

CPR and First Aid Training Updates

GSUSA sets the requirements for CPR and First Aid trainings in the Safety Activity Checkpoints. In response to COVID-19, GSUSA has allowed council's to approve select online-only CPR and First Aid providers to fulfill the first-aider requirements detailed in the Safety Activity Checkpoints.

GSSEF will now accept online-only American Red Cross Adult, Child & Baby First Aid/CPR/AED certification. This course provides knowledge and skills for emergency life-saving techniques involving infants, children, and adults. **This is the ONLY GSSEF approved online only course & vendor for instruction prior to passing Phase 3 of the COVID reopening process; no other online-only classes will be accepted.** The cost is currently \$35. Please visit www.redcross.org to register for this online-only class.

Certification Cards need to be printed from American Red Cross website upon completion of course. Participant is responsible for printing certification cards as proof of completion of course for First Aider role as a GSSEF volunteer and providing the card to customercare@gssef.org.

In-person First Aid/CPR/AED for Adult & Child training Certifications are still accepted for the GSSEF First Aider role, at this time, in addition to the above online only option.

It is not required that you take a First Aid & CPR Training offered by GSSEF, but if you do have the opportunity to attend a training offered elsewhere it must be a class listed with one of the approved organizations in the chart below:

Certifying Organization	Courses fulfilling Level 1 first-aider requirements	Courses fulfilling Level 2 first aid requirements*
American Heart Association	Heartsaver First Aid CPR AED With Pediatric CPR AED Module	
American Red Cross (ARC)	Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED	Wilderness and Remote First Aid
American Safety and Health Institute (ASHI)	CPR, AED, & First Aid Combo	Basic Wilderness First Aid
National Safety Council (NSC)	NSC First Aid, CPR & AED	NSC Advanced First Aid, CPR & AED
Before participating in a class offered by an organization not listed here, please check with customercare@gssef.org to ensure the class meets the GSUSA training requirements.		

CPR and First Aid FAQ's

What is the difference between the "Adult CPR/AED" class and "CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer"?

The "Adult CPR/AED" class is for the general public. "CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer" is for individuals who have a job-related duty to respond to emergencies.

What's the difference between a Level 1 & a Level 2 First Aider?

A level 1 first aider is someone who has taken a CPR/AED/First aid course by one of our approved providers. A level 2 first aider is someone who has taken advanced CPR/AED/First aid.

When is a Level 1 First Aider needed?

The GSSEF Volunteer Policies and Procedures requires that a volunteer First Aider attend all troop trips. The Policies and Procedures also require a First Aider to be present at each separate site for all Service Unit and troop programs held at any camp property.

When is a Level 2 First Aider needed?

See the Safety Activity Checkpoints to verify for your particular activity. A level 2 first aider is required when the EMS is located 30+ minutes from the activity or 200+ people participate in the activity.

What courses are required for Level 2 First Aid?

GSSEF will accept American Red Cross Wilderness First Aid or First Aid Responding to Emergencies or Emergency Response as meeting level 2 first aid requirements. GSSEF requires level 2 first aiders to have current certification in AED use and infant CPR from a GSUSA approved agency. Level 2 certification can be used to satisfy the requirement for a level 1 first aider.

What is an automated external defibrillator (AED)?

An AED is a portable device used to bring the heart back to normal rhythm for people who are in cardiac arrest. The AED will analyze and, if needed, shock the patient in order to restore normal heart rhythm.

Can being a Nurse, Nurse Practitioner, Physician Assistant or Physician take the place of the required training?

A copy of their current medical license can replace the first aid training. Additionally, a current CPR certification from an approved provider should be presented along with the medical license.

Can being a paramedic, military medic, or emergency medical technician (EMT) take the place of the required training?

Yes. Each must be able to provide proof of current certification.

Can being a Dentist or Dental Hygienist take the place of the required training?

No.

How much is the certification course?

The cost of a CPR/AED or First Aid course can vary depending on the instructor, materials provided and location. The average cost per class is \$40-\$60.

Is Financial Assistance available?

Yes! Financial Assistance is available to adult members who are currently registered adult volunteers with Girl Scouts of Southeast Florida. It provides up to \$50.00 per Girl Scout year for training opportunities. The Girl Scout membership year runs October 1 - September 30 annually. Examples of adult volunteer training opportunities include: Troop Camp Training (aka. TCT), Canoeing, Archery, First Aid/CPR and enrichment opportunities. Financial Assistance that is granted for training that is not sponsored by GSSEF is paid directly to the provider. More information and the application can be found on our website by clicking [here](#).

If GSSEF doesn't take my certification, can you get your money back?

Before paying for a class, check with the instructor/authorized provider about their refund policy.

Other items to keep in mind:

There are lots of CPR classes available online. Unfortunately, many of these are scams. This is why the **ONLY approved online-only course currently recognized by GSSEF is American Red Cross Adult, Child & Baby First Aid/CPR/AED certification**. This class covers all of the components necessary to fulfill the GSUSA training requirement. **No other online-only classes will be accepted to fulfill the training requirement.**

Certified Instructors are required by their organization to pay for the course materials, purchase authorized cards, and pay an authorized provider fee for each student taught.

BEWARE of any "Authorized Provider" who creates and distributes their own cards without endorsement or approval from a certifying organization like those listed in the chart above.

Classes that offer training using "compression-only" CPR are inexpensive but do not cover Adult, Child & Baby First Aid/CPR/AED. Certifications for "compression-only" CPR are not acceptable.