



## Emergency first aid at work first aider & First aid at work first aider role descriptors

### Emergency first aid at work first aider (EFAW)

Someone who is qualified to administer lifesaving first aid in the event of an incident, including the treatment of minor injuries, shock, choking and administration of CPR.

EFAW qualified staff are not paid a stipend and must complete a one day course.

### First aid at work first aider (FAW)

Someone who is qualified to administer lifesaving first aid in the event of an incident, including the treatment of minor injuries, shock, choking and administration of CPR, and additionally be able to deal with a range of other injuries and recognise major illness.

First aiders are not expected to provide ongoing support to staff or students with medical conditions, although if staff wish to make their local first aider aware of certain conditions, such as epilepsy, this can help with putting in place a plan should such an occasion occur. However, it is the responsibility of the staff member and their line manager to put this in place, and not the First Aider, who can only provide support in an emergency situation, not on an ongoing basis.

Students with ongoing medical needs should ensure they engage with their School’s support system and/or the DLSS team. Again, First Aiders cannot provide ongoing support for any medical condition and only in an emergency situation.

FAW qualified staff are paid a stipend as long as their qualification is up to date following a three day course, three yearly requalification is required and are willing to provide first aid during work to staff, students, contractors, visitors or members of the public requiring assistance.

### Difference in content between the first aid courses

Emergency first aid at work – 1 day	First aid at work – 3 day
One-day course which provides staff with a basic knowledge of first aid to become competent at Emergency First Aid at Work for the University.	Three-day course which is aimed at staff who predominately work in high-risk areas. The course provides detailed training in theoretical and practical aspects of First Aid at work allowing the person to become a First Aider for the University.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislation</li> <li>• Incident and casualty management</li> <li>• CPR and AED</li> <li>• Secondary survey and recovery position</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislation</li> <li>• Incident and casualty management</li> <li>• CPR and AED</li> <li>• Secondary survey and recovery position</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disorders of breathing</li> <li>• Burns and scalds</li> <li>• Wounds and bleeding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disorders of breathing</li> <li>• Anaphylaxis</li> <li>• Heart conditions</li> <li>• Burns and scalds</li> <li>• Wounds and bleeding</li> <li>• Bones, joints and muscles</li> <li>• Head injuries</li> <li>• Seizures</li> <li>• Diabetes</li> <li>• Poisons</li> </ul>
---	---

### Document version

Version number	Summary of change	Date and by whom
1.0	Original	16/03/2026 Sarah East

**If you require this document in an alternative format please contact The Health, Safety and Wellbeing Department on [health.safety@ed.ac.uk](mailto:health.safety@ed.ac.uk) or call (0131) 651 4255**