

Search and Rescue Assistance in Disasters (SARAID) Engineer Recruitment

SARAID is looking to recruit suitably qualified personnel to fill the role of **USAR Engineer** or **Assessment Engineer** for our **International Response Team**.

Volunteer Engineers are needed to support our deployments, so if you're a Chartered, graduate or retired structural, civil, or geotechnical Engineer, this could be for you!

Gain skills and develop your engineering experience whilst contributing to the response to large scale and developing disasters, in new and evolving environments.

About SARAID

SARAID is a UK based registered charity and NGO, established in 2003, all of its members are 100% unpaid volunteers that are dedicated to trying to save the lives of innocent victims of disasters, as well as relieving human suffering around the world, regardless of colour, creed, religion or political persuasion.

SARAID's International Response Team (IRT) specialise in *Urban Search and Rescue (USAR)*, one of the most hazardous disciplines within search and rescue, and train and prepare for international deployments. We provide emergency disaster response and humanitarian assistance in the immediate aftermath of both natural and man-made disasters. Our team of dedicated, highly-trained volunteers are on standby 24/7 365 days of the year and the services we provide are absolutely free of charge to any country requesting assistance.

SARAID is a full member of the United Nations International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (UN INSARAG) and a member of the European Association of Civil Protection Volunteer Teams (EVOLSAR) and works with the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.

We are currently looking to recruit suitably qualified Engineering professionals to join our IRT. These Engineers could then be called upon at short notice (if available), to support or deploy as part of the team.

SARAID Engineer - Role and Responsibilities

SARAID IRT deploys with Engineers covering two basic team functions: USAR Engineer and Assessment Engineer.

The Primary role of the USAR Engineer is to provide expert engineering knowledge and support the team to facilitate the search and rescue (SAR) activities. It includes, but is not limited to the following tasks:

1. Assisting with general team Base of Operations duties including communications and logistics
2. Being flexible to work from our field base or working as part of USAR Section to attend a worksite
3. Coordination
4. Reconnaissance and mapping
5. Building Safety and Damage assessments
6. Identify and advise the least dangerous method to access/egress victims trapped in collapsed buildings,
7. Use Engineering methods to identify and manage significant structural risks during Search & Rescue operations.

The primary tasks of the Assessment Engineer include items 1 to 5 above but given these assessments typically take place after the search and rescue phase of a disaster, items 6 and 7 are not required.

In addition, USAR Engineers are expected to train and gain experience in the following USAR Technician activities: Technical search

- Breaking and Breaching
- Propping and Shoring
- Lifting and Shifting
- Rope work
- Initial medical assessment/stabilisation of any casualties found,
- Working in confined space or at height.

Assessment Engineers are expected to only have an awareness of these activities.

Application Process

Due to the current COVID pandemic we have had to adapt our recruitment process and this may be subject to further change depending on Government guidelines. At this stage we hope it can work as follows:

Register interest on SARAID website	By 21 st February 2021
Online recruitment briefings	8 th – 19 th March 2021 (TBC)
Complete and return application, medical form, CV and references	By 29 th March 2021
Online interview	April 2021 (dates TBC)

Assessment Day including Functional Fitness Test and Practical Assessment	May 2021 (dates TBC) Fire Service College Moreton-in-Marsh
Selection Weekend	July 2021 (dates TBC) Brecon Beacons & Forest of Dean
Disclosure Barring Service check	Enhanced Check carried out online
Membership Fee	Direct Debit set up £10 per month

Your Commitment

If you successfully pass the Assessment Day and Selection Weekend you will be required to complete some online introduction and admin packages in your own time before you start training. After this, you will be expected to attend monthly training sessions which are a mixture of online presentations, theory and practice with regular exercises to test development. These training sessions are held on the 4th weekend of each month but due to current restrictions are limited to online activities only.

As we are a charity all members are expected to organise and attend fundraising events as well.

As a USAR Engineer:

You will be expected to attend all training weekends (exceptions may be made for extenuating circumstances); it takes up to 22 months to complete the modular training program and successful completion of the team's annual five-day Operational Readiness & Assessment Exercise (Phase 2) to become Operational. The annual Exercise is used to assess trainee USAR Technicians and Engineers to see if they have reached the required standard to become operational and also as an operational readiness test for the team.

Full details will be explained more during the online information briefing session.

As an Assessment Engineer:

You will be expected to attend a minimum of three training weekends per year. You will also be expected to attend at least two days of the team's annual Operational Readiness & Assessment Exercise, which runs for five days.

Person Specification

All applicants must meet the minimum person specifications detailed in the essential column below. Applicants who have additional qualifications or experience listed in the desirable or beneficial column will stand a greater chance of being invited to assessment.

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE/BENEFICIAL
Qualifications and Membership	BEng or higher engineering education.	Chartered or near-chartered (ICE, IStructE).
Professional Experience	2 years industry experience.	Experience of demolition. Experience of design/construction for earthquake, windstorm, flood, blast (or other extreme loading)
SAR experience	No previous SAR experience is required as full training is provided	Previous experience with either Fire Service USAR Team or NGO/Voluntary organisations taken into consideration
Commitment to the team	<p>Able to deploy with team at short notice (within 48hrs of notification)</p> <p>Able to commit to the minimum number of training sessions per year:</p> <p>USAR Engineer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All training weekends (with some exceptions). ▪ 5 days at annual Operational Assessment Exercise <p>Assessment Engineer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1 x full exercise weekend and 2 x training weekend. ▪ 2 days at annual Operational Assessment Exercise ▪ 	Additional non-Engineering skills or experience to contribute to the wider charity (e.g. fundraising)
Communication	Fluent ability to effectively communicate both orally and written in English	Ability to communicate in additional languages
Health	Appropriate level of fitness & required vaccinations	

Indemnity	Must be prepared to sign volunteers agreement	
Others	Full passport DBS Check	Higher qualifications or experience in a related field

For further information please feel free to email Will Selley – IRT Operations Director will.selley@saraid.org.uk or Gary Francis Chair of Trustees and Selection and Assessment Coordinator gary.francis@saraid.org.uk

Membership information can be obtained from Carrie Woodward IRT Membership Secretary carrie.woodward@saraid.org.uk