



Why have you changed the courses that you accept as alternatives to FA First Aid courses?

A comprehensive review was undertaken by The FA across all medical training provision. One critical outcome of this was the need for football specific training to be included in FA Courses, with an emphasis on saving life and limb in football. The FA Medical Pathway has been revamped to encompass this emphasis and now we are introducing changes to the courses we recognise as alternatives to FA courses, again to ensure training completed is focussed on saving a life and limb. A comprehensive mapping exercise has been undertaken to ensure we are recognising the correct courses to ensure our first aiders can save life and limb.

When can I use a recognised alternative course?

You can use a recognised alternative at the point of renewal of your FA first aid training. Everyone must first complete FA first aid training before being able to use recognised non-FA first aid training.

What courses are now accepted?

From 1 August 2018 the following courses will be accepted instead of The FA Level 1 Introduction to First Aid in Football (IFAiF) at the point of recertification only:

- Hampden National Sports First Aid course
- World Rugby First Aid in Rugby Level 1 course
- RFU Emergency First Aid in Rugby Union Level 1 course
- Irish Rugby Union SAFE Level 1 course
- Corobeus Sports Consultancy Emergency First Aid in Sport course
- St Johns Basic Sports First Aid
- The Red Cross First Aid for Sports Course
- Fitness First Aid Level 3 award in First Aid for Sport (RQF)
- ITC Level 3 Award in First Aid for Sport, Exercise and Fitness ITC Certificate for Sport Exercise and Fitness at SCQF Level 6

From 1 August 2018 the following courses will be accepted instead of The FA Level 2 Emergency First Aid in Football (EFAiF) at the point of recertification only:

- Hampden National Sports First Aid course
- World Rugby First Aid in Rugby Level 1 course
- RFU Emergency First Aid in Rugby Union Level 1 course
- Irish Rugby Union SAFE Level 1 course
- Corobeus Sports Consultancy Emergency First Aid in Sport course

From 1 August 2018 the following courses will be accepted instead of The FA Level 4 Intermediate Trauma Medical Management in Football (ITMMiF):

- RFU Level 2 Pre Hospital Immediate Care in Sport (PHICIS Level 2)
- Emergency Medical Management in Individual and Team Sports (EMMiTS)



- RFL Immediate Medical Management on the Field of Play (IMMoFP)
- RFU Pre Hospital Immediate Care in Sport (PHICIS)
- Medical Cardiac & Pitch Side Skills (SCRUMCAPS)

From 1 August 2018 the following courses will be accepted instead of The FA Level 5 Advanced Trauma Medical Management in Football (ATMMiF):

- Emergency Medical Management in Individual and Team Sports (EMMiITS)
- RFL Immediate Medical Management on the Field of Play (IMMoFP)
- RFU Pre Hospital Immediate Care in Sport (PHICIS)
- Medical Cardiac & Pitch Side Skills (SCRUMCAPS)

Note, As The FA Level 4 ITMMiF and FA Level 5 ATMMiF are Royal College of Surgeons Edinburgh (RCSEd) Faculty of Pre Hospital Care (FPHC) endorsed courses only courses endorsed at this level are accepted as alternatives at these levels.

Is the qualification that is currently on my FA Number (FAN) still valid?

Yes. The FA will recognise the qualification that is currently on FANs. At the point of renewal you will need to follow the guidance on theFA.com regarding acceptance of non-FA medical qualifications.

Why are there no recognised alternatives to The FA Level 3 Emergency Medicine First Aid in Football (EMFAiF)?

Through our benchmarking exercise it was found that no external courses met the level and content of this FA course.

I am a health care professional; can I use my professional training?

Everyone must complete an initial FA first aid course or a Royal College of Surgeons Edinburgh endorsed course that is listed as an acceptable alternative to The FA Level 4 ITMMiF or FA Level 5 ATMMiF courses. At the point of renewal, as alternatives to FA Level 1 IFAiF and Level 2 EFAiF courses the following practising allied health care professions can show evidence of their professional qualifications and relevant training, which must be one of:

- Advanced Life Support
- Advanced Trauma Life Support
- Pre Hospital Trauma Life Support
- Paediatric intermediate life support
- Paediatric advanced life support

Allied health care professions will need to submit the following:

- Confirmation of membership of relevant professional body and confirmation from employer that you are currently practising



- Evidence of training completed within the past three years; this can be a valid certificate, a formal letter from the training provider or a letter from your workplace's HR department

What constitutes an Allied Health Care Profession?

- Paramedics with IHCD paramedic course or Paramedic foundation degree or MSc in Paramedic Science, registered with the HCPC
- Nurses registered with NMC currently working in an emergency environment (Emergency department)
- Therapists with registration from BASRAT or SST
- Physiotherapists registered with the HCPC
- Doctors registered with the GMC

I work in the military / police / fire / prison service; can I use the first aid training completed as part of my job?

No. Throughout our review it has been deemed that the training completed by members of these services does not cover content that would enable the individual to be able to save a life and limb in football. Therefore these individuals must first complete an FA medical course; they can then follow The FA's guidance on non-FA medical courses.

