

Prevention Update



FIRST AID REGULATIONS UPDATES

In Prince Edward Island, first aid requirements for provincially regulated workplaces fall under the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHS Act), General Regulations, Part 9. The regulations were recently updated to align with national standards for workplace first aid. **These changes take effect on January 1, 2025.**

First aid training certification levels and first aid kit contents are now aligned with the following Canadian Standards Association (CSA) standards.

- **Z1210-17** First aid training for the workplace - Curriculum and quality management for training agencies
- **Z1220-17** First aid kits for the workplace

Workplace First Aid Regulations Guide

The WCB's OHS Division has updated its Workplace First Aid Regulations Guide to offer employers clearer and more accessible information on the first aid regulations in PEI. This user-friendly resource outlines key legal requirements to support compliance with first aid standards.

Education sessions on First Aid Regulations can be found in the WCB's education calendar at wcb.pe.ca.

Workplace First Aid Risk Assessment

As an employer, you are required to conduct and document a workplace first aid risk assessment. A competent person, in consultation with the safety committee or safety representative, should complete the workplace first aid risk assessment.

The risk assessment process includes 3 important steps:

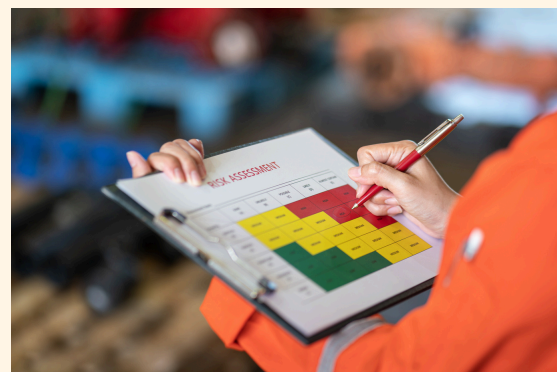
STEP 1 - Examining the tasks in the workplace to identify the hazards that could result in work-related injuries or illness.

STEP 2 - Assessing the hazards by

- Listing the types of work-related injury or illness that could occur.
- Determining the likelihood of a work-related injury or illness happening.
- Determining the potential severity of the work-related injury or illness.


STEP 3 - Identifying the appropriate first aid training and supplies to respond to the types of work-related injuries or illnesses that were identified in Step 2.

For detailed guidance on conducting a workplace first aid risk assessment, including access to a risk assessment template, you can refer to our Workplace First Aid Regulations Guide.



First Aid Training

The table below outlines how the CSA standards impact first aid training requirements in PEI. Workplace first aid training requirements are now determined by the employer's risk assessment based on the level of risk.

Current First Aid Regulations Expire December 31, 2024		 First Aid Regulations Effective January 1, 2025	
FIRST AID TRAINING LEVEL REQUIRED Determined by the number of workers		FIRST AID TRAINING LEVEL REQUIRED Determined by the Workplace First Aid Risk Assessment	
TRAINING LEVELS	Emergency First Aid Certificate Standard First Aid Certificate Advanced First Aid Certificate	TRAINING LEVELS	Basic Level First Aid Certificate Intermediate Level First Aid Certificate Advanced Level First Aid Certificate
REGULATION EXEMPTION	a) hospitals b) nursing homes	REGULATION EXEMPTION	a) hospitals b) nursing homes c) workplaces that are private residences with home offices for remote workers

Risk Levels and Training Levels

- **Low-risk** environments require Basic First Aid, with 3.5 hours of practical skills demonstration.
- **Moderate-risk** environments require Intermediate First Aid, with 7 hours of practical skills demonstration.
- **High-risk** environments require Advanced First Aid, with 35 hours of practical skills demonstration.

Practical skills demonstration refers to the hands-on component of first aid training. It involves physically practicing first aid techniques and procedures under the guidance of a certified instructor. The aim is to develop confidence and competence in applying first aid techniques in emergency situations.

My first aid certificate hasn't expired yet. Do I need to recertify right away?

During the transition period, Workplace First Aiders who currently hold a valid first aid certificate, remain certified until it reaches its expiration date.

Approved First Aid Training Providers

First aid training providers no longer need approval from the WCB's Director of OHS. Organizations or individuals can provide first aid training if the training is provided in compliance with CSA Standard Z1210-17, First aid training for the workplace - Curriculum and quality management for training agencies.

First Aid Kits

There are no changes to regulations for workplace first aid kits. The CSA standard and the level of risk in your workplace will determine the type of first aid kit you will need. The level of risk is determined by the workplace first aid risk assessment.

Employers must provide the correct type, number, and size of first aid kits as set out in CSA Standard Z1220-17, First aid kits for the workplace.