Title	Work with helicopters		
Level	3	Credits	3

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: demonstrate safe procedures for working with helicopters; manage a safe landing site; and demonstrate simulated survival procedures for a crashed helicopter.

Classification	Aviation > Aircraft Operation

Available grade	Achieved

Guidance Information

All activities must comply with the policies, procedures, and requirements of the enterprises involved and any relevant environmental, legislative and/or regulatory requirements which include but are not limited to the Accident Compensation Act 2001, Civil Aviation Act 2023, Health and Safety at Work Act 2015, and their subsequent amendments and associated regulations.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Demonstrate safe procedures for working with helicopters.

Performance criteria

1.1   The instructions of the pilot are followed.

         Range   may include but is not limited to – verbal, hand signals, radio communications.

1.2   Procedures to safely approach and leave the operating helicopter are explained and demonstrated.

         Range   pilot eye contact, pilot approval before approaching, hand signals, slope angle, safely managed equipment;
                    may include but is not limited to – helicopter safety zones.

1.3 An on-site helicopter is loaded and unloaded according to its capabilities and the instructions of the pilot.

   Range   compact load, stable load, weight, securing of load, securing of doors, securing of seat belts, storage of equipment;
   may include but is not limited to – attachment of stropped load, loading of passengers, loading of patients, loading of stretchers.

1.4 Possible hazards associated with working with secured and hovering helicopters are described and strategies to manage them are explained.

   Range   hazards may include but are not limited to – smoking, flammable liquids, obscured visibility and down drafts during landing and take-off, rotor blades, flying articles of clothing or other items.

Outcome 2

Manage a safe landing site.

Performance criteria

2.1 Methods used to maintain clear communication with the pilot are explained and/or demonstrated.

   Range   may include but is not limited to – radio, hand signals, ground marking, flags, pyrotechnics.

2.2 A landing site is chosen, and the selection is justified in terms of safety.

   Range   factors may include but are not limited to – terrain hazards, slope angle, size, helicopter approach and departure paths, surface roughness, presence of loose material, proximity to buildings, vegetation, overhead cables, aerials.

2.3 Weather conditions that influence landing site choice are identified and their possible effects explained.

   Range   wind direction and strength, visibility, cloud cover, estimated altitude of cloud ceiling, weather pattern.

Outcome 3

Demonstrate simulated survival procedures for a crashed helicopter.

Performance criteria

3.1 The emergency exits of the helicopter are identified and escape procedures demonstrated.

3.2 Emergency equipment is located and used appropriately.

Range may include but is not limited to – survival equipment, axe, fire extinguisher, first aid kit, emergency locator beacons.

3.3 Emergency procedures on surviving a crash are outlined.

Range clear area, reduce fire risk, attend to injured, communicate with rescue organisations.

Planned review date	31 December 2028

Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	1 October 1993	31 December 2022
Revision	2	24 July 1996	31 December 2022
Revision	3	19 February 1998	31 December 2022
Revision	4	5 May 1998	31 December 2022
Review	5	28 March 2001	31 December 2022
Review	6	29 June 2005	31 December 2022
Rollover and Revision	7	27 February 2020	31 December 2027
Review	8	28 September 2023	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0028

This CMR can be accessed at http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact Ringa Hora Services Workforce Development Council qualifications@ringahora.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.