

First Aid changes from 1st October 2013 - Lofstedt recommendations

Following the recommendations of the Lofstedt review, the role of the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) changed significantly. The key aspects of these changes are:

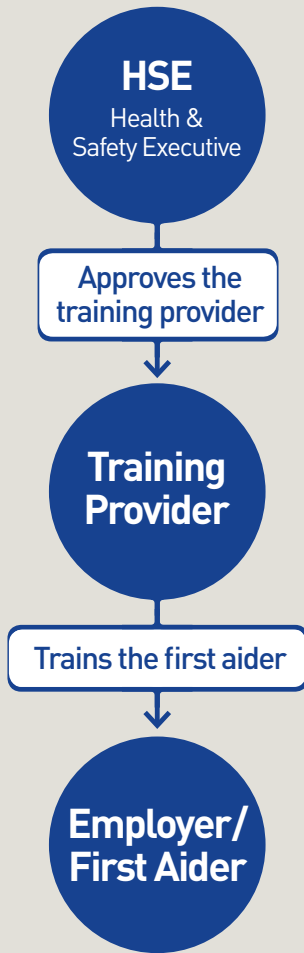
1. The removal of HSE approval process for First Aid training organisations. This gives businesses (customers) greater flexibility to **choose their own training provider** and first aid training that is right for their workplace, based on their needs assessment and their individual business needs. This is a significant change as previously, you were limited to a HSE approved course to meet the standard.
2. This also allows open competition from all training providers as small companies are regulated in the same way as large ones, which means the overall quality of the training you receive is likely to be enhanced. This is also likely mean it will be better value for money and at a lower price, as previously, small companies would find it too expensive to become HSE approved so could not compete. Now smaller training organisations are regulated by Awarding Organisations regulated by Ofqual, which sets a tough required standard.
3. When choosing your own provider, make sure they are able to deliver a course that meets your requirements – it can now be tailored to the customer rather than a generic course (which is what used to happen). Below are some factors that you may want to consider when deciding what your requirements are:
 - Would it be better to receive training at your site for your staff rather than putting your staff on an open/general First Aid workplace course?
 - The nature of your business, the work your employees undertake and the make up of your workforce.
 - The location of your workplace and previous first aid incidents and relevant factors (like staff working out of hours).
 - Any specific first aid factors such as whether your workplace has an AED?
4. These changes implemented have resulted in employers/customers shying away from some of the larger better known First Aid training organisations where there may not be the same level of flexibility or quality due to the size of the organisation. These changes have allowed Catapult Services to better meet the needs of our customers and deliver quality training.

The next page shows a flow chart, which outlines the awarding and regulation process that Catapult Services operates within.

Regulated First Aid Training

2013 Changes

Previous System

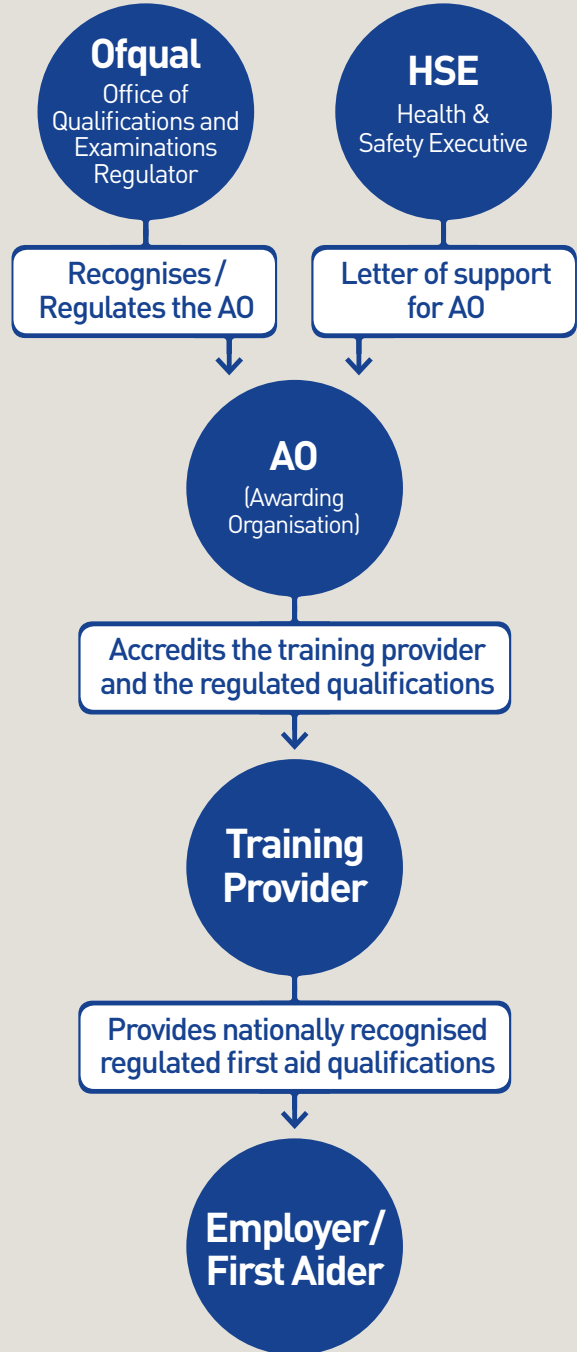


HSE inspectors used to look for this

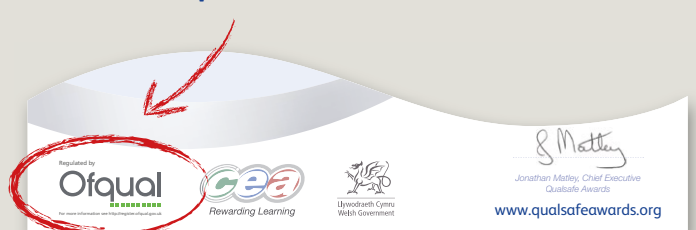


Sample HSE Certificate

New System



HSE inspectors will now look for this



Sample Awarding Organisation Certificate