



Standard Guide for Defining the Performance of First Aid Providers in Occupational Settings¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This guide covers the minimum requirements needed to train a student to assess and manage illness and injury prior to: (1) notification, arrival, or treatment by traditional EMS agencies, or combination thereof, or (2) management of a minor emergency medical incident instead of an EMS response.

1.2 This guide also recommends minimum instructor qualifications, program logistics, and medical oversight considerations.

1.3 This guide does not delineate a new level of formalized education for prehospital medical provision. This guide does not replace or decrease the need for appropriate agencies to seek state or national licensure or certification as an First Responder or Emergency Medical Technician (Basic, Intermediate, or Paramedic).

1.4 Content and skills appropriate to the first aid provider's scope of care and specific to the hazards or risks of particular industries and occupations may be added by program developers, instructors, and employers. These changes should be consistent with the intent and design of this guide.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 Related Documents:

National Guidelines for First Aid Training in Occupational Settings, November 1998, Preface, Course Guide and Curriculum Modules²

National EMS Education and Practice Blueprint³

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.1.1 *first aid provider, n*—a person who has an occupational requirement to be trained in very basic emergency medical techniques and may be designated or expected to provide aid as an initial (pre-EMS) responder.

3.1.2 *initial responder, n*—a person who has an occupational requirement to be trained in very basic initial emergency medical techniques, but responds as a “Good Samaritan.”

4. Significance and Use

4.1 Currently, no one body of work exists that contains a comprehensive standard for defining the performance standards for personnel that are initial responders to illness and injury in the occupational setting. Whereby several corporate, state, and national organizations have developed training curricula, no independent consensus standard establishes a national minimum requirement. This guide allows the determination of course equivalency and provides a mechanism to assess regulatory compliance.

4.2 This guide is intended to be consistent with the National EMS Education and Practice Blueprint, thus the first aid provider in an occupational setting in this guide is defined as in 3.1.2. This individual uses a limited amount of equipment to perform initial assessment and intervention while awaiting arrival of EMS.

4.3 The goal of this guide is to provide program developers, institutions teaching first aid courses, consumers of these courses, and regulatory agency personnel who review or approve courses, or both, the essential elements of what is considered safe, helpful, and effective first aid training. The focus and training is similar and, in some cases, largely identical to those standards developed by the National Guidelines for First Aid Training in Occupational Settings (NGFA-TOS) developed by the NGFATOS consensus group referenced in Section 2.

5. Instructor Qualification

5.1 Minimum instructor criteria include:

5.1.1 Be knowledgeable in aspects of first aid techniques and basic life support/cardiopulmonary resuscitation (BLS/CPR).

5.1.2 Be knowledgeable in methods of adult education.

5.1.3 Possess basic skills in managing resources and personnel.

5.1.4 Have attended and successfully completed a standardized course of instruction in First Aid, First Responder, or EMT-Basic.

5.1.5 Possess appropriate medical education abilities

¹ This guide is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F30 on Emergency Medical Services and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F30.02 on Personnel, Training, and Education.

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² Available from National Guidelines for First Aid Training in Occupational Settings, www.ngfatos.net.

³ Available from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's EMS Division, 400 7th St., NW, Washington, DC 20590. Also available from <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/injury/ems/EdAgenda/final/emstoc.html>.