

Medical Co-Response – recognition of equivalency

Introduction

When to use Volunteers should use these guidelines when seeking recognition of current medical qualifications as equivalent to those required by Fire and Emergency New Zealand for Medical Co-response.

Role Volunteer firefighters

Recognition of equivalency

Recognised equivalency Fire and Emergency New Zealand recognises equivalent advanced ambulance/paramedic or medical qualifications held by volunteer firefighters.

Volunteer firefighters with a current advanced equivalent qualification will not be required to take part in Fire and Emergency's initial Medical Co-Response training or refreshers once equivalency is awarded.

Currency must be maintained every two years, either through external qualification requirements and reapplying for equivalency, or through participation in Fire and Emergency refreshers.

A current Pre-Hospital Emergency Care (PHEC) qualification (unit standard 29321), and its regular refresher training is accepted as equivalent, as it is similar to Fire and Emergency training.

Note: CPR training is not included in all PHEC training. CPR is a requirement for Fire and Emergency Operational Skills Maintenance (OSM) and is practised as part of the routine OSM regime.

If you are an identified First Responder, you will need to undertake full Medical First Responder training, without exemptions.

Fire and Emergency provided courses We prefer all firefighters to complete our Medical Co-Response courses and refreshers. These are delivered to a high standard and are designed to prepare personnel for the type of incidents they attend.

Other equivalent qualifications gained outside may miss some of our specific context. For volunteers, there is the added advantage that, by gaining our qualification, you and your employer gain the full benefit without the financial investment.

Fire and Emergency's initial two-day Medical Co-Response training provides the following unit standards:

- 23406 - Provide first aid for trauma and medical emergency situations
- 6401 - Provide first aid
- 6402 - Provide basic life support

How to apply

Please complete one of the following forms:

If...	then...
You have an advanced first aid medical qualification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the Advanced First Aid Medical Co-Response recognition of equivalency form. Forward it along with copies of the relevant certificate(s) or record of learning, including evidence of the qualification's currency. Your Chief Fire Officer or Controller will need to sight the original documents.
You are a current operational member of St John or Wellington Free Ambulance	Complete the Confirmation of Authority to Practice (ATP) form.

Information in the forms must be verified as indicated and sent for consideration to Training Business Services. Email courses@fireandemergency.nz or fax 0800 430 634.

The information provided will be held on file by Fire and Emergency for the purpose of determining currency of Medical Co-Response skills.

If you have any queries, please phone 0800 874 746

Document information

Owner	National Manager People and Workplace Capability
Last reviewed	30 July 2020
Review period	Every second year

Record of amendments

Date	Brief description of amendment
July 2020	Amended for template and updated unit standards
March 2018	Amended for Fire and Emergency



Advanced First Aid/ Medical Co-Response recognition of equivalency

Complete this form when requesting an advanced First Aid medical qualification be recognised by Fire and Emergency to meet Medical Co-Response requirements.

Part A		Applicant's details	
Name:		Fire and Emergency ID number:	
Phone number:		Date of birth:	
Region:		Brigade:	

Part B		Confirmation	
I wish to have an advanced First Aid medical qualification recognised by Fire and Emergency to meet Medical Co-Response requirements.			
I confirm that:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">A copy of my current advanced medical certificate or record of learning is enclosed, showing which relevant medical qualifications I hold.I will advise Fire and Emergency of any change of circumstances that may affect the currency of my qualifications.I understand that at Fire and Emergency medical callouts I am responding as a Fire and Emergency crew member, with associated equipment and response protocols.			
Print name:			
Signature:		Date:	

While you have training and experience over and above what may be taught on a public first aid course, the qualification and its currency does not constitute equivalency with unit standards or content taught and refreshed on Fire and Emergency courses taught by St John Training, so you will need to undergo a formal assessment process run by a St John approved trainer/assessor for unit standards to be awarded.

If an exemption is granted, Training Business Services will update your learning records and activate green OSM lights.

If you are exempt from Fire and Emergency Medical Co-Response training, you must learn and practice CPR as part of the routine skills maintenance regime, as this is a requirement under OSM.

To maintain exemption, and currency in OSM, you must apply for recognition every one or two years, depending on the term of your registration, qualification or certificate.

Section C:		For Chief Fire Officer	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">I have sighted the original documents for all copies of first aid medical qualification evidence included in this application.I have ensured this person is familiar with Fire and Emergency medical equipment and response protocols (including triage for mass casualties) and that they have the capability to respond as a Fire and Emergency member of my crew to medical related callouts.			
Print name:			
Signature:		Date:	

Please retain this completed form and copies of qualification evidence on the personnel file on station and send a copy of all documents to: Training Business Services: E-mail: courses@fireandemergency.nz or fax 0800 430 634.



Fire and Emergency New Zealand Confirmation of Authority to Practice



To: Fire and Emergency New Zealand

From: St John Territory Manager or Wellington Free Ambulance Field Operations Manager

Part A		Applicant's details	
Name:			
Phone number:		St John or WFA ID: (Please circle which)	
Position:		Fire and Emergency ID number:	
Current ATP:			
Region/Territory:		Brigade:	

Part B		Confirmation from Territory Manager (St John) or Field Operations Manager (WFA)	
I certify that the person named above is a current operational member*, and I agree that the above information can be disclosed to Fire and Emergency.			
Print name:			
Signature:		Date:	

***Disclaimer:**

This information is current at time of signing. A St John or Wellington Free Ambulance member may lose their Authority to Practice if they have not been operationally active for the last six months, do not retain currency with their CCE, or they leave St John or Wellington Free Ambulance. Responsibility will be with the individual to ensure Fire and Emergency is informed of changes to their circumstances in regard to their clinical currency. Information is provided and will be held on file with Fire and Emergency for the purposes of determining currency of clinical skills.

While the above named has training and experience over and above what may be taught on a Medical Co-response course, acknowledgement of Authority to Practice/currency does not constitute equivalency with unit standards or content taught and refreshed on Fire and Emergency courses taught by St John Training. Individuals will need to undergo a formal assessment process run by a St John-approved trainer/assessor if credits for unit standards are to be awarded.

If an exemption is granted, Training Business Services will update learning records of the above named and activate green OSM lights.

Individuals exempt from Fire and Emergency Medical Co-Response Training will need to ensure that they learn and practice CPR as part of the routine skills maintenance regime as this is a requirement under OSM. To maintain this exemption, and currency of lights in OSM, a new equivalence form must be submitted every one or two years depending on the term of the registration, qualification or certificate.

Section C:		Confirmation from Chief Fire Officer	
I have ensured this person is familiar with Fire and Emergency medical equipment and response protocols (including triage for mass casualties) and that they have the capability to respond as a Fire and Emergency member of my crew to medical-related callouts.			
Print name:			
Signature:		Date:	

Please retain this completed form and copies of qualification evidence on the personnel file on station and send a copy of all documents to: Training Business Services: E-mail: courses@fireandemergency.nz or fax 0800 430 634.

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