

Changes to Health and Safety Executive guidance on first aid at work

Current advice on the requirements for first aid in the work place can be found in the Approved Code of Practice (ACOP)L74 (Second Edition) a copy can be downloaded at http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/priced/174.pdf

Following recommendations set out in the Löfstedt Review of health & safety legislation there have been changes to the regulations which removes the requirement for HSE to approve the training and qualifications of appointed first-aid personnel, and incorporates additional amendments brought about by other previous legislative changes. Associated guidance has been updated to assist employers in their selection of first-aid training providers.

Amended Health and Safety (First-Aid) Regulations are expected to come into force on 1 October 2013.A draft version of L74 (Third Edition) is available for download at http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/priced/174draft.pdf. If you download a copy before 1 October, the draft may be subject to further change before the third edition comes into effect so do check the HSE website after that date.

This guidance is aimed at employers and provides guidance on:

- managing the provision of first aid (first-aid kit, equipment, rooms etc)
- requirements and training for first-aiders
- requirements for appointed persons
- making employees aware of first-aid arrangements
- first aid and the self-employed
- cases where first-aid regulations do not apply

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The above information is designed to provide, for guidance purposes only. a general introductory summary of the subject matters covered. It does not purport to be exhaustive, nor to provide legal advice, nor should it be used as a substitute for such advice. It is essential that professional advice is sought before any decision is taken.