

PROCESS TO BECOME AN EVALUATOR



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Table of Contents:

1. Purpose and Scope 3

2. Evaluator Candidate Prerequisites 3

3. Application Documentation 3

4. Application Submission 3

5. Evaluator Written Test 4

6. Evaluator Candidate Interview 4

7. Evaluator Candidate Internship 6

8. Evaluator Candidate Assessment of Skills 7

9. Evaluations Committee Assessment of Skills Review 8

10. Candidate Approval 8

11. Mentor Assignment 8

12. Time Limit 9

13. Complaints and Appeals 9

Appendix 1. Proctor Affidavit for Evaluator Candidates 10

Notes for Usage:

For the most recent [standards versions, supporting documentation, and news](https://sprat.org), visit <https://sprat.org>.

Usage of the word ‘shall’ denotes a mandatory requirement.

Usage of the word ‘should’ denotes a recommendation. The word ‘should’ does not connote indifference or ambivalence regarding a statement.

1. Purpose and Scope

1.1. Purpose

- 1.1.1. The purpose of this document is to provide Evaluator applicants the complete information regarding the process to become a SPRAT Evaluator.

1.2. Scope

- 1.2.1. This document serves as a full outline to the process of becoming an Evaluator by providing a pathway through the following:
 - 1.2.1.1. Prerequisites and qualifications for application
 - 1.2.1.2. Evaluator Candidate Internship
 - 1.2.1.2.1. Evaluator Orientation
 - 1.2.1.2.2. Evaluator Internship Sessions
 - 1.2.1.2.3. Evaluator Workshop
 - 1.2.1.3. Evaluation Assessment

2. Evaluator Candidate Prerequisites

2.1. The qualifications to apply to become an Evaluator are as follows:

- 2.1.1. Applicants shall be a SPRAT member in good standing.
- 2.1.2. Applicants shall have a record of participation in the organization, having attended at least one SPRAT annual or mid-year meeting and have at least one-year active participation in a SPRAT Board of Directors appointed committee or Standards subcommittee.
- 2.1.3. Applicants shall have a minimum of 10 years of experience in the rope access industry.
- 2.1.4. Applicants shall have a minimum of 6 years total as a SPRAT **Level III Technician** or equivalent including at least 3 years as a SPRAT **Level III Technician**.
- 2.1.5. Applicants shall have a minimum of 2000 hours of rope access work as a certified SPRAT **Level III Technician** or equivalent.
- 2.1.6. Applicants shall have provided rope access instruction in a minimum of 5 courses that were followed by SPRAT evaluation sessions.
- 2.1.7. In addition to rope access instruction, applicants shall possess a varied background in rope access, including a minimum of 60 hours of work exposure to a minimum of 3 differing areas of rope access work, such as petrochemical, geotechnical, communications, or others deemed acceptable by the Evaluations Committee.

3. Application Documentation

3.1. Applicants shall provide the following documentation as part of their application:

- 3.1.1. A completed application.
- 3.1.2. A rope access logbook demonstrating the minimum of 2000 hours as a certified SPRAT **Level III Technician** or **Level III Technician** equivalent.
- 3.1.3. A rope access resume demonstrating the requirements as stated in Section 2.
- 3.1.4. Two recommendation forms from current Evaluators, one of which shall be independent of the applicant.
- 3.1.5. A copy of current SPRAT **Level III Technician** certification.
- 3.1.6. A signed Evaluator contract.

4. Application Submission

- 4.1. Applications and required supporting documentation can be submitted at any time of the year.
- 4.2. Incomplete applications will be returned to the Evaluator applicant.
- 4.3. Voting will take place twice a year at the May and November Evaluations Committee Meetings.
 - 4.3.1. During voting, the Evaluations Committee will assess each application to verify eligibility only.

