

# CHANGES TO FIRST AID UNITS IN 2021



The national regulator for Australia's training organisations has made changes to a number of first aid units of competencies (courses), and as a result all First Aid training providers, including St John Ambulance are required to implement changes to our training programs. These updates are mandated nationally, and have been made to reflect industry best practice, expectations and current regulations.

While this is mostly relevant for students who need to complete a particular set of units for their workplace, it's handy to be aware of the changes.

If you have any questions on course content or requirements, please phone 1300 78 5646 or email [courses@stjohnsa.com.au](mailto:courses@stjohnsa.com.au)

New course units:

- HLTAID009 Provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation (formerly HLTAID001)
- HLTAID010 Provide basic emergency life support (formerly HLTAID002)
- HLTAID011 Provide First Aid (formerly HLTAID003)
- HLTAID012 Provide First Aid in an education and care setting (formerly HLTAID004)
- HLTAID013 Provide First Aid in remote or isolated site (formerly HLTAID005)
- HLTAID014 Provide Advanced First Aid (formerly HLTAID006)
- HLTAID015 Provide Advanced resuscitation and oxygen therapy (formerly HLTAID007)
- HLTAID016 Manage first aid services and resources (formerly HLTAID008)
- HLTSS00068 Occupational First Aid Skill Set (formerly HLTSS00027)

## **Here's what you need to know if you've already completed your course in 2020:**

Current first aid certificates will continue to be recognised for their recommended renewal periods as outlined in the First Aid in the Workplace Code of Practice. When participants are due to renew their certification, they will renew this the new course.

\*Please note, there may be requirements that differ from above due to organisation specific guidelines. We recommend that participants are encouraged to become familiar with their particular industry requirements and guidelines as they may differ from above.

# FAQS

## **Why are the changes being made?**

The national regulator for first aid training are continually looking at the results of vocational training outcomes (including first aid training) to decide on whether changes need to be made to improve course delivery and student outcomes. In 2020, it was announced that changes to a number of first aid units was being implemented, and these changes relate to the delivery and assessment of first aid training. This ensures students are not only competent in skills but also in the application of when to use the skills in first situations. When this occurs, courses undergo a 12 month phase out period which will be finalised in October 2021.

---

## **I recently studied the course that is being phased out, do I need to re-do my course?**

No. Recognition of the superseded course names and units will remain. The validity of your qualification will remain for its full, intended duration, (until it expires or you are required to take a refresher).

---

## **Will the validity of the certificate will be affected due to the changes?**

No. All first aid certificates will remain fully recognised for their full, intended duration, (until it expires or you are required to take a refresher). This is generally 12 months for Provide Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and 36 months or 3 years for Provide First Aid.

---

## **When will the new units start being offered?**

St John Ambulance will start running courses with the new units in September 2021.

---

## **I'd like to do the Advanced First Aid course in the future. What does that mean for me?**

This just means that you will need to complete the new units if you intend on doing the Advanced First Aid, Advanced Resuscitation or Occupational First Aid courses in the future. Speak to our Customer Service Team if you have any concerns on 1300 78 5646 or [customersalesteam@stjohnsa.com.au](mailto:customersalesteam@stjohnsa.com.au). You can also review if a course has prerequisite by looking at the detail within the course brochures.

## Has there been a change in content with the change of units?

The main changes relate to the delivery and assessment of the course. Some courses may include some additional topics. The changes may appear minimal to learners, however there is enough change for the governing regulator to deem these “not equivalent.”

---

## How do I know which course is right for me?

If you regularly renew your CPR and first aid skills, the assessment only courses are suitable for you. We still recommend refreshing your knowledge prior through our online learning and practice questions.

If you are training for the first time, you have additional needs (English as Second Language, physical limitations or incapacity) or it's been a while since completing your first aid training, you should do the longer version of the relevant course.

Got more questions? Email [courses@stjohnsa.com.au](mailto:courses@stjohnsa.com.au) and we will be happy to answer them

## St John Ambulance Australia SA Inc.

ST JOHN AMBULANCE AUSTRALIA SA INC  
ABN 42 947 425 570

Head Office South Australia  
85 Edmund Avenue Unley  
South Australia 5061

T: 1300 78 5646  
F: 08 8306 6995  
W: [stjohnsa.com.au](http://stjohnsa.com.au)