



PDF - HSE Update on new First Aid courses (2nd May 2008)

After attending a meeting at the HSE's HQ in Bootle today, I can now confirm the long awaited changes to the First Aid regulations - in summary form.

- The 4-day FAW will be replaced by a 3-day FAW course. This new 3-day course will only require 1 assessor for up to 6 students and 2 assessors for 7 – 12 students. Existing providers will be able to run with this new qualification. Re-qualification will require a 2-day course every 3 years as it is now.
- The Appointed Person qualification will be replaced with a new HSE approved 1-day course called the Emergency First Aid at Work (EFAW) qualification (Minimum of 6 hours). Assessment will be ongoing by the trainer and will not require external or independent assessment. Only HSE approved providers or QCA approved awarding bodies may deliver this qualification. This means that individuals who currently teach the Appointed Person course will either have to become HSE approved or approved with an Awarding Body that currently offers this qualification (at present there are none). Requalification will require going through the full 1-day course every 3 years.
- The HSE are **strongly recommending** that all students of both the FAW and EFAW qualifications undergo annual refresher training. This is not mandatory.
- Implementation of these new programmes will be October 2009 and no provider can start running with the new programmes until this date.
- A new assessment of First Aid needs in the workplace will be developed by the HSE and will be posted as soon as their final decision has been made. It looks like the medium risk group will be removed.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact steve@nucotraining.com