- 4.3.2. A simple majority of the entire Evaluations Committee is required for an applicant to move further into the process.
- 4.3.3. If a member of the Evaluations Committee is not able to make the appropriate meeting at which applicants are voted on, they should notify the SPRAT Office prior to the meeting with their vote and any concerns regarding the applicant.
- 4.3.4. Any criteria dependent deficiencies noted by the Evaluations Committee will result in a rejection of the application.
- 4.3.5. The applicant shall then wait a minimum of 6 months prior to resubmitting their application, with all deficiencies properly addressed.
- 4.3.6. As part of the application resubmission, the applicant will need to provide supporting documentation showing they have resolved deficiencies found in the prior review of the application.

5. Evaluator Written Test

5.1. Evaluator Written Test Process

- 5.1.1. After their application is approved, the Evaluator candidate has 30 days to take the Evaluator written test.
- 5.1.2. The Evaluator written test has been developed to test an Evaluator candidate's knowledge of the SPRAT certification process, SPRAT documentation, as well as technical knowledge required to be an effective Evaluator.
- 5.1.3. The test consists of 40 questions, and an Evaluator candidate shall score a minimum of 80% (32/40) to pass the test.
- 5.1.4. The written test is available in an online format and is closed book.
- 5.1.5. A proctor shall be assigned to administer the online test.
 - 5.1.5.1. The *proctor* shall contact the SPRAT Office to be issued a one-time use username and password for the online test.
 - 5.1.5.2. After the test is administered, the *proctor* shall submit a Proctor Affidavit form, which is found in [Appendix 1](#) of this document.

5.2. Evaluator Written Test Results

- 5.2.1. After taking the test, the Evaluator candidate will be provided the score for the test.
- 5.2.2. Questions answered incorrectly on the Evaluator written test will be provided only for passing candidates.

5.3. Failure of the Evaluator Written Test

- 5.3.1. If an Evaluator candidate fails the written test, they shall wait a minimum of 6 months before submitting a new application to restart the process, and follow the current requirements of the approved *Process to Become a SPRAT Evaluator*.
- 5.3.2. The results of the written test may not be appealed.
- 5.3.3. Failure to take the written test during the stated time frame will constitute a failure of the written test.

6. Evaluator Candidate Interview

- 6.1. Following the Evaluator candidate's successful completion of the evaluator written test, an interview will be scheduled for the Evaluator candidate.
- 6.2. The interview shall take place no more than 60 days past the initial acceptance of the application.
- 6.3. Interview Process:
 - 6.3.1. The interview will be performed by three members of the Evaluation Committee that are independent of the Evaluator candidate.
 - 6.3.2. The SPRAT Office will organize and schedule the interview process only, but will not be involved in the actual interview with the Evaluator candidate.
 - 6.3.3. Questions in the interview pertain to the Evaluator candidate's background, experience, and knowledge of the SPRAT certification program.

6.3.4. Each Evaluations Committee member on the interview panel will score the interview performance on an Evaluator Candidate Interview Form.

6.4. Interview Scoring:

6.4.1. Interview responses are graded along the following scale:

6.4.1.1. Poor – 0.0

6.4.1.2. Below Average – 0.5

6.4.1.3. Average – 1.0

6.4.1.4. Above Average – 1.5

6.4.1.5. Excellent – 2.0

6.4.2. The interviewer's findings will be sent to the SPRAT Office within one week of the interview.

6.4.3. The SPRAT Office will tabulate the results for review at the next scheduled Committee meeting following the interview.

6.4.4. All interviewers' scores will be averaged for each question, with the result being averaged for a final score.

6.4.5. An average score of "Above Average" (≥ 1.5) shall be the benchmark for acceptable interview performance.

6.4.5.1. It should be noted that this system allows an Evaluator candidate to be weak in one area and still proceed if they are excellent in other areas.

6.5. Interview Follow-up:

6.5.1. All Evaluator Candidate Interview Forms, and any associated comments, will be forwarded to the Evaluations Committee, along with the initial application, for consideration in continuing in the process.

