

# Outdoor First Aid Assessment Principles

April 2020 v5

## Publication of these Assessment Principles

The Institute for Outdoor Learning (IOL) is the guardian of the Outdoor First Aid Assessment Principles and the document will be published on the IOL website – [www.outdoor-learning.org](http://www.outdoor-learning.org). These assessment principles have been produced by representatives of the First Aid Awarding Organisations Forum (FAAOF).

## Introduction

The Outdoor First Aid Assessment Principles relate to the assessment of Outdoor First Aid training to meet sector requirements, as described by the Outdoor First Aid Training Statement of Good Practice, published on the IOL website.

The assessment principles in this document cover:

- Occupational competence of trainers/assessors
- Quality Assurance
- Sources of evidence to be maintained and made available to External Quality Assurers.

Certificating Bodies must apply these principles in addition to:

- Current Assessment Principles for Regulated First Aid Qualifications published on the FAAOF website – [www.firstaidqualifications.org.uk](http://www.firstaidqualifications.org.uk)
- Generic criteria and regulations that Ofqual/SQA Accreditation/QW sets out for recognised Awarding Organisations/Bodies.

## Outdoor First Aid Training Statement of Good Practice

The Outdoor First Aid Assessment Principles describe how Outdoor First Aid training courses meet the requirements of the IOL Outdoor First Aid Training Statement of Good Practice.

This Statement of Good Practice is published on the IOL website and describes the current minimum standards recommended to the sector. The standards for the course design and structure, along with course delivery standards and trainer/training provider competence are outlined, followed by 4 bands of progression, described course content for the additional requirements of the increasingly remote outdoor environment. This is followed by a section on additional outdoor first aid CPD.

### Description

### Target Audience

- Band 1: Minimum 3 hours contact time aimed at low-risk outdoor environments.
- Band 2: Minimum 8 hours contact time aimed at supported outdoor practitioners.
- Band 3: Minimum 16 hours contact time aimed at unsupported outdoor practitioners.
- Band 4: Minimum 16 hours contact for unsupported, expedition or remote outdoor practitioners.

### Band descriptors:

- Typical role of holder within an outdoor learning context
- Previous experience
- Course content to include
- Course delivery to include
- Mode of delivery
- Contact time
- Observational competence (assessment criteria to be achieved)
- Relevance for Outdoor Sector Awards.

# **Roles and responsibilities of those involved in the training, assessment and quality assurance processes**

## **Training and Assessing Centres**

All Centres must:

- a) Maintain trainer/assessor portfolios and make them available to External Quality Assurer upon request.
- b) Only use trainers/assessors to deliver Outdoor First Aid that meet the standards stated in this document and have systems in place to confirm individuals meet these requirements.

## **1. Generic requirements for delivering First Aid training For trainers/assessors of IOL Band 2, and 3 compliant qualifications**

Trainers/assessors and Quality Assurers must meet the requirements of the current Delivery Standards for Regulated First Aid qualifications published on the FAAOF website. Including:

- a) Hold and provide evidence of a current FAW certificate.
- b) Undergo minimum of an annual review when delivering [training and assessing] first aid and provide evidence of such upon demand, e.g. appraisal and verification record [as required by HSE - General information Sheet No 3, paragraph 13 and Table 1].
- c) Maintain evidence of following a programme of Internal Quality Assurance procedures designed to maintain the integrity of the qualification and look after the interests of the learner, e.g. evidence of attending standardisation events, co-teaching activity, generation of valid and reliable assessment evidence, a sampling plan implemented by the Centre, etc.

All evidence to be available to the External Quality Assurer upon request.

## **2. Additional requirements for Outdoor First Aid training**

### **To deliver [teach and assess] IOL Band 2 Outdoor First Aid [1 day]**

Requires trainer/assessor to:

- a) Have held a regulated Band 3 Outdoor First Aid qualification.
- b) New trainers and assessors to be observed competently delivering [training and assessing] under the supervision of a suitable trainer/assessor.
- c) Have evidence of CPD – a minimum of 6 hours relevant CPD per year to be available upon demand.
- d) Have evidence of CPD – a minimum of 6 hours CPD per year to be available upon demand, of which 6 hours in each 3 yearly cycle must be identified Outdoor First Aid CPD.

### **To deliver [teach and assess] IOL Band 3 Outdoor First Aid [2 day]**

Requires trainer/assessor to:

- a) Have held a regulated Band 3 Outdoor First Aid qualification.
- b) Have held a Band 4 OFA certificate.
- c) Demonstrate occupational competency by either:
  - i. Successful completion of the online assessment tool - IOL Outdoor First Aid Trainers Questionnaire. This is hosted on the IOL website. This must be evidenced.
  - ii. Holding Associate Membership (RMemIOL, LMemIOL) or Professional Membership of IOL (PMemIOL). This must be evidenced.
  - iii. Have at least 2 years experience of working as an Outdoor Activity Instructor or Outdoor Learning Specialist (see IOL Occupational Standards - <https://www.outdoor-learning.org/Jobs/The-Outdoor-Professional/Occupational-Standards>). This may include holding an intermediate or advanced level NGB leader award(s) in relevant sports/activities, such as Mountain Training – Mountain Leader; Mountain Training – Rock Climbing Instructor; British Canoeing – Coach (Moderate Water); British Cycling – Level 2

Mountain Bike Leadership Award; British Caving Association – Local Cave and Mine Leader. This must be evidenced.

- d) New trainers and assessors to be observed competently delivering [training and assessing] under the supervision of a suitable trainer/assessor.
- e) Have evidence of CPD – a minimum of 6 hours CPD per year to be available upon demand, of which 6 hours in each 3 yearly cycle must be identified Outdoor First Aid CPD.

### **To deliver [teach and assess] IOL Band 4 Outdoor First Aid [Advanced]**

Requires trainer/assessor to:

- a) Meet all of the requirements for delivering Band 3.
- b) Hold a current Band 4 Advanced OFA certificate from a different training centre to your own.
- c) Maintain a logbook of delivering 10+ Band 3 OFA courses in previous 3 years.

## **Further Information:**

These Outdoor First Aid Assessment Principles were developed from the IOL Statement of Good Practice for Outdoor First Aid Training and consultations with representatives of the First Aid Awarding Organisations Forum in 2020. This guidance (version 5) evolved from meetings with various interested AOs on behalf of the First Aid Awarding Organisations Forum.

IOL Guidance for Outdoor First Aid:

<https://www.outdoor-learning.org/Good-Practice/Good-Practice/Guidance-for-Outdoor-First-Aid>

Assessment Principles for Regulated First Aid Qualifications:

<http://www.firstaidqualifications.org.uk/assessment-principles/>

HSE:

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/firstaid/>

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Issued: April 2020

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