



American Red Cross
Training Services

March 27, 2020

Frequently Asked Questions

90 Day Certification Extensions

Q: Will the Red Cross honor the 30-day grace period for a recertification course?

A: Yes, you can enroll in this program if the certification is coming up for expiration or has expired in the last 30 days.

Q: Will the new 90-day extension certificate be recognized by potential employers and regulators?

A: Ultimately, it is up to the facility and regulators to accept the extension certification.

Q: What was the rationale for giving an automatic 90-day extension for Lifeguarding and CPR for the Professional Rescuer basic level certifications but not First Aid/CPR/AED?

A: Inherent in the occupation of a lifeguard is orientation, continuous training at your facility and drills. These activities have been shown to lengthen retention of the fundamentals we teach in Lifeguarding and CPRO. In addition, the facilities who hire lifeguards have as part of their responsibility the need to orient, drill and supervise these individuals which gives a secondary validation of their current competency. As such, we are comfortable to have an allowance in this time of a public health emergency.

Q: Does this mean all providers should not teach Lifeguarding or other aquatic classes during this time?

A: No. All authorized providers/licensed training providers (AP/LTPs) must move to social distancing approaches if social distancing is in place based on local public health direction. If social distancing is in place, we do not recommend teaching aquatic classes at this time.

Q: How long will the extension be available?

A: The extension will be available between March 17 – June 15, 2020.