



RCMSAR First Aid Standards

April 21, 2020

Minimum First Aid Requirements

Minimum FA requirements for RCMSAR operational members is **Marine Basic FA + CPR/AED Level C**. This course must be completed every three years. A refresher courses will qualify to meet the standard.

NOTE: Members may only take a refresher course provided their FA ticket is still current at the time of the course (has not yet expired).

Any member that holds a first aid ticket equivalent or higher than Marine Basic FA will meet RCMSAR minimum requirements and can perform FA duties within the scope of their training.

No member is to provide first aid care outside the scope of the certification held.

Acceptable Equivalent Certifications

CPR Levels: CPR-HCP, BLS (basic life support)

Basic Levels: SFA or SFA for Industry (must have CPR/AED level C or equivalent included), Wilderness and Remote FA

Advanced Levels: MAFA, Advanced FA, Advanced Wilderness and Remote FA, First Responder, Emergency Medical Responder, Paramedic Levels (PCP, ACP, CCP)

**OFA2/OFA3 need to be accompanied by a CPR C add on/cert in order to qualify for RCMSAR standards.*

The SAR Management System gives a six-month warning of expiring certifications. This should prompt members to start looking for a FA course. Members must upload a valid certification with an image of their cert (jpeg format) onto the system once completed, in order to remain active.

NOTE: Members will be given a six-month grace period after their FA expires to get certified again. During this time, they will be allowed on the vessel for operations as additional active crew provided the core crewing standards for the vessel are already met. **Expired FA members shall NOT count towards RCMSAR minimum crewing standards for the vessel, and they are prohibited to perform any FA while their ticket is expired.**

RCMSAR stations and individual members are responsible for finding First Aid training in their area. **RCMSAR Headquarters will reimburse active RCMSAR members/stations up to \$150/person per FA course as needed.** Any additional costs are to be covered by the individual member or their station.



**ROYAL CANADIAN MARINE
SEARCH & RESCUE**
Saving Lives on the Water

6040 East Sooke Rd.
Sooke, B.C. V9Z 0Z7
T: 778.352.1780
F: 778.352.1781
rcmsar.com

NOTE: If a member wants to upgrade to a higher/advanced FA level upon expiration/renewal, RCMSAR HQ will only reimburse up to \$150/person. The recommendation for advanced level courses is First Responder or MAFA. Additional costs will be at the cost of the individual or the station.

Upgrades/renewal costs will only be reimbursable by HQ if a member's certificate is expiring within 6 months of course date. Reimbursement claims must also be made to RCMSAR HQ in a timely manner no more than 90 days. Extenuating circumstances for early renewals/reimbursement need pre-approval by RCMSAR HQ.