

Rappel Pilot Certification

1. Interagency Helicopter Rappel Guide Pilot Requirements

- a. Meets the appropriate requirements of the contracting document
- b. Qualified and approved by agency inspector pilot for long-ling.
- c. Qualified spotter will brief, demonstrate, train, and familiarize the pilot on rappel operations and equipment.
- d. Pilot will attend mock-up training, (Ground simulation of rappel operations utilizing helicopter.)
- e. Final approval for rappel operations will be based upon:
 - i. Completion of spotter provided briefing and training.
 - ii. Demonstrated ability to pilot the helicopter during a series of simulated rappels and cargo letdown operations.
 - iii. Demonstrated ability to coordinate with rappel spotter.
 - iv. Demonstrated knowledge of rappel emergency procedures during emergency procedures simulation and helicopter emergency procedures effect on rappel operations.

2. Pilot Rappel Training Syllabus

- a. Briefing and familiarization on rappel anchor and hard point for specific model including inspection procedures.
- b. Briefing and demonstration of rappel equipment use and inspection to include harness, descent device, rope, accessories, and PPE.
- c. Seating arrangement for rappellers and spotters.
- d. Cargo placement, loading, securing, rigging, inspection, and letdown procedures.
- e. Exit procedures, sequences and emergency procedures (Review rappel guide.)
- f. Model specific procedures (Review rappel guide.)
- g. Helicopter mock-up training to include cargo letdown, rappel sequence, rappel emergency procedures simulation and helicopter emergency procedures.
- h. Expectations for pre-rappel mission briefing.
- i. Risk Management procedures and analysis process.
- j. Review rappel site selection criteria including:
 - i. Personnel
 - ii. Safety zones
 - iii. Fire behavior
 - iv. Analysis, emergency fly away site, Helicopter clearance, Ability to land rather than rappel.
- k. Pilot and spotter authority and responsibility to cancel any mission deemed unsafe or too high risk.