

**Changes to the  
Occupational Health and Safety Regulation,  
Part 33: Occupational First Aid**

B.C. Reg. 234/2002

**Effective October 28, 2002**

This document shows how sections have been amended by  
B.C. Reg. 234/2002, effective October 28, 2002

Text to be removed has a line through it. Added text is shown in **bold**.  
An explanation for the amendment is given with each section.



## Definitions

### Section 33.1

<b>Definitions</b>	<b>33.1</b>	In this Part
"certificate"		means, as described in Schedule 6, a Level 1, 2 or 3 first aid certificate <b>issued recognized</b> by the board;
"certificate endorsement"		means an endorsement, <del>issued</del> <b>recognized</b> by the board, to the holder of a first aid certificate;

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### Explanatory Note

Definitions of "certificate" and "certificate endorsement" amended to permit the board to recognize documents issued by agencies other than the board. No other definitions in this section are changed.

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## Health care facilities

### Section 33.15

<b>Health care facilities</b>	<b>33.15</b>	(1) A health care facility with an emergency resuscitation area may designate that area as the workplace first aid facility, provided that
		(a) immediate access is available to workers during working hours,
		(b) written procedures are developed for moving a worker requiring stretcher transport to the designated treatment area,
		(c) the transport equipment required by the procedures is provided, and
		(d) a first aid kit, appropriate for the level of attendant required, is available to be taken to the scene of an injury.
		(2) On written request, <del>the board will issue</del> a Level 2 certificate <b>will be issued</b> to a physician or registered nurse who has
		(a) at least 6 months experience in an emergency department, or
		(b) successfully completed a recognized course of training in emergency procedures.
		(3) The experience or training required in subsection (2) must have been completed not more than 24 months before the request for certification.
		(4) Certification granted under subsection (2) is restricted for use in health care facilities and is not transferable to other industries.

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### Explanatory Note

Section amended to recognize that the board may not itself necessarily issue the required certificates.

## Municipal fire departments

### Section 33.16

- Municipal fire departments**      **33.16** (1) If there are 5 or more firefighters at a workplace, at least one must hold a Level 1 certificate.
- (2) If there are 20 or more firefighters at a workplace, at least one must hold a Level 3 certificate.
- (3) If 25% or more of the firefighters at a workplace have a valid Emergency Medical Assistant First Responder (EMA FR) Level III licence issued under the *Health Emergency Act*, the requirements of subsections (1) and (2) do not apply.
- (4) On written request, ~~the board will issue~~ a Level 1 or 2 certificate **will be issued** to a firefighter who holds an EMA FR Licence as follows:
- (a) EMA FR Level II Licence = Board Level 1 Certificate;
  - (b) EMA FR Level III Licence = Board Level 2 Certificate.
- (5) Certification issued under subsection (4) is restricted to the fire service industry and is not transferable to other industries.
- (6) A firefighting crew dispatched on an emergency call must have
- (a) a Level 1 kit specified in Schedule 2,
  - (b) portable oxygen therapy equipment,
  - (c) a bag-valve mask and airway kit, and
  - (d) two sterile burn sheets in sealed plastic containers.

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#### Explanatory Note

Section amended to recognize that the board may not itself necessarily issue the required certificates.

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## Levels of certification

### Section 33.38

- Levels of certification**      **33.38** Levels of certification and certificate endorsements for an attendant ~~are issued by the board and~~ are specified in Schedule 6.

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#### Explanatory Note

Section amended to permit the board to recognize documents issued by agencies other than the board.

**Certification process**  
Section 33.39

- Certification process**      **33.39**
- (1) To qualify for a Level 1 certificate a candidate must successfully complete a Level 1 training course or its equivalent as taught and evaluated by a person authorized by the board.
  - (2) To qualify for an initial Level 2 or 3 certificate, a candidate must successfully complete a Level 2 or 3 training course or its equivalent, and achieve a grade of at least 70% on each of the written, oral and practical portions of ~~the~~ **an examination conducted by a person authorized by the board.**
  - ~~(3) The Level 2 and 3 written examinations must be conducted by a person authorized by the board or by an officer.~~
  - ~~(4) The Level 2 and 3 oral and practical examinations will be conducted by an officer at times and places determined by the board.~~
  - ~~(5) The medical certificate of fitness, required by section 33.41(c), must be received and approved by the board before a Level 2 or 3 certificate is issued.~~
  - (63)** To qualify for a certificate endorsement the candidate must hold a valid Level 1 or 2 certificate and must successfully complete a board-developed training course or its equivalent.

