

Occupational Health and Safety Bulletin



First Aid in the Workplace: Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement & Agreement on Internal Trade

Introduction


Under the Trade Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) with British Columbia and the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT) with other jurisdictions, Alberta has committed that its measures, including its statutes and regulations, not create barriers to trade, investment and labour mobility between Alberta and other parts of Canada.

What does this mean for employers and workplace first aiders in Alberta?

Those affected are employers and workplace first aiders who work in more than one province or territory. This applies to a worker who has workplace first aid certification from an approved agency in one jurisdiction and moves to another jurisdiction (i.e. Alberta) within the time period in which the certification is still valid. In contrast, this does not apply to workers who do not move or work in more than one province or territory.

Government of Alberta ■
Employment and Immigration

If a worker has current first aid certification from an agency that is approved in another Canadian jurisdiction, it is automatically recognized in Alberta as long as the workplace first aider is competent in applying the legal requirements for first aid in Alberta. See the publication Workplace First Aiders and Legal Requirements (FA011) for the information that is needed as an add-on to the approved certification.

 http://employment.alberta.ca/documents/WHS/WHS-PUB_fa011.pdf
Workplace First Aiders and Legal Requirements (FA011)

If a worker stays in Alberta as a workplace first aider and an approved certification expires, then a complete Alberta-approved first aid course must be taken to continue as a workplace first aider.

Both the workplace first aider who moves and the employer in the jurisdiction where the worker is moving to, have responsibilities. Workers, as first aiders, are responsible for learning this material and being competent in applying Alberta's legal requirements for workplace first aid. Employers are responsible to ensure workers are competent in knowing and applying the pertinent legal requirements that apply to workplace first aid.

Not all provinces and territories review and approve first aid courses for workplaces, so not all courses are considered approved. Workers or employers who are looking to verify whether a particular first aid certificate is approved need to check

- a. Approved agencies and courses for the jurisdiction in which the certificate was obtained (available websites for Canadian jurisdictions follow), and
- b. the date on the certificate to ensure it is still current.

Example:

A worker obtains an OFA 3 first aid certification from ABCDE First Aid Training in BC and after a period of time, moves to a work site in AB. The AB employer is wondering whether the certificate is acceptable training under Alberta Occupational Health and Safety laws. First, the employer needs to check on BC's website (click on the link below) to make sure that the worker's certificate is valid and approved in BC. Let's say the employer finds this training company and the "OFA 3" certificate on BC's website as approved. Next, the employer needs to check the certificate date. If the certification was taken within two years, (B.C.'s certification period), it would be still valid. The worker would then need to become competent in applying the workplace first aid legal requirements for Alberta. If two years had gone by with no renewal, then the first aid certification would have expired. The worker would have to take an approved course by a training

agency listed on the Alberta website (click the link below). The new training would include workplace first aid legal requirements.


Links to the different jurisdictions' approved training are as follows.

British Columbia:

 http://www2.worksafebc.com/PDFs/FirstAid/FirstAid_training_providers.pdf

 <http://www2.worksafebc.com/Topics/FirstAid/Certificates-BC.asp>

Alberta:

 <http://employment.alberta.ca/documents/WHS/WHS-EP-firstaid-courses.pdf>


Manitoba:

 http://safemanitoba.com/training_vendors_for_first_aid.aspx

Ontario:

 <http://www.wsib.on.ca/en/community/WSIB/ArticleDetail?vgnextoid=88fbc35c819d7210VgnVCM100000449c710aRCRD>

Quebec:

 http://www.csst.qc.ca/portail/fr/prevention/informations_supplementaires/Secourisme/organismes_formation_secourisme.htm

New Brunswick:

 http://www.worksafenb.ca/docs/firstaidproviders_e.pdf

Nova Scotia:

 <http://www.gov.ns.ca/lwd/healthandsafety/coursesNS.asp>

Prince Edward Island:

 http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/labour/health_safety/prevention/first_aid.shtml

Newfoundland:

 http://www.whscc.nf.ca/prevention/Prev_ApprovedFirstAidTrainingProviders.whscc

Federal Government:

 http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/labour/health_safety/prevention/first_aid.shtml

Saskatchewan: No available website list

Yukon Territories: No available website list

Northwest Territories: No available website list

Nunavut: No available website list


What does this mean for training agencies that teach workplace first aiders?

From a government perspective, there are two major implications for approved workplace first aid training agencies.

1. Agencies that are (or seek to be) approved will need to ensure that the first aid training standards are met for the jurisdiction in which they are approved. Agencies in Alberta who want to be approved must apply and meet the requirements in the document “Quality Management Plan Requirements for First Aid Training in Alberta Workplaces” (FA010).
2. Alberta approved agencies need to continue to meet all the requirements under existing Authorization Agreements, which include teaching Alberta’s legal requirements for workplace first aiders. It is expected that approved agencies ensure that the first aiders they train are competent in all the Quality Management Plan requirements.

