



Program: Responding to Emergencies

Purpose

The program helps participants recognize and respond appropriately to cardiac, breathing and first aid emergencies. The course teaches skills that participants need to know to give immediate care to a suddenly injured or ill person until more advanced medical personnel arrive and take over. This program is designed primarily for use in secondary schools, colleges, universities and other settings that require a curriculum of greater length than the American Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED Program.

Prerequisites

None

Learning Objectives

Before Giving Care and Checking an Injured or Ill Person

- Describe how to recognize an emergency.
- Identify how to reduce the risk of disease transmission when giving care.
- Explain how to activate and work with the emergency medical services (EMS) system.
- Explain how to check a conscious or unconscious person for life-threatening and non-life-threatening conditions.
- Recognize the signals of shock and describe how to minimize its effects.

CPR/AED

- Recognize the signals of a cardiac emergency.
- Identify the links in the Cardiac Chain of Survival.
- Describe how to care for a heart attack.
- Recognize the signals of cardiac arrest and demonstrate how to provide CPR until emergency medical care arrives.
- Identify precautions to take when using an AED on a person in sudden cardiac arrest.
- Demonstrate how to use an AED.
- Demonstrate how to care for a person who is choking.
- Recognize the signals of a breathing emergency.

First Aid

- Recognize life-threatening bleeding and demonstrate how to control it.
- Recognize the signals of various soft tissue and musculoskeletal injuries and demonstrate how to care for them, including splinting.
- Identify signals of head, neck and spinal injuries.
- Recognize the signals of injuries to the chest, abdomen and pelvis and describe how to care for them.
- Recognize the signals of sudden illness, including poisoning, bites and stings and heat and cold emergencies, and describe how to care for them.
- Recognize the signals of water-related emergencies.

Optional

- Demonstrate the use of an asthma inhaler.
- Describe the care given to a person experiencing anaphylaxis.
- Demonstrate the use of an epinephrine auto-injector.
- Understand the basics of pregnancy and describe care needed in emergency childbirth.
- Identify special consideration for first aid care in disaster, remote, or wilderness settings.
- Describe preparation for venturing into an environment where help may be delayed.

Length

Course lengths vary depending on the course selected and if additional or optional lessons are included. The core course, Responding to Emergencies Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED, is 30 hours.

Courses, Certificate Issued and Validity Period *(Other course combinations and optional lessons are available)*

All Responding to Emergencies certifications are valid for 2 years from date of course completion. Below are the basic course titles; certification will display the course title:

- Responding to Emergencies Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED*
- Responding to Emergencies Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR*
- Responding to Emergencies Adult First Aid/CPR/AED
- Responding to Emergencies Adult First Aid/CPR
- Responding to Emergencies Child First Aid/CPR/AED
- Responding to Emergencies Child First Aid/CPR
- Responding to Emergencies Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED*
- Responding to Emergencies Pediatric First Aid/CPR*
- Responding to Emergencies Adult and Child First Aid/CPR/AED
- Responding to Emergencies Adult and Child First Aid/CPR
- Responding to Emergencies First Aid

**Pediatric courses includes both infant and child content*

Certification Requirement

- Attend and participate in all course sessions.
- Participate in all skills sessions.
- Demonstrate competency in all required skills and scenarios.
- Pass each section of the written exam with a score of 80 percent or better.

Instructor

Currently certified American Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED, Emergency Medical Response, and Lifeguarding instructors and instructor trainers.

Participant Products/Materials

- *American Red Cross Responding to Emergencies: Comprehensive First Aid/AED/CPR Textbook* (StayWell Stock No. 656138)
- *American Red Cross Responding to Emergencies: Comprehensive First Aid/AED/CPR E-Textbook* (StayWell Stock No. 656141)
- *American Red Cross Responding to Emergencies: Comprehensive First Aid/AED/CPR Student Kit* (textbook and e-textbook)(StayWell Stock No. 656142)