6.5.2. Following a discussion of the findings at a scheduled Evaluations Committee meeting, the SPRAT Office will send an electronic ballot to all members of the Evaluations Committee.

6.5.3. A simple majority of the entire Evaluations Committee is required for an Evaluator candidate to move further into the process.

6.5.4. The SPRAT Office will not divulge individual Evaluations Committee member votes unless directed to do so by the Board of Directors.

6.5.5. If a member of the Evaluations Committee is not able to make the appropriate meeting at which a candidate is discussed, they should notify the SPRAT Office prior to the meeting with any applicable comments on a candidate.

6.6. Failure of the Interview:

6.6.1. If an Evaluator candidate does not pass the interview process, they will be notified of the findings of the Evaluations Committee in writing.

6.6.1.1. The notification will include the areas where the Evaluator candidate was found deficient (i.e., average scores of individual questions less than Above Average).

6.6.1.2. If an Evaluator candidate fails the interview, they shall wait a minimum of 6 months before submitting a new application to restart the process, and follow the current requirements of the approved *Process of Becoming a SPRAT Evaluator*.

6.6.1.3. As part of the application resubmission, the Evaluator candidate will need to provide supporting documentation showing they have resolved deficiencies found in the prior interview processes.

6.6.1.4. The Evaluator candidate will be required to retake the written test.

6.6.1.5. The Evaluator candidate will be allowed the option to request a new set of interviewers.

6.6.2. Failure to schedule the interview during the stated time frame will constitute a failure of the interview.

7. Evaluator Candidate Internship

- 7.1. If the Evaluator candidate meets all previous criteria, and passes the interview process, they are approved to enter into the internship phase. During the internship phase, the Evaluator candidate will need to complete the following requirements:
 - 7.1.1. Participate in an orientation webinar;
 - 7.1.2. Participate in an Evaluator Workshop;
 - 7.1.3. Participate in a minimum of three internship sessions under the supervision of an Evaluator.
- 7.2. Internship Sequencing
 - 7.2.1. An orientation webinar should be completed for a candidate prior to participation at a regularly scheduled Evaluator workshop.
 - 7.2.2. The orientation webinar shall be completed for a candidate prior to participation in internship sessions.
- 7.3. Evaluator Workshop
 - 7.3.1. An Evaluator workshop is held at least twice a year to correspond with the annual and mid-year meetings.
 - 7.3.2. Other Evaluator workshops may be scheduled in accordance with SPRAT's *Evaluator Guidelines*.
- 7.4. Internship Sessions
 - 7.4.1. An internship session is where an Evaluator candidate accompanies an Evaluator during an entire evaluation session to develop further understanding of the evaluation process.
 - 7.4.2. During an internship session, a candidate may:
 - 7.4.2.1. Introduce candidates to the evaluation session
 - 7.4.2.2. Administer the written tests
 - 7.4.2.3. Introduce candidates to the field evaluation
 - 7.4.2.4. Administer the field oral evaluation
 - 7.4.3. A candidate shall not administer the field practical portion of the evaluation session.
 - 7.4.3.1. A candidate should track candidates' progress throughout the field practical portion of the evaluation session
 - 7.4.4. A candidate should interact and communicate with the Evaluator throughout the internship session.
 - 7.4.5. The following requirements are a minimum for the Evaluator candidate's attendance of internship sessions under the supervision of a current evaluator:
 - 7.4.5.1. Three different Evaluators, at minimum, are required
 - 7.4.5.2. Evaluator may have provided a letter of recommendation for the Evaluator candidate, but may only serve as the Evaluator for one internship session
 - 7.4.5.3. Only one evaluations session may be conducted with an Evaluator that is not independent of the Evaluator candidate.
 - 7.4.5.4. Two different locations with which the candidate is not affiliated are required
 - 7.4.5.5. Two different Evaluation Session Hosts with which the candidate is not affiliated are required
 - 7.4.5.6. Two evaluation sessions shall contain upper level candidates
 - 7.4.5.7. One evaluation session shall contain a Level III candidate
 - 7.4.6. The Evaluations Committee may approve a reduction of the required number of locations or Evaluation Session Hosts in geographic regions with few SPRAT sessions.
 - 7.4.7. Evaluators and Evaluation Sessions Hosts have the right to deny any internship session request from an Evaluator candidate.
- 7.5. Evaluator Candidate Feedback
 - 7.5.1. Feedback of Evaluator candidates will be collected via the Evaluator Candidate Feedback Form that shall be filled out by the Evaluator following each internship session and returned with other paperwork to the SPRAT Office.

