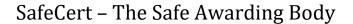


## **Qualification Specification**



Version 1.0 – June 2024 (For use in England, Scotland and Wales)

SafeCert Level 3 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work Qualification Number – SC24 02





**Document Control** 

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#### **Qualification Title:**

### SafeCert Level 3 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work

This qualification consists of one mandatory unit

• Unit 1: Emergency First Aid in the Workplace

#### Introduction

This Qualification Specification is designed to outline all you need to know in order to achieve this qualification. If you have any further questions, please contact SafeCert Awards Ltd.

#### **Qualification Details**

The SafeCert Level 3 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work is Accredited by SafeCert Awards. This qualification has a value of 1 credit. This is a 1-day course (minimum 6 hours) based in the classroom. The course can be taught over 3 sessions of 2 hours, but the minimum time for each session must be 2 hours or a maximum period of 6 weeks.

#### **Qualification Structure**

The purpose of this unit is to assess the knowledge, understanding and skills required to deal with a range of emergencies requiring first aid in the workplace. This unit meets The Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981 in respect of Emergency First Aid at Work. This unit forms part of the Emergency First Aid at Work (EFAW) and First Aid at Work (FAW) qualifications.

#### **Emergency First Aid in the Workplace – Unit Summary of Learning Outcomes**

This unit has seven Learning outcomes:

- 1. Understand the role and responsibilities of a first aider
- 2. Be able to assess an emergency situation safely
- 3. Be able to provide first aid to an unresponsive casualty
- 4. Be able to provide first aid to a casualty who is choking
- 5. Be able to provide first aid to a casualty with external bleeding
- 6. Know how to provide first aid to a casualty who is suffering from shock
- 7. Know how to provide first aid to a casualty with minor injuries

#### **Mode of Delivery and Assessment**

Assessment by the tutor is ongoing. with practical observation tests on practical skills culminating in a multiple-choice question paper.

### SafeCert - The Safe Awarding Body

There are detailed requirements for the delivery and assessment of these qualifications, guidance on which is specified in this document. Therefore, delivery and assessment must be undertaken in line with this guidance, regardless of the mode of delivery chosen.

#### **External Documents Relating to the Qualification**

There are a range of additional documents available, pertaining to this qualification. The main ones are as follows:

- Tutor/Assessor & IQA Support Guidance for this award. This is the assessment guidance together with the assessments. (This is only given to approved SafeCert centres for this award).
- Assessment Principles for Regulated First Aid Qualifications: These are the agreed assessment
  principles for all awarding bodies providing first aid awards from the First Aid Awarding Body
  Forum (see FAAOF on website links on the last page of this document)
- Centre Handbook. (This is only for approved SafeCert centres).
- There are other documents and policies such as details of the appeals procedure and reasonable adjustments. These can be found on the 'About Us' page on the SafeCert website.

Centre's must be approved by SafeCert Awards, before they can provide any of the SafeCert Award qualifications. Qualification's approval can be included during the initial centre approval process. If a centre wishes to seek approval for further awards after the initial approval, they should complete and submit the additional awards approval form.

More Information about your qualification can be found on our website: www.safecertawards.com



Unit: Emergency First Aid in the Workplace

Purpose of the unit is for the learner to attain knowledge and practical competences required to deal

with a range of workplace first aid situations				
Learning	Assessment Criteria	Indicative Content		
Outcome				
1. Understand the role and responsibilities of a first aider	1.1 Identify the role and responsibilities of a first aider  1.2 Identify how to	Identification of the roles and responsibilities of a first aider may include:  Preventing cross infection Recording incidents and actions Safe use of available equipment Assessing an incident Summoning appropriate assistance Prioritising treatment Dealing with post incident stress Minimising the risk of infection may include: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)		
	minimise the risk of infection to self and others	<ul> <li>Hand hygiene</li> <li>Disposal of contaminated waste</li> <li>Using appropriate dressings</li> <li>Barrier devices during rescue breaths</li> <li>Covering own cuts</li> <li>Others may include casualties, work colleagues or people within the workplace environment.</li> <li>Identifying the need to gain consent may include:</li> </ul>		
	1.3 Identify the need for consent to provide first aid	<ul><li>Gaining consent</li><li>Implied consent</li></ul>		
2. Be able to assess an emergency situation safely	2.1 Conduct a scene survey	<ul> <li>Conducting a scene survey may include:</li> <li>Checking for further danger</li> <li>Identifying the number of casualties</li> <li>Evaluating what happened</li> <li>Prioritising treatment</li> <li>Delegating tasks</li> </ul>		
	2.2 Conduct a primary survey of a casualty	The primary survey sequence may include:  Danger Response Airway Breathing Circulation		
	2.3 Summon appropriate assistance when necessary	Summoning appropriate assistance may include:  Shouting for help Calling 999/112 via speakerphone or bystander Leaving the casualty to call 999/112 Calling an NHS emergency helpline such as 111		
3. Be able to provide first	3.1 Identify when to administer Cardio	Identifying when to administer CPR must include:  • When the casualty is unresponsive and:  • Not breathing		





