

FIRST AID CERTIFICATIONS

for NYS Children’s Camp Staff

Fact Sheet – January 2026

(Go to health.ny.gov to view most current certification list)

[Subpart 7-2](#) of the State Sanitary Code requires the health director, other staff specified in section 7-2.8, and certain camp trip and activity leaders¹ to possess valid certification in first aid. The courses listed below have been accepted by the Department as being equivalent to or exceeding first aid course standards specified in Section 7-2.2(m). Some medical personnel may possess training and experience that is equivalent to or exceeds this certification requirement. Documentation demonstrating training should be submitted to the local permit-issuing official for evaluation.

Acceptable CPR certifications for camp staff are listed on the Fact Sheet [CPR Certification for NYS Children's Camps and NYS Bathing Facilities](#).

Accepted Courses	
<i>First Aid certifications are valid for the time period specified by the provider but may not exceed three years from the date of course completion.</i>	
Provider	Certification Title
American Red Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Emergency Medical Response – Title may include “Review” or “Challenge.” ➤ Responding to Emergencies – Any certification title containing the wording “Responding to Emergencies” is acceptable, including “Review” or “Challenge.” ➤ Wilderness and Remote First Aid
American Safety & Health Institute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Advanced First Aid – Certification must be accompanied by a Recognition of Participation in the ASHI training program approved by the New York State Department of Health. ➤ Wilderness First Aid
Canadian Red Cross Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Standard First Aid & CPR
Emergency Care and Safety Institute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Advanced First Aid ➤ Emergency Medical Responder ➤ Wilderness First Aid BSA (16 hours) (course title – Boy Scouts of America Wilderness First Aid) ➤ Wilderness First Aid Basic ➤ Wilderness First Aid Standard ➤ Wilderness First Aid Advanced Level
National Association for Search and Rescue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Wilderness First Aid
National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians²	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Emergency Medical Responder ➤ Emergency Medical Technician ➤ Advanced Emergency Medical Technician ➤ Paramedic
National Safety Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Emergency Medical Response ➤ Advanced First Aid (course title – Advanced First Aid, CPR & AED)
National Ski Patrol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Outdoor Emergency Care Technician
New York State Department of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Certified First Responder ➤ EMT ➤ Advanced EMT ➤ EMT - Critical Care ➤ Paramedic

Accepted Courses

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Provider	Certification Title
NOLS Wilderness Medicine Institute <i>(Formerly Wilderness Medicine Institute of the National Outdoor Leadership School)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Wilderness Advanced First Aid ➤ Wilderness First Responder ➤ Wilderness EMT
St. John Ambulance Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Medical First Responder ➤ Emergency Medical Responder ➤ Standard First Aid
SOLO Wilderness Emergency Medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Wilderness First Aid ➤ Wilderness First Responder ➤ Wilderness EMT
Wilderness Medical Associates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Wilderness Advanced First Aid ➤ Wilderness First Responder ➤ Wilderness EMT ➤ Wilderness First Aid

¹A trip leader of a camp trip that includes an activity where emergency medical care is not readily available or an activity such as wilderness hiking, rock climbing, camping, horseback riding, bicycling, swimming and/or boating shall possess or be accompanied by staff who possess certifications in one of the above acceptable courses; for camp trip swimming activities where emergency medical care is readily available, the certifications listed below may be substituted.

An activity leader of an activity on the camp property where other staff certified in first aid in accordance with Section 7-2.8 of Subpart 7-2 is not readily available, shall possess or be accompanied by staff who possess certifications in one of the above acceptable courses.

²Most states utilize the National curriculum for their EMT certifications. Individuals that can provide proof that their state utilizes the National curriculum may be accepted. EMT certifications from states that do not utilize the National curriculum may be accepted on a case-by-case basis.

At a SUMMER DAY CAMP, when the camp's program does not include equestrian, bicycling, challenge course, rock climbing, boating, riflery, archery, motorized recreational vehicles, wilderness hiking/activities, and similar activities; and emergency medical care is available within 10 minutes, the following certifications may be substituted for the above courses.

These certifications may not satisfy the requirement for camp CPR certified staff. Acceptable certifications for CPR are listed on the Fact Sheet [CPR Certification for NYS Children's Camps and NYS Bathing Facilities](#).

Provider	Certification Title
American Heart Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Heartsaver First Aid – Optional Module “Exam” must not be marked out. ➤ Heartsaver First Aid CPR AED – Optional Module “Exam” must not be marked out. ➤ Heartsaver Pediatric First Aid CPR AED – Optional Modules “Pediatric First Aid” and “Exam” must not be marked out.
American Lifeguard Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community First Aid Instructor Led – Certificate must include words “Instructor Led.”
American Aquatics & Safety Training Certification titles that include “Recertification” are acceptable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Advanced First Aid ➤ CPR/AED, Advanced First Aid
American Red Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED – Title may include “Review” or “Challenge” ➤ First Aid/CPR/AED – Title may include “Review” or “Challenge” ➤ CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers with First Aid – Title may include “Review” or “Challenge” ➤ Lifeguarding/First Aid/CPR/AED – Title may include “Review”

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Provider	Certification Title
Ellis and Associates	➤ Standard First Aid
Emergency Care and Safety Institute	➤ First Aid for NY Day Camps, Basic Level
Health & Safety Institute (HSI) Certification title may include “CPR AED”	➤ Adult First Aid ➤ Pediatric First Aid
National Safety Council	➤ First Aid (course title – First Aid <i>OR</i> First Aid, CPR & AED)