



Fire Protection Training

Procedures Handbook 4300

AIRCRAFT

TOPIC: How To Approach and Enter a Helicopter

TIME FRAME: :30

LEVEL OF INSTRUCTION: Level II

BEHAVIORAL OBJECTIVE:

Condition: A helicopter or simulated helicopter and student in appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), carrying a hand tool

Behavior: The student will demonstrate how to approach, enter and exit a helicopter under simulated fireline conditions.

Standard: With a minimum of 80% accuracy

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- One (1) Helicopter or prop
- One (1) Wildland fire hand tool per student
- One (1) Set of appropriate PPE per student per CAL FIRE policy

REFERENCES:

- CAL FIRE, Aviation Mgmt. Procedures Handbook (8300)
- CAL FIRE, Basic Helitack Operations and Safety Course

PREPARATION:

During your employment with CAL FIRE you may be required to fly in a helicopter. Certain procedures have been developed to make helicopter operations as safe as possible. Know and follow these safety procedures.



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HOW TO APPROACH AND
ENTER A HELICOPTER

OPERATIONS

KEY POINTS

1. Student walks to the front of the helicopter
2. Obtain helicopter pilot's attention and permission prior to approaching the helicopter
3. Approach helicopter

- 1a. Stand to front of helicopter
- b. Minimum distance of 100'
- c. Waving arms
- 2a. Using hand signal(s)
- b. Nod
- 3a. In full view of the pilot
- b. From the front
- c. Crouched position
- d. Safety helmet in hand or secured on head with chin strap
- e. Downhill side
- f. In full wildland safety gear (PPE)
- g. Hand tools parallel to ground at waist level

4. Enter helicopter
5. Properly close door

- 5a. Do not slam door
- b. Properly latch door

6. Attach seat belt
7. Attach shoulder harness

To exit the helicopter

8. Release seat belt and shoulder harness
9. Open door, exit, and close door

- 8a. Upon pilot's command
- 9a. Gently
- b. Lock fully



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OPERATIONS**KEY POINTS**

10. Depart area

- 10a. Crouched position
 - b. Down hill side
 - c. Not toward rear of aircraft
 - d. Hold or secure helmet with chinstrap
 - e. Quickly
 - f. In full view of the pilot
 - g. Tools parallel to ground at waist level



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HOW TO APPROACH AND
ENTER A HELICOPTER

APPLICATION:

Student shall practice until proficient.

EVALUATION:

A performance examination.

ASSIGNMENT:

To be determined by instructor(s).