



New First Aid Regulation Changes and Your SAFE Companies Audit:

As part of the upcoming regulatory changes effective November 1, 2024, companies must demonstrate compliance with new first aid assessment reporting requirements in their 2025 SAFE Companies audit.

For those companies who have already submitted their 2024 audit, the reporting changes will only be required for all first aid assessments completed on and after November 1, 2024 and will be submitted with your 2025 SAFE Companies audit.

The BCFSC FIRS App (Forest Industry Reporting System) is now equipped with First Aid Forms to help you manage your First Aid documentation for your audit.

Continuing Practices: The process of completing a First Aid Assessment form has not drastically changed.

1. Complete a First Aid Assessment for every worksite, in writing, with a copy on hand or using the BCFSC FIRS App (Forest Industry Reporting System) which is also now equipped with First Aid Assessment Forms to help you manage your First Aid documentation for your audit.
2. Reassess whenever there is a change at the worksite (e.g., phase change, additional workers).
3. Understand your company's hazard rating (HIGH, MODERATE, LOW) based on work tasks and processes as outlined in your WorkSafeBC assessment letter. Keep in mind there may be variable ratings based on your work areas. *For instance: a log hauling company may experience HIGH hazard rating for log hauling activities, MODERATE hazard rating for shop work and LOW hazard rating for their office work.*
4. Record the actual worker count at the worksite on the day of the assessment.
5. Identify work tasks, injury types and barriers to first aid that may delay or prevent the transporting of an injured worker(s) (such as bridge crossings, delayed railway crossings, etc.) on all First Aid Assessment forms.

New Reporting Changes:

1. Surface Travel Time: Define whether your worksite is less than 30 or more than 30 surface travel minutes from the nearest ambulance station. For a map of BC ambulance stations, visit: [APBC Station Map](#).

2. Assess Accessibility:

- o Determine if your worksite is "less accessible" based on the following criteria:
 - **Group 1 Areas:** Backcountry accessible only by ATV/sleds, steep/slippy slopes, resource roads not accessible to ambulances, rough terrain, high risk of natural hazards.
 - **Group 2 Areas:** Confined spaces, underground work, areas only accessible by ladders/scaffolds, drowning hazards, hazardous atmospheres.
- o If your worksite meets any of these criteria, it is considered "less accessible."



Establish First Aid Coverage:

- Determine your minimum first aid coverage requirements based on the maximum worker count and the worksite class (1, 2, 3, or 4) as identified by WorkSafeBC. Most small employers would be considered Class 4 with a HIGH hazard rating.

Table 3-4
Minimum Requirements for Class 4 Workplaces

Column 1 Workers present	Column 2 Low hazard rating	Column 3 Moderate hazard rating	Column 4 High hazard rating
2 - 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic first aid kit • Basic first aid attendant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic first aid kit • Basic first aid attendant (transport) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermediate first aid kit • Intermediate first aid attendant (transport)
6 - 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic first aid kit • Basic first aid attendant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic first aid kit • Basic first aid attendant (transport) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermediate first aid kit • Intermediate first aid attendant (transport) • Emergency transportation for one injured worker
10 - 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic first aid kit • Basic first aid attendant (transport) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermediate first aid kit • Intermediate first aid attendant (transport) • Emergency transportation for one injured worker 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced first aid kit • Basic first aid attendant (transport) • Advanced first aid attendant • Emergency transportation for one injured worker

For detailed information, refer to the WorkSafeBC First Aid Minimum Coverage tables: [WorkSafeBC First Aid Minimum Coverage](#).

Continued on page 12...

Continued from page 11...