7.5.2. Evaluators and Evaluations Committee members are also encouraged to fill out the Evaluator Candidate Feedback Form following a candidate's attendance of an Evaluator workshop.

7.5.3. Feedback from the Evaluation Session Host of internship sessions is also encouraged.

7.6. Internship Completion

7.6.1. Once an Evaluator candidate has completed all requirements of the internship, the Evaluations Committee will review all feedback forms, along with the written test of the Evaluator candidate.

7.6.2. Evaluations Committee members will conduct a blind vote with the following options:

7.6.2.1. Approve

7.6.2.2. Approve with Conditions

7.6.2.3. Reject

7.6.3. A vote of approval of at least 70% of the Evaluations Committee is required for the Evaluator candidate to pass the internship.

7.6.4. If this level of approval is not reached, the Evaluations Committee will review the votes internally at the next appropriate Evaluations Committee meeting, and a follow-up interview will be scheduled with the Evaluator candidate.

7.6.5. The interview will require, at minimum, a quorum of the Evaluations Committee members in attendance.

7.6.6. Following, the interview, the Evaluations Committee will vote a second time.

7.6.7. If 70% is not reached upon viewing the secondary interview results, the following stipulations will be followed:

7.6.7.1. More than a 50% approval will require further internship requirements.

7.6.7.2. Less than a 50% approval will require the candidate to restart the process.

8. Evaluator Candidate Assessment of Skills

8.1. Following the completion of the internship, the Evaluator candidate will be eligible to perform a full evaluation session, while being assessed by a current Evaluator.

8.2. Evaluation Session Requirements

8.2.1. An Evaluator candidate may evaluate up to 8 candidates.

8.2.2. There shall be a minimum of 5 candidates.

8.2.2.1. At least two candidates shall be upper level candidates.

8.2.2.2. At least one candidate shall be a Level III candidate.

8.2.3. The Evaluator candidate does not have to be independent of the upper level candidates or the Evaluation Session Host.

8.3. Evaluators and Evaluation Session Hosts have the right to deny any assessment request from an Evaluator candidate.

8.4. Evaluator Requirements and Responsibilities

8.4.1. To be eligible to assess an Evaluator candidate, the Evaluator shall:

8.4.1.1. Meet currency requirements of Section 4.2 of the *Evaluator Guidelines*.

8.4.1.2. Previously conducted at least 10 evaluations during their current appointment tenure.

8.4.1.3. Be independent of the Evaluator candidate.

8.4.1.4. Be independent of the upper level candidates in the session.

8.4.1.5. Not have provided a letter of recommendation for the evaluator candidate during the application phase.

8.5. The Evaluator assigned to assess the candidate shall complete an *Evaluator Test Assessment Form* and write a summation of their findings and recommendations of the Evaluator candidate.