Note: Agencies from another Canadian jurisdiction who have approval for workplace first aid courses located in their jurisdiction will not be reviewed in Alberta, since the approval is already acceptable here

under TILMA or AIT. Agencies from a jurisdiction with no process to approve workplace first aid training, and who want to be approved in Alberta must apply and meet the requirements in the document “Quality Management Plan Requirements for First Aid Training in Alberta Workplaces” (FA010)

 http://employment.alberta.ca/documents/WHS/WHS-PUB_fa010.pdf
Quality Management Plan Requirements for First Aid Training in Alberta Workplaces (FA010)

Agencies that are from a jurisdiction with a process for approving workplace first aid training who are currently Alberta-approved, will maintain Alberta approval until their existing Authorization Agreement expires. When the Agreement expires, the approval will not be renewed.

Cross-jurisdictional Workplace First Aid Minimum Training Standards

The following information lists first aid competencies for workplace first aid that have been agreed upon by five western Canadian jurisdictions. Three levels of first aid training are included: emergency, standard and advanced. While not every jurisdiction has these three specific levels of first aid required in their workplace health and safety legislation, these three levels form the minimum content for training standards that are acceptable to all the above jurisdictions, should a worker have certification from any jurisdiction.

Emergency First Aid

A student certified to the level of Emergency First Aid must demonstrate knowledge and ability and be competent in the following.

- Legal requirements that relate to workplace first aiders in the jurisdiction in which the first aider is providing first aid
- Principles of safety when providing first aid, including routine precautions to prevent disease transmission
- Principles of emergency scene management
- Scene survey using principles of safety
- Primary survey of casualties
- Ongoing casualty care until transfer to medical aid
- Shock
- Unconsciousness

- Breathing emergencies – adult casualty
- Breathing emergencies for suspected head/spinal injuries
- Choking emergencies
- Wound care, including the following
 - Wound management
 - Control of bleeding
 - Thermal injuries
 - Chemical burns
 - Eye injuries
 - Amputations
- Internal bleeding
- Risk factors of cardiovascular disease
- Cardiovascular emergencies
- Angina and heart attack
- Cardiac arrest
- Stroke
- One-rescuer, adult CPR (lay rescuer level)
- Benefits of automated external defibrillators

Standard First Aid

A student certified to the level of Standard First Aid must demonstrate knowledge and ability in the following.






- All topics in the Emergency First Aid level
- Principles of secondary survey
- History of casualty
- Check consciousness, breathing rate and rhythm and skin colour and dampness
- Head-to-toe examination for secondary injuries
- First aid for non-life-threatening conditions
- Bone and joint injuries of upper and lower extremities, muscle strains
- Head/spinal injuries
- Bleeding from scalp and ears
- Pelvic injuries
- Frostbite
- Diabetic emergencies
- Seizures
- Asthmatic emergencies
- Allergic reactions
- Heat related conditions including heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat stroke
- Cold related conditions including hypothermia

Advanced First Aid

A student certified to the level of Advanced First Aid must demonstrate knowledge and ability in the following.


- All topics in the Standard First Aid level
- Triage – multiple casualty management
- Rescue and transportation
- Emergency childbirth and miscarriage
- Two-rescuer, adult CPR (healthcare provider level)
- Wound care
- Oxygen administration
- Automated external defibrillators
- Advanced splinting
- Advanced head and spinal injury care

Cross-jurisdictional Workplace First Aid Certification Levels


First Aid Level	BC 	AB 	SK 	MB 	YT 
Emergency First Aid	OFA Level 1	Emergency First Aid	No equivalent	First Aider 1	<u>Emergency First Aid</u>
Standard First Aid	No equivalent	Standard First Aid	Class A Attendant	First Aider 2	Standard First Aid
OFA Level 2	OFA Level 2 36 hours	No equivalent Acceptable to Standard First Aid	No equivalent Acceptable to Class A Attendant	No equivalent Acceptable to First Aider 2	No equivalent Acceptable to Standard First Aid
Advanced First Aid	OFA Level 3	Advanced First Aid	Class B Attendant	First Aider 3	Advanced First Aid


First Aid in the Workplace: Legal Requirements in Alberta


The following documents provide information on the legal requirements of first aid for Alberta workplaces and are required content for Alberta approved first aid courses.

 http://employment.alberta.ca/documents/WHS/WHS-PUB_fa009.pdf
First Aid Records (FA009)

 http://employment.alberta.ca/documents/WHS/WHS-PUB_fa011.pdf
Workplace First Aiders and Legal Requirements (FA011)


 http://employment.alberta.ca/documents/WHS/WHS-PUB_fa012.pdf
Developing a First Aid Plan (FA012)


 http://employment.alberta.ca/documents/WHS/WHS-PUB_fa014.pdf
Medication in First Aid Kits (FA014)

 http://employment.alberta.ca/documents/WHS/WHS-PUB_fa015.pdf
Automated External Defibrillators in the Workplace (FA015)

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Province-Wide Contact Centre

 Edmonton & surrounding area:
780-415-8690

 Throughout Alberta:
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Deaf or hearing impaired
▪ In Edmonton: **780-427-9999**
or
▪ **1-800-232-7215**
throughout Alberta

Web Site



www.worksafe.alberta.ca

Getting copies of OHS Act, Regulation & Code:

Queen's Printer



<http://www.qp.alberta.ca>

Occupational Health and Safety



<http://employment.alberta.ca/SFW/295.html>



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