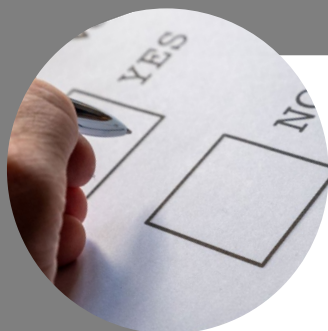


Ready, Set, Communicate!

Preparing for a Public Information Officer Assignment



Ready to roll on a single resource or a MNICS Team PIO assignment?

Before you go, you'll need

- Current red card
- Supervisor's approval
- Flexible schedule
- Active task book
- PIO kit and to-go pack
- Learning mindset

Review training & task book status

Check in with your agency training specialist and ask

- Am I eligible for a red card this season?
- Is my task book current?
- Do I need any specific training to become qualified as a PIOF-t?
- When and where can I sign up for required training?



Complete required annual safety training

Annual RT 130, Shelter Deployment, Pack Test*

- Annual safety training keep your qualifications current each season
- It's up to you to find out when sessions are held
- *Uncertain where to look?* Contact your agency's fire training specialist

**The position itself does not have a physical fitness requirement. It's up to you to learn your agency's required level of fitness to escort media to the fireline.*



Pack your kit - Clear your calendar - Network!

Prepare for at least 14 days away from home and office

- Prepare a PIO kit and to-go pack before the spring fire season
- Develop plans to back-fill your regular job and care for family, home and pets for more than 14 days
- Network with MNICS PIOs to share your interest in assignments
- Coordinate with your agency fire duty officer to list available in the IROC system



Go Communicate!

Most important - be flexible, be a team player, have fun

- You are in control of the learning experience you want
- When you spot a training opportunity or need more mentorship, don't wait for the invitation - ask or volunteer
- Go with the flow, every incident is a different experience



Looking to travel out west this season?

- There's no guarantee you will be ordered, but being prepared is key
- Learn your agency and supervisor's policy on supporting out-of-state assignments
- Network with qualified PIOs and let them know your interest
- Review the MNICS Mobilization Guide and agency policies
- Be prepared to fully commit to travel and a long-term assignment when ordered