



January 2nd, 2018

To: MNICS Agency Partners
From: MNICS Operations Working Team
Subject: MNICS Type II IA Crew Program – Application Period Open

The MNICS Type II IA crew program is seeking quality applicants for the following positions: CRWB, CRWB(t), FFT1/ICT5, and FAL2 for 2018. Individuals must be NWCG qualified for the position(s) they are applying for and be employed by one of the MNICS agency partners.

Refer to the attached application for submittal direction. **The deadline is March 15th, 2018.**

Minnesota mobilizes more Type II IA crews than any other state in the Eastern Area. In 2017, MNICS mobilized 10 Type II IA crews through this program. MNICS crews are well trained and highly respected.

One of the **primary goals** of the MNICS Operations Working Team is to maintain an organized and effective Type II IA crew program. We encourage managers, supervisors, fire management officers/ fire team leaders within the MNICS agencies to put forth high quality applicants. The support and commitment of supervisors is extremely critical to the success of the Type II IA program. Supporting MNICS training, IMTs, and the Type II IA crew program should be a priority that stands next to agency specific priorities.

An equally important goal of the Type II IA crew program is to create a training platform to produce fully qualified CRWB, FFT1/ICT5, and FAL2 for all MNICS agencies. The intent is for trainees to return to the Type II IA program as fully qualified primary members. Plainly stated, give back to the program by applying for the fully qualified primary positions. If unable to fulfill the commitment of a primary position individuals should consider the alternate positions.

Individuals that are selected for the primary positions are expected to honor availability commitments, as further explained in the [MNICS Type II IA Interagency Handcrew Operations Guide](#). Generally the first crew is made available for mobilization after the Academy.

Another critically important commitment is the attendance at the Crew Cohesion Workshop. This is an opportunity to build the preseason foundation of the crew program. The workshop will likely be conducted in May in Grand Rapids.

Questions regarding the MNICS Type II IA Crew program can be directed to your local FMO/FTL or the following:

- Jason Westholter (USFWS) jason_westholter@fws.gov
- Chris Kramer (USFS-SUF) cmkramer@fs.fed.us
- Chad Spry (BIA-GPA) chadspry@centurytel.net
- Seth Nelson (NPS-VOP) seth_c_nelson@nps.gov
- Nick Abel (DNR) nick.abel@state.mn.us
- Rebekah Luedtke (MNICS) rebekah.luedtke@state.mn.us

Thank you for your consideration.

MNICS Operations Working Team