required PPE (class 3 harness is required)		
3	Checks PPE and equipment prior to use		
4	Utilizes PPE and equipment in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations		
5	Ascends and traverses the structure using fall protection		
6	Limits fall distance to 6'		
7	Descends the structure using fall protection		
8	Completes operation in a safe and controlled manner		
Please indicate skill outcome		PASS	FAIL

Evaluator Comments:

Evaluator Signature: _____

Evaluator # _____



PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY

ROPE RESCUE TECHNICIAN SKILL STATIONS

NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition) Chapter 5

STATION F – Litter Tender: High Angle		Reference NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition), Chapter 5 Mandatory Station: JPRs 5.3.4	
Test Site	Test Date	Candidate #	Check the Test Type ____Initial ____Retest

Evaluator Note: The candidate will perform task-specific maneuvers as a litter tender while suspended on a rope system.

Directions: Given rope rescue PPE, rope rescue equipment, and a litter, the candidate will perform task-specific maneuvers as a litter tender while suspended on a rope system in a high-angle environment so that the maneuvers are completed in a safe and controlled manner, risks to the rescuer and victim are minimized, and obstacles are safely negotiated.

Performance Outcome: Pass / Fail is determined by **All** tasks correctly performed.

No.	Tasks	Yes	No
1	Selects the proper equipment for the assignment		
2	Rescuer connects themselves to the rope rescue and a belay system		
3	Performs system safety check		
4	The attendant places the victim in the left lateral recumbent position		
5	Positions above the litter, below the litter, to the head of the litter, to the foot of the litter		
6	Maneuvers litter past an obstacle		
7	Minimizes risks to rescuer and victim		
8	Minimizes unwanted victim movement during the operation		
9	Completes operation in a safe and controlled manner		
Please indicate skill outcome		PASS	FAIL

Evaluator Comments:

Evaluator Signature: _____

Evaluator # _____