8.5.1. This information shall be sent to the SPRAT Office.

9. Evaluations Committee Assessment of Skills Review

- 9.1. The Evaluations Committee shall review the summation and recommendations from the Evaluator at the next appropriate Committee meeting.
- 9.2. Once the summation and recommendations have been reviewed, the SPRAT Office shall send out an electronic ballot to all members of the Evaluations Committee.
- 9.3. The Evaluator candidate shall be approved by at least 70% of the Evaluations Committee to be approved as an Evaluator.
- 9.4. The SPRAT Office will not divulge individual Evaluations Committee member votes, unless directed to do so by the Board of Directors.
- 9.5. If at least 70% approval is not reached upon viewing the assessment results, the Evaluations Committee will hold a discussion of the Evaluator candidate at a closed Evaluations Committee meeting, and a second vote will be conducted.
- 9.6. If at least 70% approval is still not reached the following stipulations will be followed:
 - 9.6.1. More than a 50% approval will require a second assessment.
 - 9.6.2. Less than a 50% approval will require the Evaluator candidate to restart the process.
- 9.7. If an Evaluator candidate does not pass the assessment process or is not approved by the Evaluations Committee, they will be notified in writing of the findings.
 - 9.7.1. The notification will include the areas where the Evaluator candidate was found deficient.

10. Candidate Approval

- 10.1. Upon approval, a new Evaluator shall receive an initial appointment with an expiration date aligned with the expiration of their current Level III Technician certification.
- 10.2. The Evaluations Committee will conduct an initial review of their Evaluator activities after a period of 12 months.
- 10.3. At the expiration of the new Evaluator's initial appointment, appointment renewals are issued as stated in the *Evaluator Guidelines*.
- 10.4. If the expiration of the new Evaluator's Level III Technician certification occurs before 12 months have elapsed, the Evaluations Committee will issue a new provisional appointment aligned to the Level III Technician re-certification that lasts until the 12-month review is conducted.

11. Mentor Assignment

- 11.1. Upon approval, a new Evaluator shall be paired with a mentor for the duration of their initial appointment.
- 11.2. New Evaluators may request a specific mentor assignment pending eligibility, or a mentor will be assigned by the Evaluations Committee.
 - 11.2.1. A mentor is responsible for:
 - 11.2.1.1. Establishing a professional and trusting rapport with the new Evaluator.
 - 11.2.1.2. Assisting the new Evaluator with general questions and challenging evaluation situations
 - 11.2.1.3. Supporting the SPRAT Office and/or Evaluations Committee with any informally or formally submitted complaints regarding the new Evaluator.
 - 11.2.1.4. Signing and following a Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest Policy regarding information shared by, on behalf of, or regarding the new Evaluator.
 - 11.2.2. Eligible Mentors will have:
 - 11.2.2.1. An active Evaluator appointment
 - 11.2.2.2. Completed at least one full appointment (3 years) as an Evaluator
 - 11.2.2.3. Conducted at least 25 evaluation sessions
 - 11.2.2.4. Have no active infractions on their appointment

12. Time Limit

- 12.1. The Evaluator candidate will have two years from the approval of their application to complete the process described in this document.
- 12.2. If the Evaluator candidate fails to complete the process within two years, it will automatically constitute a failure, and the candidate will be required to submit a new application to begin the process under the requirements in place at that time.
- 12.3. The SPRAT Office will not contact a candidate to provide reminders of any time limit.

13. Complaints and Appeals

- 13.1. Should an Evaluator candidate feel the need to appeal the findings of the Evaluations Committee at any point in the process, they should submit a written statement to the SPRAT Office detailing the circumstances of their complaint and the requested action.
- 13.2. The SPRAT Office will forward all complaints and appeals to the Board of Directors. Complaints and appeals will be considered and ruled by the Board of Directors.
- 13.3. A written response will be provided to the aggrieved party within sixty (60) days of the written complaint.
- 13.4. The Board of Directors can choose to reconsider any action taken by the Evaluations Committee if the BOD deems the action inconsistent with established certifications requirements or finds the action inconsistent with the best interests of the membership.

Appendix 1. Proctor Affidavit for Evaluator Candidates



Evaluator Candidate Name: _____

Testing Date: _____

- I administered SPRAT's Evaluator written test in accordance with the procedures approved by the Evaluations Committee and Board of Directors.
- I ensured that no reference materials were consulted and that there was no discussion during the written test.

Proctor Signature: _____

Proctor Name: _____

Date: _____