

EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE

- ▶ First aid attendants working in industrial or other settings must hold a valid certificate of Occupational First Aid (Level 1, 2, or 3) issued by WorkSafeBC or the equivalent.
- ▶ Occupational First Aid (OFA) Level 3-certified First Aid Attendants can work on any provincial workplace as a designated attendant. An attendant possessing a Level 2 certificate is limited to working within 20 minutes (driving time) to a hospital. A Level 1 attendant is limited to workplaces with small numbers of employees.

TRAINING

All three levels of first aid certification are offered by First Aid Training Agencies. The agencies are responsible for training, examinations and certification. An up-to-date list of all first aid training agencies is available on the WorkSafeBC website (www.worksafebc.com).

If you are interested in completing Grade 12 or upgrading your skills, you have a number of options. Check out adult basic education programs at:

- ▶ The College of New Caledonia.
- ▶ Coast Mountain College

If you have completed Grade 12 and are interested in exploring your career options in exploration and mining, contact:

- ▶ General education advisors or First Nations Access coordinators at Coast Mountain College
- ▶ School of Exploration & Mining advisors at Coast Mountain College
- ▶ Academic advisors at the College of New Caledonia

CAREER ADVANCEMENT POTENTIAL

- ▶ First aid attendants with Occupational First Aid Level 3 qualification may take a bridging course to qualify for Emergency Medical Responder licensing in BC. First aid attendants may also pursue careers in Occupational Health and Safety.

FIRST AID ATTENDANTS

First aid attendants care for those who are injured or who become ill at the workplace. They assess the seriousness of the situation and determine if and what treatment is needed. In cases which require medical care, the first aid attendant will provide treatment to maintain the patient and minimize the consequences of the injury until medical treatment is delivered. First aid attendants also treat minor injuries that would otherwise not receive, or that do not require, medical treatment.



Image source: MiHR Council and iStock

JOB DESCRIPTION

First Aid Attendants perform some or all of the following duties:

- ▶ Assess extent of injuries or medical illnesses of ill or injured individuals to determine emergency medical treatment.
- ▶ May clean and bandage wounds, give oxygen and keep air passages clear in cases of choking. They also make sure the patient does not move in cases of spine or head injuries and they keep the patient warm and comfortable.
- ▶ Transport patients by air, land or water to hospital or other medical facility for further medical care.
- ▶ Document and record nature of injuries and illnesses and treatment provided.
- ▶ May train and supervise other workers in this unit group.
- ▶ May assist with triage of emergency patients.