

Agency Bulletin

March 2009

Recognition of Out-of Jurisdiction Certificates

In order to comply with the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) and the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT), WorkSafeBC has implemented a process for accepting the credentials of workers trained or certified in Canadian jurisdictions to meet regulatory compliance in British Columbia (BC).

Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT)

One of the purposes of the Agreement is to eliminate or reduce measures that restrict labour mobility in Canada. To that end, the BC Government agreed to recognize workers already certified in another province/territory (i.e. certified, licensed, or registered by a regulatory authority) as eligible for certification in BC.

Labour mobility occurs when certified workers from other jurisdictions are recognized without any additional training, experience, examinations or assessments.

Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA)

This Agreement applies to regulators in BC and Alberta that relate to trade, investment, and labour mobility. Regulators shall mutually recognize or otherwise reconcile their existing standards and regulations that operate to restrict or impair trade, investment or labour mobility.

Labour mobility occurs when certified workers from other jurisdictions are recognized without any additional training, experience, examinations or assessments.

In accordance with the labour mobility requirements in the Agreements, WorkSafeBC will recognize any worker who has current certification in an occupation from a Canadian regulatory authority as qualified to work in BC provided:

- The certificate is a condition of employment under the Workers Compensation Act of BC and/or the WorkSafeBC Occupational Health and Safety Regulation;
- The competencies related to the out-of-jurisdiction certification applies to competencies required for the same work in BC; and
- The worker complies with the WorkSafeBC registration application process for the occupation.

The issuance of out-of-jurisdiction certificates for occupational training that falls under the TILMA and AIT, involves different groups:

- Occupational First Aid, Level 3/Advanced, certification will be issued by the first aid training agencies that currently partner with WorkSafeBC.
- Crane operator certification will be issued by the BC Association for Crane Safety
- Blasting certification will be issued by WorkSafeBC

As of April 1st, workers certified by, or for, a regulatory authority in Canada, will present their certificates to a BC agency and, in accordance with the registration application procedure, be issued a BC certificate.

For First Aid Out of Jurisdiction Certification

For Occupational First Aid Level 1 and Level 3 the certification process will involve the First Aid Training Agencies that currently partner with WorkSafeBC.

First Aid Training Agencies will, for a fee, issue Level 1 certification based on presentation of Emergency or Standard out-of-jurisdiction certificates or Level 3 certification based on presentation of Advanced out-of-jurisdiction certificates.

Level 1 agencies are authorized to issue Level 1 out-of-jurisdiction certificates only.

Level 3 agencies are authorized to issue Level 1 and Level 3 out-of-jurisdiction certificates.

Attached along with this bulletin is a copy of:

- The Jurisprudence Package
- The Registration/Application Form
- The Provincial First Aid Requirements List

The Jurisprudence Package references all the pertinent sections of the Act, Regulations, Guidelines, Policies and Standards that govern the administration of First Aid services to workers in BC industry. In addition, this package also includes a description of an effective First Aid Program for industry and describes the expected role of the First Aid Attendant.

The Home Study Package to be provided to the Level 3 applicants will be distributed in the near future. If one is required immediately please call Certification Services. A disk containing the appropriate information for each of the levels, including the Reference and Training Manuals, will be created and made available for all agencies upon request.

First Aid Agency process for issuing out-of-jurisdiction first aid certificates

1. Check attendant's identification to ensure name matches (please refer to Agency Guideline Appendix A: Student Identification).
2. Check the certificate against the Provincial First Aid Requirements list and/or attached links for acceptance for industry in another Province or Territory
3. Check the expiry date on the certificate.
4. Have the attendant sign the registration/application form (note the two "agreement" clauses).
5. Explain that there are specific requirements for designated first aid attendants in BC that may be different from their jurisdiction. The package explains the BC requirements and provides a home-study guide for the Level 3 attendant to complete (at the attendant's convenience).
Provide the attendant with the appropriate information:
 - Level 1:
 - Jurisprudence Package
 - Level 1 Reference and Training Manual
 - Level 3:
 - Jurisprudence Package
 - Home Study Package
 - Level 3 Reference and Training Manual
6. Issue the attendant a BC certificate for the appropriate level with an expiry date that matches the expiry date on the out-of-jurisdiction certificate and a statement that indicates it is an "**out-of-jurisdiction**" certificate

Questions about the process for achieving BC certification should be directed to Certification Services at 604-276-3090.

2009 Agency Meetings



We are conducting the agency meetings starting mid April and continuing through May. Please see the schedule below for dates, times and meeting room locations.

We have many important issues to discuss this time around so it is essential for agency owners to attend or failing that have a representative attend. It is also important for in-house agencies to be represented at these meetings.

Subjects that will be discussed include:

- Upcoming changes to OFA course protocols to accommodate TILMA
- Time frame for proposed changes
- Certification accepted in other Canadian jurisdictions
- Acceptable class sizes
- Certificate duration
- Requirement for medicals
- Performance evaluations

FIRST AID AGENCY MEETINGS – 2009

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Oliver Woods Community Centre Monarch Room 6000 Oliver Road Nanaimo, BC	April 16, 2009	9:00 am – 1:00 pm
WorkSafeBC Auditorium 6951 Westminster Highway Richmond, BC	April 21, 2009	1:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Best Western Inn 2400 Highway 97 North Kelowna, BC	April 23, 2009	12:30 pm to 4:30 pm
Four Points by Sheraton 1175 Rogers Way Kamloops, BC	April 29, 2009	9:30 am to 1:00 pm
Esther's Inn 1151 Commercial Cr. Prince George, BC	May 5, 2009	9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Coast Inn of the West 4620 Lakelse Avenue Terrace, BC	May 7, 2009	9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Quality Inn Northern Grand 9830 - 100th Avenue Fort St. John, BC	May 14, 2009	9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Prestige Lakeside Resort & Convention Centre 701 Lakeside Drive Nelson, BC	May 21, 2009	9:00 am to 1:00 pm