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**Explanatory Note**

Sections 33.39(2) to (4) are merged. Separate provisions are only required where there are different requirements for the written and the oral/practical examinations. Under the proposed amendments, all examinations can be conducted by a person authorized by the board.

Section 33.39(5) is deleted as it assumes that the board will always administer the process for receiving applications to take the examination and is in any event covered by section 33.41(c). The explicit statement that the certificate be received before certification occurs is moved to section 33.41.

## Eligibility for examination

### Section 33.41

#### **Eligibility for examination Medical certificates**

- 33.41** A candidate for examination leading to certification at Level 2 or 3 must, **before a certificate is issued,**
- ~~(a) apply for examination and provide the information requested on a form acceptable to provided by the board,~~
  - ~~(b) ensure that the examination fee has been paid, and~~
  - ~~(c) provide a medical certificate of the candidate's fitness from a physician on a form **acceptable to provided** by the board and every two years thereafter on renewal of the Level 2 or 3 certificate.~~

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#### **Explanatory Note**

Sections 33.41(a) and (b) are deleted as they assume the board will be conducting the examinations. Under the proposed amendments, all examinations can be conducted by other authorized persons. See comments on section 33.39(5) above.

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## Extensions to certificates

### Section 33.43

#### **Extensions to certificates**

- 33.43** ~~(1) Extensions to certificates are granted only if~~
- ~~(a) a course has not been available during the 3 months before the expiry of the certificate, or~~
  - ~~(b) the attendant has been medically determined to be temporarily disabled and unable to take the renewal course or examination.~~
- ~~(2) A request for an extension must be made before the expiry date of the certificate held, and the request must be made by the attendant, the employer, or an immediate prospective employer.~~
- ~~(3) Except as noted in subsection (4), the maximum extension allowed is 3 months beyond the expiry date of the certificate held.~~
- ~~(4) A person who is certified by the board as a first aid instructor for Level 2 or 3 courses and is in good standing will be granted a 12 month extension to his or her current Level 3 certificate on written request to the board.~~

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#### **Explanatory Note**

This section has been deleted since, if certificates are issued by agencies, it will not be practical for the board to grant extensions.

## Program equivalency

### Section 33.47

- Program equivalency**      **33.47**    (1)    First aid programs offered by training agencies and approved by the board may be granted equivalency for Level 1, **2 or 3 certification or qualification for certificate endorsement or a Level 2 or 3 examination** provided the requirements of this Part are otherwise met.
- (2)    A person successfully completing an equivalent program will, upon application, be eligible for certification, **or certificate endorsement, or examination leading to certification** provided the requirements of this Part are otherwise met.
- (3)    Only ~~board-issued~~ certificates and certificate endorsements **recognized by the board** will be accepted as proof of certification or qualification at a workplace that is subject to the requirements of this Part.

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#### Explanatory Note

Section amended to permit the board to recognize documents issued by agencies other than the board. The current section allows equivalency for the purpose of obtaining certification in the case of Level 1, but in the case of Level 2 and 3, only for the purpose of doing the examination. This distinction is no longer necessary in light of the changes to section 33.39.

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## Instructor certification

### Section 33.48

- Instructor certification**      **33.48**    (1)    Instructors of Level 1, **2 and 3 and transportation endorsement** courses must **have qualifications recognized** ~~be certified~~ by the board.
- ~~(2)    Instructors of Level 2 and 3 courses must be trained and certified by the board.~~
- ~~(3)    Instructors of certificate endorsement training courses must be Level 2 or 3 instructors.~~

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#### Explanatory Note

Section amended to permit the board to recognize instructors having qualifications issued by agencies other than the board.