aid to an unresponsive casualty	Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR	Not breathing normally/agonal breathing
Casualty	3.2 Demonstrate adult CPR using a manikin	Demonstrating CPR must include:  • 30 chest compressions  • Correct hand positioning  • 5-6cm compression depth  • 100-120 per minute  • 2 rescue breaths  • Correct rescue breath positioning  • Blowing steadily into mouth (about 1 sec to make chest rise)  • Taking no longer than 10 seconds to deliver 2 breaths  • AED (Defibrillator)  • Correct placement of AED pads  • Following AED instructions  CPR – minimum demonstration time of 2 minutes at floor level  May additionally include use of rescue breath barrier devices
	3.3 Identify when to place a casualty into the recovery position	Identifying when to place the casualty into the recovery position should include when the casualty has lowered levels of response and:  • Does not need CPR • Is breathing normally • Is uninjured An injured casualty may be placed in the recovery position if the airway is at risk (e.g. fluids in the airway or you need to leave the casualty to get help)
	3.4 Demonstrate how to place a casualty into the recovery position	Placing a casualty into the recovery position may include:  Placing in a position that maintains a stable, open, draining airway at floor level  Continually monitoring airway and breathing  Turning the casualty onto the opposite side every 30 minutes  Placing heavily pregnant casualty on their left side
	3.5 Demonstrate continual monitoring of breathing whilst the casualty is in the recovery position	Continually monitoring airway and breathing includes:     Continual checking for normal breathing to ensure that cardiac arrest can be identified immediately
	3.6 Identify how to administer first aid to a casualty who is experiencing a seizure	Administering first aid to a casualty having a generalised seizure may include:  • Keeping the casualty safe (removing dangers)  • Noting the time and duration of the seizure  • Opening airway and checking breathing post seizure  • Determining when to call 999/112



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4. Be able to provide first aid to a casualty who is choking	4.1 Identify when a casualty is choking	Identifying mild choking may include recognising the casualty is able to:  Speak  Cough  Breathe Identifying severe choking may include recognising the casualty is:  Unable to cough effectively  Unable to speak  Unable or struggling to breathe  In visible distress  Unconscious
	4.2 Demonstrate how to administer first aid to a casualty who is choking	Administering first aid for choking should include the following:  • Encouraging to cough  • Up to 5 back blows  • Up to 5 abdominal thrusts  • Calling 999/112 when required  • CPR if unconscious
5. Be able to provide first aid to a a casualty with external bleeding	5.1 Identify whether external bleeding is life-threatening  5.2 Demonstrate how to administer first aid to a casualty with external bleeding	Identifying the severity of arterial bleeding may include recognising the blood:  Is under pressure Spurts in time with the heartbeat Recognition that arterial bleeding Is a lifethreatening emergency  Identifying the severity of venous bleeding may include recognising the blood: Volume in veins is comparable to arteries Flows profusely from the wound Recognition that venous bleeding Is a lifethreatening emergency For context - identifying capillary bleeding may include recognising that blood trickles from the wound. Capillary bleeding Is not a life-threatening emergency  Administering first aid for external bleeding may include: Maintaining aseptic technique Siting or laying the casualty Examining the wound Applying direct pressure onto (or into) the wound Dressing the wound Catastrophic bleeding treatment may include: Wound packing Tourniquet application Improvised tourniquet application
6. Know how to provide first aid to a casualty who is	6.1 Recognise when a casualty is suffering from shock	Shock: hypovolaemic shock (resulting from blood loss) Hypovolaemic shock recognition may include:  Pale, clammy skin Fast, shallow breathing Rise in pulse rate





