

March 1, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

The following is a response from the International Occupational Health & Safety Association (IOHSA) regarding their training standards and certifying authority. International Occupational Health & Safety Association (IOHSA) training is compliant with OSHA regulations 29 CFR Directive CPL-02-02-053 and United States Department of Labor requirements for Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Automated External Defibrillator (AED), Blood Borne Pathogen (BBP) and other First Aid, Emergency Preparedness, or Safety Training.

The International Occupational Health & Safety Association (IOHSA) is composed of licensed individuals that have reviewed and approved prepared curriculum in the areas of first aid, CPR, safety and emergency care. IOHSA has reviewed pertinent training standards and is a certifying authority in curriculum for Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), First Aid, Automated External Defibrillators (AED), Oxygen, and Blood Borne Pathogen (BBP) or Universal Precautions courses.

Medical Certifying Authority

The organization IOHSA has licensed medical & instructional source authorities that support and provide International Occupational Health & Safety Association (IOHSA) Training Programs. The curriculum ensures compliance with the statutory or regulatory requirements related to the teaching of CPR, Basic First Aid and Infectious Disease Prevention. The curriculum is based on the knowledge of medical and bioscience professionals and is based upon universal standards and international first aid and CPR science. The process of achieving this medical knowledge is gained through research and the practice of medicine by licensed physicians, paramedics, nurses and other healthcare professionals. Information is obtained and documented through medical practice and this research is evaluated and debated in formal and informal education settings, peer-reviewed medical journals, conferences, seminars and other similar processes. This information is investigated both privately and publicly and is studied regarding if it is internationally acceptable, safe, ethical and cost-effective. Information that survives the rigors of this process and meets with widespread agreement among experts does become generally accepted within the medical community. The information or concepts achieving general medical acceptance are published in texts and journals to be relied upon by practicing health care professionals. Universities and educational organizations, such as International Occupational Health & Safety Association (IOHSA) develop program content based upon published research & literature and tailor training materials for their customer's training and safety needs.

International CPR guidelines are overseen and published by the American Heart Association (AHA) Emergency Cardiovascular Care (ECC) committee and ILCOR circulations. In the updated CPR guidelines publication the AHA clearly states, "The term standards has been misunderstood and has often been given legal implications it was never intended to convey. For this reason the term has been

avoided in this publication. The term “standards” has been replaced by guidelines and recommendations.” Every several years, the American Heart Association sponsors a national conference designed to highlight and debate recent developments in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and emergency cardiac care. Resulting guidelines describe the current state of medical knowledge in the areas of CPR, Emergency Cardiac Care (ECC) for the general public, workplaces with trained individuals, and health care professionals. American Heart Association Guidelines--as published in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) and Circulation or Resuscitation --provide a readily available and identifiable source authority for emergency cardiac care training program content. This exceptional document makes it possible for organizations like International Occupational Health & Safety Association (IOHSA), American Red Cross, National Safety Council, American Safety & Health Institute, and even American Heart Association, to develop high quality CPR education training programs and even provides a common ground of curriculum to extend internationally across the globe, through ILCOR member organizations.

Unlike the realm of CPR, no single consensus document exists establishing First Aid training program guidelines. In fact, no single agency / association or regulatory body is responsible for determining appropriate First Aid treatment guidelines for the layperson. Thus, training program developers like International Occupational Health & Safety Association (IOHSA), American Safety & Health Institute (ASHI), American Red Cross, the National Safety Council, and MEDIC First Aid must research and document appropriate source authorities supporting program content. Interestingly, many statutes and regulations specifically identify certain first aid and CPR training programs as meeting statutory or regulatory requirements. Many of these laws authorize other programs to offer first aid and CPR training if approved or deemed equivalent.

However, there “exists no national consensus guidelines” against which to compare program content for purposes of approval and no measure against which to determine equivalency. Moreover, government agencies often lack the authority and expertise necessary to objectively evaluate first aid training materials submitted for review.

Contrary to popular belief, the American Red Cross nor American Heart Association do not establish first aid practice or training program guidelines. All first aid training programs, including the Red Cross, must conform program content to the current state of medical knowledge as evidenced by published medical texts and journals.

Naming any single organization in statute or regulation often has the unintended consequence of discouraging enterprising approaches to first aid and CPR training and reducing the number of qualified first aid and CPR training programs available to serve the public. This practice also places government in the position of sanctioning particular programs thus discouraging or eliminating competition. Governments acting in this capacity are put at risk without any supporting public policy rationale.

The International Occupational Health & Safety Association (IOHSA) is committed to delivering exemplary First Aid, CPR as well as other emergency care and safety training. Furthermore, the organization promotes a standardized instructional system designed in concert with professionals. The program development process draws upon the talent and experience of recognized experts in the field, outside consultants, and diligent research and studies.

To ensure that program content and medical treatment guidelines used in International Occupational Health & Safety Association (IOHSA) programs are safe, effective and helpful, the International Occupational Health & Safety Association (IOHSA) relies on the following body of medical knowledge:

International Occupational Health & Safety Association (IOHSA) certified training adheres to the internationally accepted guidelines established by the International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR) Circulation and the Emergency Cardiovascular Care (ECC) Committee. The current curriculum is 2015 Consensus Conference on Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care Science compliant.

ILCOR has members and task force representatives from the American Heart Association (AHA), the International Occupational Health & Safety Association (IOHSA), the International Red Cross Society, the European Resuscitation Council (ERC), the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada (HSFC), the Inter American Heart Foundation (IAHF), the Australian and New Zealand Committee on Resuscitation (ANZCOR), the Resuscitation Council of Southern Africa (RCSA) and the Resuscitation Council of Asia.

The IOHSA CPR curriculum is equivalent to and follows the universal CPR guidelines taught by the American Heart Association (AHA), American Red Cross (ARC), American Lifeguard Association (ALA), Emergency Care & Safety Institute (ECSI), EMS Safety Services, American CPR, Health & Safety Institute (HSI), American Health & Safety Institute (ASHI), MEDIC First Aid, National Safety Council (NSC) and other major United States or international CPR training certification agencies.

International Occupational Health & Safety Association (IOHSA)'s First Aid, AED and BBP training adheres to guidelines established by the 2020 American Heart Association Guidelines for international CPR and Basic First Aid, guidelines which are followed by almost all leaders and members of ILCOR committees.

If you have further questions, please visit our website at www.iohsa.org.