

First Aid: What's New for Affiliates – 2nd Edition, May 13, 2026

New Procedures and Requirements for Affiliates

To ensure our Affiliates are able to effectively implement all the requirements of the new program the Society will now require Affiliates to hold a First Aid License. Affiliates will find detailed requirements in their First Aid License Agreements.

For questions about License Agreements and new requirements, contact: FirstAidTransition@lifeguarding.com

Affiliate Agreements

All Society Affiliates will require an approved First Aid License Agreement to deliver the new suite of first aid courses. Agreements will be circulated ahead of the program launch and must be signed and returned by email to FirstAidTransition@lifeguarding.com.

Approved providers must begin delivering the new program as of the launch date of June 22, 2026.

Insurance Requirements

As part of the First Aid License Agreement, Affiliates must provide proof of insurance, including a copy of the Additional Insured endorsement, with their initial application and upon their annual renewal notification.

Full insurance details will be listed in the First Aid License Agreement. Below is a summary and is not intended to capture the full requirements:

- Affiliates will need to carry commercial general liability insurance with a combined single limit of not less than \$2,000,000.
- Professional Liability or Errors and Omissions insurance covering errors, omissions, or negligent acts for an amount not less than \$2,000,000 per claim and \$2,000,000 in the aggregate.
- The Lifesaving Society, including its directors, officers, employees, volunteers, and agents, must be named on that policy as an additional insured.
- The Affiliate must also have workers' compensation coverage, as required in Ontario, or if the Affiliate is exempt from workers' compensation coverage, it must carry employers' liability insurance as required by law. [Review whether your business requires WSIB coverage.](#)
- The Affiliate must use insurers licensed in Ontario, with an AM Best financial strength rating of not less than A-minus (A-) and financial size category of Type IX or larger.

Criminal Background Checks

- Affiliates must ensure all First Aid Instructors, Examiners and Trainers in their employment:
 - have suitable criminal record checks, including vulnerable sector screening,
 - have not been charged or convicted of any criminal offenses.
- Affiliates must follow an appropriate monitoring process and immediately report any criminal charges or convictions to the Society.

Accessibility

Affiliates must comply with the Society's Accessibility Policy and current provincial Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) legislation.

Code of Conduct

Affiliates must ensure that all First Aid Instructors, Examiners and Trainers in their employment adhere to the Society's [First Aid Program Partner Code of Conduct](#).

New First Aid Courses

Transition Information

The new Workplace Safety and Insurance Board's (WSIB) workplace first aid program will launch on June 22, 2026. This is a firm launch date, not a transition period. This means:

- Emergency and Standard First Aid courses will be discontinued by training providers upon the launch of the new program.
- All Emergency and Standard First Aid courses must be completed by June 21, 2026.
- Any Emergency First Aid or Standard First Aid courses completed after June 21, 2026 will not be processed by the Society.
- New Basic (formerly Emergency) and Intermediate (formerly Standard) First Aid courses must begin on June 22, 2026, but may not start earlier.

FIRST AID TRANSITION

Award Currency

Emergency and Standard First Aid certifications issued before the launch of the new program remain valid for 36 months from the date of issue. The new Basic and Intermediate First Aid certifications are valid for 36 months from the date of certification.

Recertification

There is no recertification for Basic First Aid. The 8-hour course is required every 36 months to remain current.

Intermediate First Aid awards can be recertified within 36 months of successfully completing a full (16-hour) Intermediate First Aid course.

Standard First Aid award holders who are eligible for recertification and successfully complete an Intermediate First Aid Recertification course (8 hr.) will earn an Intermediate First Aid award.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for Basic or Intermediate First Aid courses.

Emergency First Aid is considered equivalent to Basic First Aid and Intermediate First Aid is considered equivalent to Standard First Aid for the purposes of prerequisites. The Society will continue to accept Emergency First Aid and Standard First Aid as prerequisites for courses. Prerequisites need not be current.