suffering from shock	6.2 Identify how to administer first aid to a casualty who is suffering from shock	<ul> <li>Cyanosis</li> <li>Dizziness/passing out when sitting or standing upright</li> <li>Administering first aid for hypovolaemic shock may include:</li> <li>Treating the cause</li> <li>Casualty positioning</li> <li>Keeping the casualty warm</li> <li>Calling 999/112</li> </ul>
7. Know how to provide first aid to a casualty with minor injuries	7.1 Identify how to administer first aid to a casualty with:  • Small cuts  • Grazes  • Bruises  • Small splinters  • Nosebleeds	Administering first aid for small cuts and grazes may include:  Irrigation  Dressing Administering first aid for bruises may include:  Cold compress for 10 minutes Small splinter removal may include the following steps:  Cleaning of area  Remove with tweezers  Dress Administering first aid for a nosebleed may include:  Sitting the casualty down, head tipped forwards  Pinching the soft part of the nose  Telling the casualty to breathe through their mouth
	7.2 Identify how to administer first aid to a casualty with minor burns and scalds	Administering first aid for minor burns and scalds may include:  Cooling for 20 minutes Removing jewellery and loose clothing Covering the burn Determining when to seek advice

Additional Information about the award				
Qualification Number	SC24 02	Level 3		3
Minimum Learning Hours	6 Hours	Credit	Credit 1	
Support for the award from SSC or another appropriate body	SafeCert	Assessment requirements and guidance	This award shou assessed and quaccordance with Assessment Gu	uality assured in SafeCert
Indicative Content	The purpose of the indicative content in this unit is to provide an indication of the context behind each assessment criteria. This is not intended to be exhaustive or set any absolute boundaries			



#### **Guidance Notes on Delivery**

This qualification is designed for any employee who may need to provide emergency first aid in the workplace. The qualification has a minimum contact time of 6 hours; it can be completed in 1 day.

There are detailed requirements for the delivery and assessment of these qualifications specified in this document. Therefore, delivery and assessment must be undertaken in line with this guidance, regardless of the mode of delivery chosen.

Any training materials used for assessment purposes must either be endorsed by SafeCert beforehand or approved by the SafeCert external quality assurer before their usage in line with this document.

Use of blended learning

This qualification may be delivered by blended learning where the following principles are adhered to:

- The time taken to complete the first aid course should not be reduced. There may be a benefit to flexibility, but blended learning should not reduce the overall time required to take the course.
- A minimum of two-thirds of the training time should be face-to-face learning
- The practical content of the learning outcomes should be delivered and assessed face-to-face. Distance learning must only cover theory.

Following the distance element of learning, learners' skills and knowledge must be assessed in full during the face-to-face part of the course, in accordance with the qualification specification.

#### **Prerequisites**

Age - Candidates must be 14 years or above.

#### **Qualification Structure**

This qualification consists of one mandatory unit, the details of which are included on page 5 of this document.

This qualification is typically delivered in one day in a classroom setting or it can be completed over 3 sessions, each a minimum of 2 hours, completed within a 6 week period. The validity of each certificate will expire after 3 years after which it needs to be renewed.

It is also strongly advised, to do annual refresher training, as per HSE guidance, to keep up to date with CPR and other practical skills.



#### **Opportunities for Progression**

Successful completers can progress to:

• SafeCert Level 3 Award in First Aid at Work

#### **Pre-Qualification Procedures**

The qualification is designed to be delivered free from any barriers that restrict access or progression thereby promoting equal opportunities.

#### **ID Checking**

All candidates must be instructed to bring photographic identification to the assessment to be checked by the assessor. This instruction should be given ahead of the course/assessment when the candidate registers and/or with any pre-course materials.

