

COVID19 Response: F2F Training Guideline

First Aid & Mental Health

CONTEXT

This guideline is a statement of intent by Red Cross First Aid & Mental Health (FAMH) in relation to actions and measures that will be implemented in order to ensure the safety of staff, students and the community as we continue training delivery.

The guideline should be read in conjunction with the [FAMH Infection Control Policy and Procedure](#), the Australian Red Cross *ARC COVID-19 Guidelines for the safe return to the workplace* document and current advice from [Department of Health](#).

SCOPE

This guideline is for use by all staff within the scope of FAMH, and is also intended to provide information to all stakeholders regarding our safety measures as we continue face-to-face training.

STATEMENT OF POLICY

Hygiene Measures

In addition to our standard hygiene practices in the classroom (such as sanitation of manikins, provision of face shields) which are outlined in our [Infection Control Policy and Procedure](#), FAMH will be implementing the following hygiene practices to ensure the safety of staff and students:

- Red Cross asks any students who meet the following [quarantine or isolation criteria](#) to refrain from booking and/or attending if:
 - You are experiencing symptoms such as fever, coughing, sore throat, fatigue or shortness of breath.
 - You have COVID-19
 - If are awaiting results from a COVID-19 test (do not attend until you have your results and they are negative)
 - You have been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19
 - You have been instructed to quarantine or isolate.
- Red Cross reserves the right to request students to leave classroom training if they are experiencing flu-like symptoms.
- Students are encouraged to wash their hands regularly throughout the training.
- Classroom waste is disposed appropriately
- Thorough and regular cleaning of classroom equipment including resources
- Promotion of [good personal hygiene](#) practices through print or digital resources.
- Masks will be required to be worn in accordance with state and territory-based health authority regulations.

Vaccinations

In line with Red Cross policy, trainer vaccination status has been confirmed by FAMH.

Physical Distancing

FAMH will be ensuring the safety of students, staff and the community by increasing classroom ventilation where possible and promoting good hygiene practices at all times.

CPR Assessments

Red Cross is following advice from:

- The updated advice from the Australian Industry Skills Committee from 1 September 2022 [AISC updated statement on the delivery of First Aid training](#)
- The [Australian Resuscitation Council Guidelines](#)

In line with the recommendations above, there are no current adjustments for CPR assessments from 1 September 2022.

Other Practical Activities & Assessments

In line with advice from the Australian Industry Skills Committee recommendation, there are no current adjustments for practical activities and assessments from 1 September 2022.

Staff Competency

In addition to hygiene practices, Red Cross will also ensure the competency of our staff and trainers in relation to these measures by:

- Communicating current policies and practices to all staff.
- Staff are advised of any changes to advice from Australian Industry and Skills Committee and the Australian Resuscitation Council.

CONTACT

Any questions regarding this guideline can be directed to quality@redcross.org.au

POLICY ADVISORS

- Quality & Content Manager
- Red Cross Legal Counsel
- Australian Red Cross Workplace Health & Safety

RELATED POLICIES AND LEGISLATION

- TAPOL02 [Infection Control Policy & Procedure](#).
- Australian Red Cross document: *ARC COVID-19 Guidelines for the Safe Return to the Workplace*.
- [Australian Government Department of Health](#) (and related warnings).
- Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) [advice about face-to-face training](#).
- [Australian Resuscitation Council](#).

- The Australian Skills Industry Committee [AISC updated statement on the delivery of First Aid training](#).
- In the case of ventilations used while performing CPR, the [ARC guidelines ANZCOR Guideline 5 – Breathing](#) are specific in the recommendation to provide ventilations.
- RTOs should comply with the [Australian guidelines for the prevention and control infection healthcare-2019](#) and support the use of resuscitation barriers and other personal protective equipment as required.

PUBLISHING DETAILS

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Relevance:	All staff of Red Cross First Aid & Mental Health.
Circulation:	To be published in policy and procedure documents, website

POLICY HISTORY

Version	Version Approval Date	Approver	Summary of Changes
1.0	12/5/2020	Head of FAMH	Implemented policy & procedure
2.0	13/7/2020	Head of FAMH	Updating wording to include lockdowns i.e. Victoria restrictions
3.0	7/5/2021	Head of FAMH	Updating reasonable adjustment procedure, AISC and ARC statements of delivery
4.0	6/10/2021	Quality Manager	Updated to reflect state-based vaccination requirements, include masks
5.0	24/8/2022	Quality Manager	Removal of COVID adjustments to assessments, mask and physical distancing mandates