Change Summary – First Aid Courses

Current Award Title / Course Name	New Award Title / Course Name	Course Time	Status	Additional Info
Basic First Aid (existing Society Program)	N/A	N/A	Retired as of June 1, 2026.	Instant awards can be returned for credit.
Emergency First Aid	Basic First Aid with CPR-C & AED	8 hrs	New course and curriculum.	The new Basic First Aid will be a prerequisite for Bronze Cross. Emergency First Aid will remain an accepted prerequisite.
Standard First Aid	Intermediate First Aid with CPR-C & AED	16 hrs	New course and curriculum.	Intermediate First Aid will be a prerequisite for National Lifeguard. Standard First Aid will remain an accepted prerequisite.
CPR-Health Care Provider	CPR-HCP/BLS & AED	4 hrs	N/A	Course and all materials not impacted.
CPR-A	CPR-A & AED	3 hrs	New course title, no curriculum changes.	Affiliates can continue to issue Instant Award cards with the award title CPR-A until the Society begins issuing re-titled cards.
CPR-B	N/A	N/A	Retired as of June 1, 2026.	Instant awards can be returned for credit.
CPR-C	CPR-C & AED	4 hrs	New course title.	Affiliates can continue to issue Instant Award cards with the award title CPR-C until the Society begins issuing re-titled cards.
AED	N/A	N/A	Retired as of June 1, 2026. AED is now incorporated into other certifications.	Unused temporary cards can be returned for credit.
Anaphylaxis Rescuer	N/A	1 hr	N/A	N/A
Airway Management	N/A	2 hrs	N/A	New <i>Canadian First Aid Manual</i> .

First Aid Instructor, Examiner and Trainer Updates

First Aid Instructors teach Basic and Intermediate First Aid candidates. First Aid Examiners examine Basic and Intermediate candidates. First Aid Trainers train First Aid Instructors.

First Aid Update Course

The First Aid Update Course will be offered online. All instructors and examiners must successfully complete a First Aid Update Course before teaching or examining the new program. All Trainers must successfully complete an update before conducting any First Aid Instructor courses. The course length is approximately two hours. Find a Member records will be updated immediately following successful completion of the course. The course registration fee of \$102.62 includes tax and the purchase and shipping of a First Aid Transition Pack (*Canadian First Aid Manual, First Aid Award Guide, Teaching First Aid Resource*).

New First Aid Instructor Prerequisites

All current Standard First Aid Instructors and Examiners must be 18 years of age and have completed a First Aid Update Course in order to teach/examine Basic or Intermediate First Aid.

Current Standard First Aid Instructors and Examiners who are under 18 years of age can attend a First Aid Update Course, but won't be eligible to teach or examine courses until they are 18 years of age. Affected instructors and examiners will receive direct communications from the Society.

Emergency First Aid Instructor Award Retirement

The Society's Emergency First Aid Instructor award retirement will coincide with the launch date of the new program. Until the new program launches, currently certified Emergency First Aid Instructors can certify Emergency First Aid candidates. Emergency First Aid Instructors who want to teach the new Basic and Intermediate First Aid courses must successfully complete the First Aid Instructor Update Course, meet the First Aid Instructor prerequisites and complete other award transition requirements (details coming soon).

Leadership Recertification

Leadership recertification points earned by taking, teaching or examining an Emergency or Standard First Aid course during an instructor's/ examiner's recertification period can be used to recertify awards.

New First Aid Instructor and Examiner certification cards will be issued at the time of recertification, not upon successful completion of the First Aid Update Course.

Change Summary – Leadership Awards

Current Award Title	New Award Title	Status	Additional Info
Standard First Aid Instructor	First Aid Instructor	Award holders who successfully complete a First Aid Update Course remain certified to teach the new Basic and Intermediate First Aid courses.	New certification cards will be issued upon recertification, not after completion of the First Aid Update Course.
Emergency First Aid Instructor	N/A	Leadership certification retired in conjunction with the new program launch on June 22, 2026.	A pathway for Emergency First Aid Instructors to upgrade to First Aid Instructors is in development. More details coming soon.
Standard First Aid Examiner	First Aid Examiner	Award holders who successfully complete a First Aid Update Course remain certified to examine the new Basic and Intermediate First Aid courses.	New certification cards will be issued upon recertification, not after completion of the First Aid Update Course.
First Aid Trainer	N/A	Award holders who successfully complete a First Aid Update Course will remain certified to teach First Aid Instructors.	New certification cards will be issued upon recertification, not after completion of the First Aid Update Course.

New First Aid Resources and Literature

New course materials will be required for candidates, instructors, examiners and trainers. Previous materials will be retired upon launch. It is the responsibility of the affiliate, instructor, examiner, trainer or candidate to ensure they have the appropriate course materials.

The purchase of new materials is included for instructors, examiners and trainers when they register for the First Aid Update Course.

