

**Governor's Office of Homeland Security  
and Emergency Preparedness**  
State of Louisiana

JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
GOVERNOR



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DIRECTOR

DIR-2023-0123-005

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**SENT VIA GOHSEP EMAIL DISTRIBUTION LISTS**

Louisiana Emergency Response Personnel:

Fire Service, Law Enforcement, Emergency Management, Communications Dispatch,  
and Health Care, among others.

Subject: Implementation of the Louisiana Incident Management Qualifications System:  
Statewide Recognition of the Federal Emergency Management Agency  
(FEMA), National Incident Management System Guideline for the  
National Qualification System (NQS)

Dear Emergency Response Personnel:

The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP), in cooperation with the Louisiana All Hazards Incident Management Team Advisory Subcommittee (AHIMT Advisory Subcommittee), is implementing an Incident Management Qualification System. Providing a qualification system based on National Incident Management System (NIMS) doctrine and nationally recognized best practices is a significant step forward in preparing for and managing the ever-evolving threat environment, we face in Louisiana.

The first phase in implementing the Louisiana Incident Management Qualification System (LIMQS) is recognizing the previously existing qualifications and experience public safety personnel already possess through a process known as Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). This process is patterned on similar Historical Recognition processes used when first implementing qualifications programs.

The (LIMQS) will use a performance-based RPL process to assess an individual's prior experiences and training to determine competency in a position. This is based on the premise that the candidate has already performed the job or performed in a position very similar to the one desired. The RPL process requires an individual to provide documentation of their experiences, training, and knowledge, and, if necessary, is confirmed with an interview panel consisting of subject matter experts or credentialed individuals.

Following the instructions on the application, personnel who wish to have their previously obtained or existing Incident Command System qualifications recognized will need to complete and submit the Louisiana *Incident Management Qualification System Application for Recognition of Prior Learning* or "RPL Application."

Personnel who wish to use the Recognition of Prior Learning process must submit their completed **RPL Application** by the **close of business on December 31, 2025**. The Credentialing Committee will then review additional Recognition of Prior Learning Applications and Position Task Book submissions quarterly or as advised by the Governance Committee until December 31, 2025. After December 31, 2025, Recognition of Prior Learning will be considered on an individual basis by the Credentialing Committee.

After the Recognition of Prior Learning phase concludes, personnel who seek [LIMQS] qualification must follow the [LIMQS] process, including the completion of an appropriate Incident Command System (ICS) Position Task Book for the desired position.

Attached are the application and specific instructions for completion. If you intend to apply for recognition of several ICS positions, you will need to complete an application for each position and ensure that only the information that pertains to that position is in the submitted packet.

Once your application has been submitted, the Louisiana Credentialing and Qualifications Committee and the Louisiana Governance Committee will provide an assessment and review to determine if your application meets the Recognition of Prior Learning guidelines. All certificates, records, and statements will be verified for accuracy and completeness. Providing embellished, false, or inaccurate information may result in rejection of this application, and future applications may not be considered.

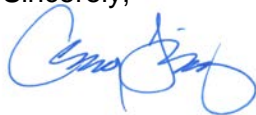
Instructions for completing the application and the specifics on submittals are contained in the application and accompanying instructions.

If you have any questions during the application process, or need assistance in completing the application, please contact:

Kelly Feet  
Training and Exercise Branch Manager  
(225) 358-5236  
[Kelly.Feet2@la.gov](mailto:Kelly.Feet2@la.gov)  
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<http://gohsep.la.gov/RESOURCES/LA-AHIMT>

Thank you for your interest in our program and for submitting your application. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,



Casey Tingle