Supplemental kit supplies

Current Kit Name	New CSA Kit Name	Additional Supplies*
Personal	→ Personal (CSA Type 1 – personal)	Upgrade to CSA Type 1 – personal
Basic	→ Personal (CSA Type 1 – personal)	Add 6 adhesive bandages, 1 compress/pressure dressing with ties, 4 hand cleaning towelette, forceps, and content list
Level 1	→ Basic Kit (CSA Type 2 basic - medium)	Add 14 gauze pads, 2 abdominal pads, 2 triangle bandages, 26 wound cleaning towelettes, 12 hand cleaning towelette, 2 pairs gloves, 1 biohazard bag, and content list
Level 2	→ Intermediate (CSA Type 3 intermediate - medium)	Add 24 gauze pads, 8 non-adherent dressing, 2 elastic support/compression bandage, 2 sets eye dressing pad and eye shield, 2 cold pack, 26 wound cleaning towelettes, 12 hand cleaning towelette, 2 packages of glucose tablets, 2 pairs gloves, 3 biohazard bags, 1 padded splint, 1 emergency blankets, and contents list
Level 3	→ Advanced (CSA Type 3 intermediate – medium + oxygen therapy kit)	Add 24 gauze pads, 8 non-adherent dressing, 2 elastic support/compression bandage, 2 sets eye dressing pad and eye shield, 2 cold pack, 26 wound cleaning towelettes, 12 hand cleaning towelette, 2 packages of glucose tablets, 2 pairs gloves, 3 biohazard bags, 1 padded splint, 1 emergency blankets, and contents list

- Types of injuries not typical to your CU.
- Barriers that could limit or delay access to first aid.
- Equipment necessary for safe rescue from less accessible areas (e.g., helicopter, boats, ETVs).
- Known barriers affecting BCEHS response time or transport to a hospital.

Keep in mind these site-specific procedures are NOT your general first aid instructions. These are site procedures associated with accessing injured workers. An example could be: If a helicopter evacuation is necessary, confirm that your spine board and cage will fit in the responding helicopter. Also, consider transportation challenges, such as carrying an injured worker over steep terrain or through heavy debris, to the roadside or heli-pad.

BCFSC Safety Advisors can advise you on meeting your First Aid Regulation requirements for your SAFE Company Certification. Contact us with any questions you may have at 1.877.741.1060. 📞

- Inventory your First Aid Kit(s) to ensure they meet new requirements based on the Supplemental First Aid Kit Supplies list. Kits must be updated by November 1, 2024.

Document First Aid Procedures:

- Site-specific procedures must be documented and should address:
 - Risks and hazards unique to the worksite.
 - Risks and hazards not typical to your CU.

Top Recommendations from BC Forest Safety Council (BCFSC) Safety Advisors

BCFSC Safety Advisors help forestry employers and employees achieve their safety goals. By visiting worksites, we offer invaluable insights and practical guidance to implement effective safety procedures and maintain safe work practices. This not only ensures compliance with SAFE Certification audit requirements but also fosters a culture of safety, minimizes risks, and enhances the well-being of everyone on site.

Here are some of the top recommendations from recent site visits to help keep your workplace safe and efficient.

- Complete Your Emergency Response Drill: Ensure you are performing regular Emergency Response Drills. As of November 1, 2024, a First Aid Drill is mandatory.
- Conduct Proper Incident Investigations: Always end investigations with Fundamental Recommendations to prevent future occurrences. These should include procedural changes. If procedures aren't altered, the results won't change.
- Check Your Emergency Escape Hatches: In an emergency, if the door is blocked, you don't want to find that an escape hatch is rusted shut. Regularly inspect these hatches.
- Document First Aid Assessments Correctly: Every worksite must have a documented First Aid Assessment. This requirement changes on November 1, 2024, so ensure you have the latest form and instructions.
- Regular Worker Assessments: Assess all workers and supervisors for competency regularly, based on risk. These assessments should be performed by someone competent in this task.
- Conduct Site Inspections: Complete inspections for any site you work at for 30 days or more, including shops and offices. If there are significant changes, redo the inspection.
- Include Lockout in Safe Work Procedures: Lockout procedures must be included in equipment or truck Safe Work Procedures. Gravity should always be considered as a factor.

Our safety advisors are available to come to your worksite and assist you in your safe work procedures. Give us a call at 1.877.741.1060 or reach out by email safeco@bcforestsafeco.org to arrange your site visit today. 📞