

## **The FA Emergency Aid Bridging Document and FA Accepted Qualifications**

### **Non-FA First Aid Qualifications**

In order to ensure a coach is fully equipped with the correct knowledge, understanding and skills to be able to administer Emergency First Aid in Football, FA Education introduced the following steps, which commenced on 1 September 2014:

All new coaches must attend The FA Emergency Aid (The FA EA) course when undertaking their first coaching course. The rationale for this is to ensure that all new coaches have the same foundation and are equipped with the necessary football-specific emergency aid knowledge, understanding and skills that are not covered on generic Emergency First Aid at Work (EFAW) and First Aid at Work (FAW) courses.

If a FA coach has completed The FA Emergency First Aid it is valid for 3 years. Once this expires, if a coach holds an in-date non-FA first aid qualification (providing it is on The FA accepted course list), they do not have to attend The FA EA again. The list of courses that are accepted by The FA can be found [here](#).

The coach will also need to read [The FA Emergency Aid Bridging Document](#) and confirm they have read and understood the document by sending an email to the local County FA. This is the same process for Charter Standard and FA Licenced Coaches' Club membership.

It is the coaches' responsibility to ensure that they have undertaken appropriate first aid training for the qualification and that their first aid qualification remains in-date at all times.

### **Accepted Professional Occupations**

The following professional occupations will also be exempt from having to attend a second FA Emergency Aid course on production of evidence of completing appropriate training, which may be a course on The FA accepted list or an in-house

programme run in the NHS, military or public service organisations. The coaches have a professional responsibility to thereafter undertake an appropriate course to re-establish and maintain competency:

- Doctors
- Physiotherapists
- Nurses
- Paramedics
- Military Service Personnel (Navy / Army / Royal Air Force)
- Police Officers
- Prison Officers
- Firefighters

The coach will need to currently serve in that profession and must produce evidence of completing appropriate training and the date of the training.

Evidence needs to be in the form of at least one of the following:

- Valid certificate
- A formal letter from the training provider
- A letter from the HR department where the individual works

It will be unacceptable to simply say they have done it or just produce a letter.

**We do not accept Paediatric Qualifications**

For the purpose of emergency aid in football, qualifications that are specific only to the paediatric casualty are not accepted - The FA has no control over the age group with which an individual is working.

Furthermore, it is important to ensure that those holding a first aid qualification within football have the ability to deal with any casualty regardless of age, e.g. a player, colleague, match official or parent.

### **The FA Emergency Aid Bridging Document**

Please [click here](#) to view The FA Emergency Aid Bridging Document.

The FA Emergency Aid Bridging Document has been created to ensure that a coach who has undertaken a non-FA emergency aid qualification has the additional football-specific first aid knowledge and understanding to complement their own first aid knowledge and skills that have been gained when undertaking an alternate FA accepted qualification.

This document has been created for the pitch side first-aider who has undertaken a generic first aid course where some of the elements that are specific to the football environment, which are contained within The FA Emergency Aid course, have not been addressed.

It is designed to provide additional information to enable the first-aider to prevent illness and injury, plan for a medical emergency, manage medical conditions and ensure that appropriate care is given until the emergency medical services arrive and take over (or until an alternate healthcare professional assumes responsibility for the casualty).

It is a resource that should complement the training already undertaken. It is not a substitute for appropriate first aid training and does not sanction first aid management in any area where competency has not been established. Reading a document does not make you competent.

## **Background Information**

On 30 September 2013, as a result of a recommendation in the Löfstedt Review, The HSE relinquished the governance and approval of emergency first aid at work courses in England.

The HSE will still ensure first aid provision within the workplace is adequate when carrying out inspections on premises, but it is now the employer's responsibility to source (or provide) first aid training that is of an appropriate level based on their first aid risk assessment, and to ensure that the training accessed is of a high quality.

As a result of the change, Ofqual now regulate Emergency Aid courses delivered in the workplace and recommend "that an organisation has the responsibility to make sure its qualifications are appropriate to the industry".

We have acknowledged this and, following a review of Ofqual regulated first aid qualifications and of our own Emergency Aid (EA) course, it has been identified that there are a number of elements specific to football that are not covered on these generic courses. We have therefore reformatted our EA qualification (three hours) to embrace concussion/head injuries, asthma and emergency action planning, to ensure that what is contained in this short course is relevant to coaches.

It will be unacceptable to simply say they have done it or just produce a letter. They also have a professional responsibility to have undertaken an appropriate course to establish competency and equally maintain their competency thereafter.

Read more at <http://www.thefa.com/my-football/the-fa-emergency-aid-bridging-document#MlvQvL8VTPhBqfiW.99>