

Full First Aid Certificate: Definition and the Wearing of Badges



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This factsheet updates the information previously provided in FS120051 dated November 2002.

This factsheet defines what The Scout Association classes as a 'full' First Aid Certificate, and provides guidance on when it is necessary to hold one, as well as examples of Full First Aid Certificates.

Who Requires a Full First Aid Certificate?

There are two circumstances in which a full First Aid Certificate is required:

- All groups undertaking adventurous activities in Terrain Two must have immediate access to someone holding a relevant and current full First Aid qualification. This need not be the Permit holder.
- In order to run a First Response course, the trainer is required to either be an externally qualified First Aid trainer, or to hold a full First Aid qualification and The Scout Association's presenting and facilitating competencies or modules.

Further information on specific activities is provided in the range of activities factsheets.

Further information on First Response is provided in the factsheet FS310547 *First Response: Definition and Equivalents*.

Definition

A full First Aid Certificate is defined as any First Aid qualification which meets these criteria:

- 1 It must be nationally set by a reputable body (St John Ambulance, British Red Cross, MLTUK, HSE etc.).

- 2 It must involve training of at least two days or 16 hours in duration.
- 3 The qualification would be examined or assessed (rather than being based upon attendance).
- 4 At least some part of the assessment would be carried out by a doctor, health professional, recognised (St John, HSE etc.) First Aid examiner etc.
- 5 It would be valid for no longer than 3 years.
- 6 It covers the following topic areas in some detail:
 - principles of First Aid
 - initial response to First Aid situation
 - Emergency Life Support (DRABC)
 - CPR, including technique for children
 - Shock
 - Causes and treatment of unconsciousness
 - Choking
 - Bleeding (major and minor)
 - Heat exhaustion, heat-stroke, dehydration and hypothermia
 - Burns and scalds
 - Fractures and soft tissue injuries
 - Minor injuries (for example cuts, grazes and nosebleeds)
 - Meningitis

The Scout Information Centre

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Guidance on Equivalent Qualifications

For reference a list is provided below which covers some of the most widely available courses considered to be a full First Aid Certificate.

Note: In some cases otherwise appropriate courses (eg. most HSE First Aid at Work courses) do not cover all of the listed topics, particularly environmental conditions such as hypothermia, and CPR for children. Adults should take the time to make themselves aware of the signs, symptoms and treatment of these conditions, or undertake additional training in order to cover them. In the case of First Aid requirements for activity permits, the District Commissioner should be satisfied that the cause, diagnosis and treatment of these conditions are known.

- British Red Cross Practical First Aid
- British Red Cross Standard First Aid
- St John Ambulance Activity First Aid
- St Andrew's Ambulance Association Standard First Aid
- British Association of Ski Patrollers Outdoor Emergency First Aid
- British Association of Ski Patrollers Advanced First Aid
- British Association of Ski Patrollers Emergency Medical Technician
- National Pool Lifeguard Qualification
- National Beach Lifeguard Qualification
- Rescue Emergency Care (REC) Emergency First Aid
- Rescue Emergency Care (REC) Advanced First Aid
- Rescue Emergency Care (REC) Mountain First Aid
- HSE First Aid at Work (3 or 4 day course)
- NHS Ambulance Technician qualification
- NHS Emergency Care Assistant qualification
- NHS Paramedic qualification

This is not a definitive list of equivalent qualifications. If you have undertaken First Aid training that covers the six points previously mentioned then your qualification will fulfil the requirements. However, if you require clarification please contact the Adult Support office at Gilwell Park.

Wearing of Badges on Uniform

Explorer Scouts, members of the Scout Network and Adult Members of the Movement who are currently qualified in First Aid or the saving of life to a level as described above may wear the badge relating to the award which they hold on their uniform.

Members who hold a full First Aid qualification for which there is no nationally awarded badge may wear The Scout Association's badge designed for this purpose.

Only one badge may be worn.