It is the responsibility of the centre to have systems in place to ensure that the person taking an examination/assessment is indeed the person they are purporting to be. All centres are therefore required to ensure that each candidate's photographic identification is checked before they are allowed to undertake the examination/assessment and write the type of photo identification provided by each candidate on the candidate List under "identification provided".

#### **Criminal Records Checks**

Centres should note that it is now a requirement for teachers in further education to undergo a Criminal Records Bureau check.

#### **Initial Assessment**

All centres need to carry out an initial assessment that identifies what competence and knowledge a candidate has already so that this can be taken into account. This should be recorded so that centres can identify any associated special requirements and record this in appropriate plans.



#### **SECTION 2 – ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW**

#### **Delivery / Assessment Ratios**

To effectively deliver and assess this qualification, it is recommended that centres do not exceed the ratio of 1 qualified tutor/assessor to 12 candidates. It is essential that all candidates get the teaching practice and support requirement, which would be extremely difficult if the number of candidates increased to more than 12. If a centre wishes to increase this ratio, it must first request approval and state how they would support candidate needs.

Please note, a student cannot assume responsibility in the workplace, until they reach the age of 16, and then it is the employer's responsibility, to ensure that the student is suitable for that role.

#### **Guidance on Assessment**

SafeCert has worked with subject specialists to develop a robust and streamlined assessment process, which includes the following:

- 1. Multiple Choice Assessment Candidates are assessed with a multiple-choice assessment.
- 2. Practical Skills Assessment Candidates are assessed on all practical skills during the course, which is outlined in the tutor/assessor/IQA guidance document.

Full details and assessment materials are recorded in the Tutor/Assessor/IQA guidance support information.

#### **Guidance on Internal Quality Assurance**

SafeCert centres are required to have a robust internal quality assurance system. The internal quality assurance must be completed by a suitably qualified person who has not been involved in the delivery or assessment of the award.

The internal quality assurer's role is to monitor the assessment of the qualification and delivery. This can be completed in several ways such as observing a course delivery/assessment, sampling assessments, candidate interviews in person or by telephone etc.

All assessment materials must be kept at the centre for a minimum of 3 years and made available for any quality assurance checks.

#### **Guidance on External Quality Assurance**

SafeCert approved centres are required to be externally quality assured to support centres in the implementation and management of the award and ensure the validity and value of the qualification.

SafeCert Awards employs a risk-based model to decide the frequency of EQA visits and each approved centre will receive at least one EQA visit within a 3-year cycle. In addition to the EQA visits SafeCert Awards will also conduct the following:



- Sample desktop EQA spot checks on assessment This is where we will ask a sample of
  centres each year to send in all their assessment paperwork so we can conduct an EQA
  desktop approval on assessment.
- Sample EQA centre visits on observation of assessment This is where we will conduct a sample of visits to monitor assessments during the assessment process at the centre.

SafeCert centres, must provide access to all records, for any EQA visits. Full details can be found in the centre handbook.

#### **Reassessment Procedures**

Candidates who are unsuccessful in any aspect of the assessment process will be offered one further opportunity to be reassessed in the appropriate component of the assessment, ideally within the timeframe allocated. Candidates should be aware that there will be an additional charge for conducting reassessments.

#### **Grading**

Assessment is pass/fail.

#### **Unit Certification**

Due to the qualification consisting of just one unit, all assessment components must be completed by the candidate and they must pass the centre quality assurance process to be certificated.

#### **Centre Examination Procedures**

SafeCert requires centres to monitor assessments in place:

- The assessor must keep all assessment papers in a secure locked area until the start of the assessment.
- The assessor will ensure no candidates have any written notes or other reference material during the assessment.
- The assessor will ensure the assessment room is in a quiet area and the room has an exam notice
   'Please keep quiet during the assessment'.
- The assessor will make sure there is no talking during the assessment.
- The assessor will ensure there is a suitable distance between candidates to prevent copying of answers.
- All candidates will need to sit at their desks and remain quiet until the full assessment period is complete.
- All candidates must stop writing as soon as the assessor has indicated the assessment time is completed.
- All question papers and answer sheets, should then be marked by the assessor. These are then sent to IQA for internal quality assurance of results and then held in a secure locked area, for at least the duration of the validity of the award. SafeCert will then request full assessment



materials to be sent in, if you are a new centre or for periodic EQA desktop spot-checks on assessment. During external quality assurance visits, the EQA will need access to all assessment and IQA documents. SafeCert Awards will also conduct EQA observation of assessment visits to a sample of centres each year.

