

Public Safety First Aid and CPR Transition Course
EMSA Q & A for POST

Question: Would a Public Safety First Aid and CPR transition course and instructor “gap” course need to be approved by the approving authority?

Answer: Yes. An instructor transition course would be considered part of the First Aid and CPR Standards and Training program course approval, as it falls under Section 100022 Retraining Requirements. The same goes for the actual transition course taught to public safety personnel. The approving authority for statewide public safety agencies (POST, CHP, Cal Fire, Parks and Recreation) is the EMS Authority. The approving authority for local public safety agencies (local law enforcement and fire departments) is the local EMS agency.

Question: Can an instructor who is trained in the Public Safety First Aid and CPR transition course now teach for any public safety agency?

Answer: An instructor may teach the transition course to a public safety agency, if the public safety agency has an approved program (via EMSA or a LEMSA) and the instructor’s qualifications have been validated and approved by that approved training program and under the approving authority’s oversight.

Question: Can an instructor who is trained in the POST transition course teach a transition course to lifeguards and fire fighters?

Answer: Once an instructor is trained in the POST transition course items, he is able to teach the approved POST transition course to peace officers as specified in 100023 (b). If a POST instructor transition course is reviewed/approved by a LEMSA and used as a program at a local fire department or other local public safety agency, then the instructor would need to be approved under that program/LEMSA as they have the oversight authority.

Question: Can Cal Fire use the POST transition course curriculum and instructors?

Answer: Yes, but it depends on the audience. If the audience is the law enforcement branch of Cal Fire, the POST approval is sufficient, since that audience is peace officers. If the audience is Cal Fire firefighters, Cal Fire may use the POST transition course curriculum, including the transition course materials or a POST trained instructor, and EMSA will be the approving authority for Cal Fire’s Public Safety First Aid and CPR Training program as it applies to Cal Fire fire fighters. The key is the audience (peace officers, fire fighters, life guards) and if that audience is a statewide public safety agency or a local public safety agency.

Question: Can Cal Fire or Parks and Rec public safety personnel take POST transition courses taught by POST instructors?

Answer: If POST is teaching a course with their (POST) instructors and a public safety agency wishes to send their personnel to that program, with POST’s approval, they can take the course. All responsibility for curriculum, instructors, rosters, fees, certificates, course completion documents, etc. falls to the approved program – POST – and the approving authority – EMSA.

General Information for Optional Skills

[Title 22 §100019-Optional Skills](#) provides that “public safety personnel may perform any or all of the following optional skills...when the public safety first aid provider has been trained and tested to demonstrate competence following initial instruction, and when authorized by the Medical Director of the local EMS agency (LEMSA).”

1. Administration of epinephrine by auto-injector for suspected anaphylaxis.
2. Supplemental oxygen therapy using a non-rebreather face mask or nasal cannula, and bag-valve-mask ventilation for a patient requiring oxygen administration and ventilation.
3. Administration of auto-injectors containing atropine and pralidoxime chloride for nerve agent exposure for self or peer care, when authorized by the Medical Director of a LEMSA, while working for a public safety provider.
4. Administration of Naloxone for suspected narcotic overdose.
5. Use of oropharyngeal airways (OPAs) and nasopharyngeal airways (NPAs).

Agencies must seek approval from their Local Emergency Medical Services Agency (LEMSA) prior to conducting the required training for any or all of these optional skills and prior to staff being authorized to perform them. LEMSA information is available on the [EMSA Website](#).