I have completed one of the courses listed as a recognised alternative to FA first aid courses, why must I first complete an FA Level 1 Introduction to First Aid in Football (IFAiF) course first?

To ensure everyone has the same foundation and are equipped with the necessary football-specific first aid knowledge, understanding and skills that are not covered on other sports first aid courses.

I have completed one of the courses listed as a recognised alternative to FA first aid courses, why must I complete The FA Sudden Cardiac Arrest and Concussion e-learning modules?

As the course you have completed isn't an FA course, the content you have completed will not have followed football specific guidance. Completing The FA Concussion e-learning module will ensure your knowledge is applicable to football. There is no other sports trauma course that covers Sudden Cardiac Arrest in the way covered in FA medical courses and The FA Sudden Cardiac Arrest e-learning module, therefore this module is required to be completed to ensure regulation pertaining to The FA regarding this topic is met.

Do I need to have completed The FA Concussion Guidelines and Sudden Cardiac Arrest e-learning modules within a certain timeframe?

Yes, you must have completed these with three years prior to submitting your non-FA medical course certificate.

I am a coach with an adult team in a Charter Standard Club and have previously used a non-FA first aid course without completing an FA medical course first. Do I need to now complete an FA medical course?



If you have previously submitted a non-FA medical course you can still submit a non-FA medical course for recording on your FAN as long it is on our recognised alternative list and you have completed The FA Sudden Cardiac Arrest and Concussion e-learning modules.

We do strongly recommend that all those working in football, that may be required to fulfil the role as first aider, completes an FA medical course. The FA courses are designed to prepare and equip you with the knowledge and understanding to deal with First Aid specific to the football environment that may not occur within the workplace, with a focus on saving life and limb.

How do I complete The FA Sudden Cardiac Arrest and Concussion e-learning modules?

These can be completed through the links below. You will need to be signed in to thefa.com to complete these courses.

[Sudden Cardiac Arrest](#)

[Concussion Guidelines](#)

I have completed one of the courses listed as a recognised alternative to FA first aid courses, how do I get this added to my FA Number (FAN)?

In order to use a recognised alternative you must have previously completed the equivalent level FA first aid training. For most people this will be The FA Emergency Aid – now known as The FA Level 1 Introduction to First Aid in Football (IFAiF).

If you have previously completed FA first aid training then you will need to complete The FA Sudden Cardiac Arrest and Concussion online modules. Once you have completed these please email education@thefa.com with a copy of your certificate. The team at FA Education will then check for completion of FA first aid training and completion of the two online modules and as long as these can be verified, your first aid training will be added to your FAN.

I am recognised as an Allied Health Care Professional and have completed relevant training as per your guidance, how do I get this added to my FAN?

In order to use your professional training as an alternative, you must have previously completed the equivalent level FA first aid training. For most people this will be The FA Emergency Aid – now known as The FA Level 1 Introduction to First Aid in Football (IFAiF).

If you have previously completed FA first aid training then you will need to complete The FA Sudden Cardiac Arrest and Concussion online modules. Once you have completed these please email education@thefa.com with evidence of your professional qualification, registration and relevant training. Nurses will also need to provide evidence they are currently working in an emergency environment. The team at FA Education will then check for completion of FA first aid training and completion of the two online modules and as long as these can be verified, your first aid training will be added to your FAN.



I have completed a First Aid at Work course, can I use this?

No, we no longer accept First Aid at Work courses as an alternative to FA first aid courses.

Why could I use my First Aid at Work course the last time I renewed by first aid with The FA, but cannot now?

The FA, like other awarding bodies, acknowledge First Aid, First Aid at Work and Sports Specific First Aid are different entities, which is why a variety of courses already exist within other awarding organisations. Following a comprehensive review of all medical provision a key outcome was that all training undertaken by FA coaches and first aiders across all levels of the game should focus on saving life and limb. This is why we no longer will accept First Aid at Work training.

Last time I submitted a non-FA medical course certificate I read The FA Bridging Document, do I need to read this now?

No, this no longer exists. You will need to complete The FA Sudden Cardiac Arrest and Concussion e-learning modules which are more relevant and up to date than the previous Bridging Document.

I have completed a first aid course overseas; can I use this?

No, we do not accept first aid courses completed overseas. The FA has no way of validating completion and so if you wish to work in this country you will need to meet The FA's first aid requirements.

Why do you accept more courses as an alternative to The FA Level 1 Introduction to First Aid in Football (IFAiF) compared to The FA Level 2 Emergency First Aid in Football (EFAiF)

The FA Level 2 Emergency First Aid in Football (EFAiF) is a more in-depth and comprehensive course compared to The FA Level 1 Introduction to First Aid in Football (IFAiF) course. Therefore the courses we accept as alternatives need to be comparable in terms of length and knowledge gained. Through our benchmarking exercises it was deemed that more courses aligned with The FA Level 1 IFAiF than The FA Level 2 EFAiF.