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**NATIONAL STANDARD OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

GB/T 46578-2025

**Basic requirements for the capacity of earthquake rescue
teams**

地震救援队伍能力基本要求

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Foreword

This document conforms to GB/T 1.1-2020 "Standardization Work Guidelines Part

1.Structure and Drafting Rules of Standardization Documents". Drafting is scheduled.

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Earthquake and secondary disaster relief efforts are challenging, technically demanding, and cover a wide area, involving diverse rescue teams with varying capabilities. Significant differences exist in technical methods, equipment configurations, and management levels, which can easily lead to difficulties in coordinating rescue operations, reduced efficiency, and increased safety risks. This document is formulated to improve the effectiveness of earthquake disaster relief in my country and to support rapid response and coordinated dispatch. Basic requirements for earthquake rescue team capabilities

1 Scope

GB/T 46578-2025 is the Chinese national standard covering what an earthquake rescue team must be able to do - the search, breaching and shoring and the medical capability, the equipment held and its readiness, the self-sufficiency in the field, the training and the exercises, and the classification levels a team is assessed to. First edition, under the Ministry of Emergency Management. In force from 1 February 2026. Issued on 31 October 2025, it has been in force since 1 February 2026.

This document specifies the general requirements for the capabilities of earthquake rescue teams, as well as the capability requirements for heavy, medium, light, and micro earthquake rescue teams. This document applies to capacity building for earthquake rescue teams at all levels.

2 Normative references

The contents of the following documents, through normative references within the text,

constitute essential provisions of this document. Dated citations are listed below. For references to documents, only the version corresponding to that date applies to this document; for undated references, the latest version (including all amendments) applies. This document. International Search and Rescue Guidelines (INSARAG Guidelines)

Note. INSARAG is an abbreviation for the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group.

3 Terms and Definitions

The following terms and definitions apply to this document.

3.1 earthquake rescue team A team of personnel with professional rescue knowledge, skills and equipment specifically established to respond to earthquake disasters.

Note. Earthquake rescue teams are classified into four levels according to their capabilities. heavy, medium, light, and micro. [Source: GB/T 26376-2010, 3.12, with modifications]

3.2 Heavy earthquake rescue team A formalized team capable of conducting professional rescue operations for people buried in deep confined spaces in the rubble of collapsed buildings.

3.3 medium earthquake rescue team A formalized team capable of conducting professional rescue operations for people buried in confined spaces from the middle to the deep layers of collapsed buildings and ruins.

3.4 Light earthquake rescue team A formalized team capable of providing basic rescue services for people buried in collapsed buildings or shallow to medium-depth confined spaces.

3.5 micro earthquake rescue team Established based on grassroots rescue forces, it possesses the capability to conduct basic rescue operations for people buried under the surface rubble of collapsed buildings and structures, and undertakes local rescue tasks. Grassroots teams responsible for rapid emergency response and initial rescue and disposal tasks.