#### **Facilities/Resources/Safety Considerations**

Any training or assessment site must meet the requirements of health and safety and accepted safe practice in the delivery of SafeCert Awards qualifications.

Training and assessment must be able to provide a suitable teaching area/environment conducive to candidates' learning, i.e. well lit, well ventilated and of adequate size as per the above requirements.

#### **Reasonable Adjustments**

Awarding organisations and centres are required by law to do what is 'reasonable' in terms of giving access. What is reasonable will depend on the individual circumstances, the practicality, and the effectiveness of the adjustment. Other factors, such as the need to maintain competence standards and health and safety, must also be taken into consideration.

A reasonable adjustment is any action that helps to reduce the effect of a disability or difficulty that places the candidate at a substantial disadvantage in the assessment situation.

#### Reasonable adjustments must not affect the integrity of what needs to be assessed but may include:

- Changing standard assessment arrangements, for example allowing a candidate extra time to complete the assessment activity.
- Adapting assessment materials, such as providing materials in large print.
- Providing access for facilitators during the assessment, such as a sign language interpreter or a reader.
- Re-organising the assessment room, such as removing visual stimuli for an autistic candidate.

There is a detailed list of Reasonable Adjustments listed in the Reasonable Adjustments and Special Considerations Policy on the SafeCert website on the link below, that the centre can apply without prior approval from SafeCert and these would be recorded on the candidate registration and assessment tracking record. Any other reasonable adjustment not listed must be applied for using Form RA1 in Appendix 2 and agreed upon before the assessment activity takes place.

They constitute an arrangement to give the candidate access to the assessment activity. The use of a reasonable adjustment will not be taken into consideration during the assessment of a candidate's work.

SafeCert has a Reasonable Adjustments and Special Considerations Policy which can be found on our website at the following link:

https://www.safecertawards.com/pdf/ReasonableAdjustmentsandSpecialConsiderationsPolicy.pdf or you can obtain a copy by e-mailing SafeCert at <a href="mailto:info@safecertawards.com">info@safecertawards.com</a>.



All awarding organisations and centres have a responsibility to ensure that the process of assessment is robust and fair while allowing the candidate to show what they know and can do without compromising the assessment criteria.

#### Adjustments to assessments:

- Should not invalidate the assessment requirements of the qualification.
- Should not give the candidates an unfair advantage.
- Should reflect the candidate's normal way of working.
- Should be based on the individual needs of the candidate.



#### **SECTION 3**

#### **Centre Staffing**

Ensure that there are a sufficient number of people either trained or qualified to assess the number of candidates they anticipate to register. Ensure that there are a sufficient number of people either trained or qualified to internally quality assure for the number of candidates and assessors.

Put quality assurance systems in place to ensure that all assessments are valid, reliable, authentic and sufficient while providing sufficient training and updating for the IQAs identified as being responsible for quality assurance.

Ensure that there is a system of standardisation in place to ensure that all assessments are consistent and fair, and those undertaking the roles of quality assurance and assessment maintain their skills, knowledge and understanding regarding assessment and quality assurance and the associated qualifications.

The occupational expertise of those undertaking the roles of assessment and internal verification is one of the key factors underpinning valid, fair and reliable assessment. The integrity of assessments and verifications are of paramount importance. Centres must ensure that there is sufficient time to conduct an effective assessment and internal verification.

#### **Criteria for Trainers/Assessors**

SafeCert requires that nominated trainers/assessors have teaching experience and hold a qualification in the relevant subject area.

Suitable Subject Area Qualifications may include:

- Accredited First Aid at Work Certificate
- FPOS Intermediate or First Person on Scene RQF 3 or SCQF 6
- RLSS Pool Lifeguard
- Doctor / Nurse or Paramedic are exempt from having to hold FAW certificate

Suitable teaching or assessing qualification may include.