## Courses and examinations

### Section 33.52

#### Courses and examinations

- 33.52** (1) A training agency must ensure that first aid equipment and supplies required by the board are clean and ready for use in each class.
- (2) A training agency must ensure that board-developed or equivalent first aid courses are taught in accordance with training materials developed or approved by the board.
- ~~(3) Before conducting any approved first aid course leading to Level 1 certification, certificate endorsement or Level 2 or 3 examination by the board, a training agency must notify the board of its intention to conduct the course.~~
- ~~(4) Immediately following completion of a Level 1 certificate training course or certificate endorsement course the training agency must forward to the board, on behalf of each student registered in the course,~~
- ~~(a) a completed Course Registration Form,~~
- ~~(b) full payment of appropriate certificate fees, and~~
- ~~(c) a completed Certificate Record Booklet.~~
- ~~(5) In order for an examination to be scheduled for a Level 2 or 3 certificate training course, a training agency must forward to the board, on behalf of each student registered in the course,~~
- ~~(a) a completed Course Registration Form, and~~
- ~~(b) a completed Application for Examination Form.~~
- ~~(6) Before the examination, the training agency must remit to the board full payment of examination fees on behalf of each student registered in the course.~~
- ~~(7) A training agency has the right to cancel a student's examination for default of tuition or examination payment and must provide the board with 2 working days notice of any such cancellation, and any examination appointment vacancy created by a cancellation will be filled by the board and not the agency.~~
- (83)** A training agency must maintain an accurate record of the attendance and classroom achievement of registered candidates.
- ~~(9) For Level 2 or 3 courses, a training agency must provide, on or before the examination date, a copy of the record required by subsection (8) to the examining board officer.~~
- ~~(104)~~ A training agency representative must be present at course updates as requested by the board.

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#### Explanatory Note

Several subsections have been deleted as they assume that the board will always be conducting the examination process, issuing certificates and keeping individual records of every candidate.

## **Schedule 6: Explanation of Certification Levels and Training Programs**

Occupational First Aid Level 1, Level 2, Level 3 and Certificate Endorsement training courses mean those first aid training courses that are developed ~~and distributed~~ by the board.

### **Level 1 First Aid Certificate**

Level 1 certification requires successful completion of an Occupational First Aid Level 1 training course. Renewal of Level 1 certification requires successful completion of the full course. Restricted Level 1 certificates are permitted in some circumstances for municipal fire departments. (See section 33.16).

### **Level 2 First Aid Certificate**

Level 2 certification requires completion of the examination process specified in this Part, unless the person qualifies for a restricted Level 2 certification based on training and/or experience as provided in this Part. Restricted Level 2 certificates are permitted in some circumstances for health care facilities and municipal fire departments. (See sections 33.15 and 33.16). Normally a candidate for Level 2 certification will complete a 36 hour Occupational First Aid Level 2 training course before taking the examination. For recertification, a 24 hour renewal course is available to prepare a candidate for a renewal examination.

### **Level 3 First Aid Certificate**

Level 3 certification requires completion of the examination process specified by this Part. Normally the candidate for Level 3 certification will complete a 70 hour Occupational First Aid Level 3 training course before taking the examination. For recertification, a 40 hour renewal course is available, which includes the renewal examination.

### **Transportation Endorsement**

A transportation endorsement for a first aid certificate requires the certificate holder to successfully complete an 8 hour Occupational First Aid Certificate Endorsement training course. Such a program gives Level 1 first aid certificate holders training to put an injured worker on a spine board and in a basket stretcher to allow the injured worker to be moved. The transportation endorsement expires with the Level 1 first aid certificate.

To obtain a transportation endorsement on the renewal of a Level 1 certificate, the certificate holder must successfully complete the full 8 hour Occupational First Aid Certificate Endorsement training course.

Other training courses, providing they meet specific standards set by the board and are approved by the board, may qualify candidates for a Level 1, **2 or 3** certificate **or** a certificate endorsement ~~or eligibility to participate in a Level 2 or 3 examination~~. Qualifications and certification of the instructor are the same as described in section 33.48. These other courses, however, cannot be titled Occupational First Aid Level 1, Occupational First Aid Level 2, Occupational First Aid Level 3 or Occupational First Aid Endorsement.

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### **Explanatory Note**

Section amended to recognize that the board may not "distribute" the programs it develops. See comments under section 33.47 with regard to the proposed changes to the last paragraph.