



FIRST AID REGULATIONS (NEW IN 2009)

First Aid cover in the workplace is a legal requirement.

Secretary At Work: August 2011

Changes to 'first aid at work' regulations

First aid cover in the workplace is a legal requirement. The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) introduced a new set of regulations which came into force on 1 October 2009.

What hasn't changed is the legal requirement to provide adequate first aid cover. For instance, St John Ambulance has online tools to help you check if you have gaps in your cover.

- ✉ This includes a workplace training guide which will check the number of first aiders you need against current legislation and it also provides resources for checking related health and safety issues like the number of fire marshals you require
- ✉ All but the smallest of workplaces should carry out a first aid needs assessment to identify risks which may affect the number of first aiders you require or additional precautions or training that may be needed.

The 5 things you need to know:

1. The First aid at work course

The First aid at work course is now 3 days and full details of the syllabus are online.

2. New training for lower risk environments

The new 1-day Emergency first aid at work course has been created which covers the most common risks. The syllabus for this course has been specified by the HSE and can only be taught by HSE approved providers of the First aid at work course or Ofqual (QCA) registered providers.

3. Annual refresher training

A FREE 3-hour annual refresher course has been specified by the HSE.

It is now strongly recommend that this course is completed annually between requalification to keep first aid skills fresh.

4. Current first aiders

Current first aid at work certificates are valid until they expire.

5. A new risk assessment may be required

The HSE is updating the rules about the number of first aiders needed in a workplace. It is expected that the HSE have reduced the categories of risk to two: low and high.

You'll need to complete a new risk assessment to determine the number of first aiders you need. Until then, you still need to have the right number of first aiders according to current legislation.

Why not go online to check what you need to do to keep up-to-date with First Aid?

www.sja.org.uk & www.redcross.org.uk

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