

Changes to First Aid Regulations

and how they will affect You.

Choosing a Training Agency

Due to the recent changes to part 33 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation, BC Training Ventures has expanded their business to include an evaluation first aid center. Part 33 dictates to attendants, businesses and agencies how they are to provide first aid and the requirements to maintain a safe working environment. Since October 28, 2002, there has been speculation as to how the modifications will affect the different groups involved. Essentially first aid in the workplace will remain the same, the delivery of programs and the evaluation process has changed. The following is your guide in making an informative decision as to where you should go for an evaluation and first aid training.

First Class Service:

First Aid Training agencies are providing an essential service to consumers. They have a responsibility to guarantee a clean and relaxed learning environment. The course materials should be up to date, and instructors monitored on a regular basis for quality control. A comprehensive data base should be kept. This provides businesses with the opportunity to have their attendants tracked by certification. When students are due to re-certify they are informed in writing two months prior to their expiration date. These are only a few of the services you should expect from a First Aid Training Agency!

Evaluation Center:

The changes that have had a dramatic affect on first aid is the elimination of W.C.B. first aid officers. No longer does a member of the Workers Compensation Board evaluate Level 3 and Level 2 students. This is now the responsibility of the agencies to provide this service. BC Training Ventures is proud to announce that they have three qualified evaluators.

When choosing a First Aid Training Agency, it is wise to choose one that is also an evaluation center, or has easy access to a qualified evaluation center. Things to look for in an evaluation center are: relaxed atmosphere, quiet surroundings, friendly evaluators, and first rate materials and equipment.

Instructors and Evaluators:

Interview the instructor and evaluator. Assure that you have all of your questions answered before signing up to any class. First Aid courses can be expensive; the knowledge of an instructor and evaluator's background is essential in determining whether or not a top quality program or exam will be delivered.

An evaluator should not be a student's instructor. Agencies have the option of the evaluator and instructor being one in the same. This is believed to be potential for a conflict. Evaluations can be stressful in the best situations, the addition of tension between students and evaluators should be avoided at all cost.

Looking into the Future:

Training agencies should always be able to adapt to change. With the latest adjustments to first aid regulations and the future proposed changes, an agency should be willing and able to provide the consumer with assistance in the transitions. BC Training Ventures has looked into the future and are prepared to help the employers of the North ease into new amendments and regulations when that time comes. BC Training Ventures is committed to all of their students and will provide them with a learning experience and evaluation process that is low stress and comfortable. An open invitation is extended to anyone interested in first aid to visit them. Any questions or concerns would be gladly answered.

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