#### **Teaching**

- PTLLS Teaching Award
- Level 3 Award in Education and Training
- Planning and Delivering Learning Sessions to Groups Level 6

#### **Assessing**

- TAQA Assessor Awards (or D32/D33/A1, A2)
- SQA Assess Work based Competence using Direct Methods
- SQA Assess Work based Competence using Direct and Indirect Methods
- Planning and Delivering Learning Sessions to Groups Level 6



Regulated FAW Assessing CPD Certificate from Awarding Body

As well as the subject knowledge and competence, the trainer/assessor should also have one or more, as required, of the approved teaching/assessing awards as listed on the previous page.

\*\*. Assessors who do not hold a formal assessing qualification may alternatively attend first aid assessor/IQA CPD Training with a recognised awarding organisation.

#### **Criteria for Internal Quality Assurers**

SafeCert requires the nominated IQA for an approved centre must hold a qualification in the relevant subject area.

#### Suitable Subject Area Qualifications may include:

- Accredited First Aid at Work Certificate
- FPOS Intermediate or First Person on Scene RQF 3 or SCQF 6
- Doctor / Nurse or Paramedic are exempt from having to hold FAW certificate

As well as the subject knowledge and competence, the IQA must also have one of the approved IQA qualifications as listed below.

Qualification	IQA*
V1 or D34	✓
Level 4 Award in the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice	✓
Level 4 Certificate in Leading the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and	✓
Practice	
Regulated Qualifications based on the Learning and Development NOS 11 Internally Monitor	<b>✓</b>
and Maintain the Quality of Assessment	
SQA Accredited Learning and Development Unit 11 Internally Monitor and Maintain the	✓
Quality of Workplace Assessment	
SQA Internally Verify the Assessment Process	✓

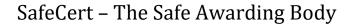
\*. IQAs who do not hold a formal IQA qualification may alternatively attend internal quality assurance CPD Training with a recognised awarding organisation.

#### **Internal Quality Assurance**

Internal quality assurance is key to ensuring that the assessment of evidence for units is of a consistent and appropriate quality. Those carrying out internal quality assurance must be occupationally knowledgeable in the area they are assuring and be qualified to make quality assurance decisions.

#### **Delivery**

The qualification must be delivered using a programme of training that is approved by SafeCert Awards, having checked that the learning outcomes have been met. A qualification can be approved by submitting the initial centre approval form during the initial approval or after with an additional awards





application form. These can be downloaded from www.safecertawards.com, or you can contact SafeCert Awards for more information.

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The programme may be applied flexibly, in accordance with candidates' needs and local circumstances; facilitators/assessors are encouraged to repeat sessions that candidates have not fully grasped or introduce additional sessions to ensure understanding and competence. It is recommended, that where possible, the theory sessions are interspersed with practical aspects.

#### **Centre Equipment Requirements**

SafeCert requires centres involved in the delivery of this qualification to have the following resources in place:

- 1 adult resuscitation manikin between a maximum of 4 candidates
- AED Trainer Units CPR must include: 'correct placement of AED pads' and follow AED instructions'. Therefore AED trainer units 1 per 4 candidates are required
- Safety procedures in place to sterilise manikin faces at end of each course, OR one disposable face shield per candidate OR manikin face wipes to be used after each candidate
- Replacement airways and lungs for each resuscitation manikin to be changed at end of each course
- Minimum of 1 disposable training dressing and 1 pair disposable gloves per candidate
- Training room that has carpeted floors and if not mats/blankets provided, for use during practical sessions
- Adequate size of training room to accommodate maximum number of candidates
- Training room must be safe and has adequate ventilation, lighting and temperature suitable for current health and safety requirements.

#### **Useful Websites**

Company	Website
<ul> <li>Health &amp; Safety Executive (HSE) First Aid Section</li> </ul>	www.hse.gov.uk/firstaid/
HSE GEIS3 A guide for employers -	www.hse.gov.uk/geis3.pdf
<ul><li>Selecting a first-aid training provider.</li><li>The Health and Safety (First-Aid)</li></ul>	www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/L74.htm
Regulations 1981. Guidance on Regulation	www.hse.gov.uk/firstaid/needs-assessment.htm
<ul><li>First aid needs assessment</li><li>SafeCert Awards</li></ul>	www.safecertawards.com