All materials will be available for purchase on LifeguardDepot.com as soon as possible. Test sheets, the Leadership Master Sheet, the *Program Guide*, and similar materials will remain available for download at LifesavingSociety.com.

Affiliates, instructors, examiners and trainers will be notified by email when new materials are available for purchase or posted online.

New Course Materials Summary

New Item	Audience	Where to Find	Required or Recommended	2026 Prices (tax & shipping extra)
<i>Canadian First Aid Manual</i>	Affiliates, Instructors, Examiners, Trainers, Candidates	LifeguardDepot.com First Aid Instructor Transition Pack	Required.	\$22.00
<i>First Aid Award Guide</i>	Instructors, Examiners, Trainers	LifeguardDepot.com First Aid Instructor Transition Pack	Required.	\$30.25
<i>Teaching First Aid USB</i>	Instructors, Examiners, Trainers	LifeguardDepot.com First Aid Instructor Transition Pack	Required.	\$34.00
First Aid Instructor Transition Pack	Instructors, Examiners, Trainers	LifeguardDepot.com	Required.	Purchase is included with First Aid Update Course registration.
First Aid Instructor Pack (includes: <i>Instructor Manual</i> , <i>First Aid Award Guide</i> , <i>Teaching First Aid Resource</i> , binder)	Instructors, Examiners, Trainers	LifeguardDepot.com	Required.	\$75.00
Test Sheets	Instructors, Examiners	Find a Form.	Required.	N/A
Leadership Master Sheet	Trainers	Find a Form.	Required.	N/A
Leadership Recert Point Lists (Instructor, Examiner, Trainer)	Instructors, Examiners, Trainers	Find a Form.	<i>Any First Aid awards earned, taught or examined during the recertification period will count towards recertification.</i>	N/A
<i>Canadian Lifesaving Manual</i>	Candidates	N/A	Can no longer be used for first aid courses.	N/A

Note: Copies of the most recent previous edition of some books may be eligible for return for credit (see [Return Policy for Literature](#)).

FIRST AID TRANSITION

New Candidate Resources

Canadian First Aid Manual: A new, fully revised edition of the *Canadian First Aid Manual* is required for all candidates in Basic and Intermediate First Aid courses. Ensure you have the correct edition.

New Instructor Resources

All instructor, examiner and trainer resources will be available on LifeguardDepot.com

- NEW *First Aid Award Guide* – features significant updates to curriculum and evaluation criteria.
- First Aid Instructor Pack – new pack includes: *Canadian First Aid Manual*, *First Aid Award Guide*, *Teaching First Aid USB*.
- First Aid Instructor Transition Pack – a special, limited time offer for instructors, examiners and trainers who register for the First Aid Update Course (pack includes *Canadian First Aid Manual*).
- *Teaching First Aid USB* – this resource includes: lesson plans, instructional slide presentations and videos, the new *Course Guide for Workplace First Aid*, first aid test. These materials are required for use by all instructors of the new first aid program.

Test Sheets

New test sheets for Basic and Intermediate First Aid courses will be available on the Society's website under Find a Form.

- Emergency or Standard First Aid test sheets can only be used for courses ending before the launch date on June 22, 2026. All courses after the launch date must be conducted with the new curriculum, materials and test sheets.

First Aid Exam Fees

Exam fees for all courses listed below include both successful and unsuccessful candidates. Effective June 22, 2026.

Certification Title	Exam Fee
Basic First Aid with CPR-C & AED	\$15.00
Intermediate First Aid with CPR-C & AED or Recert	\$25.00
CPR-HCP/BLS with AED	\$15.00
Airway Management	\$15.00

Candidate Recognition

Certification cards with the new course titles will be issued to candidates by the Society as usual. Temporary cards for Basic and Intermediate First Aid will be available for Affiliates to purchase.

Return Policy for Obsolete Award Cards

- Affiliates who return their current stock of Emergency or Standard First Aid temporary cards before August 31 will have their accounts credited based on the stock listed on their account.
- Temporary cards hold no cash value and cannot be returned for a refund.
- Affiliates can receive a credit to their account for Basic First Aid, CPR-B and AED cards that are returned by August 31.

Return Policy for Literature

Affiliates may return recently purchased copies of the *Canadian First Aid Manual*, *First Aid Award Guide* and complete First Aid Instructor Packs for credit, provided the materials meet the following requirements:

- most recent edition,
- unused (not damaged, bent, marked or partially read),
- exchanged before August 31.

Complete the Returns/Exchanges Process through LifeguardDepot.com.