

Circular 292:03:11



To: Trainers and Assessors
All Members
Club Presidents
Volunteer Training Administrators

Cc: Chief Instructors
Area Training and Assessment Officers
Area Lifesaving Operations Officers

From: Life Saving Operations Council (LSOC) Executive

Date: 24 March 2020

Subject: **Volunteer Training Update: Suspension of all Volunteer Training Activities due to COVID-19**

Action: Communicate to members that all training and assessment activities have been suspended

For additional details on this Circular please contact:

Email: volunteertraining@lsv.com.au

Circulars are available at www.lifesavingvictoria.com.au/circulars

Key messages:

- It is necessary to suspend ALL club training and assessment activities until further notice.
- It will not be possible to accept any exemptions to the suspension above.
- Any courses completed after 23 March 2020 will not be able to be processed.

Key considerations:

Giving due consideration to the recent announcements by the State and Federal Governments, the decision has been made to expand the suspension provisions advised on 20 March.

All training and assessment activity including Training Officer Certificate courses and Cert IV TAE / Assessor Skill Set upgrade courses are hereby suspended.

When making this difficult decision, key considerations included:

- Training activities do not meet the definition of 'essential' within the context of a State of Emergency.
- Travel associated with training activities would not meet the definition of 'essential'.
- It is not possible to guarantee safety through the achievement of the social distancing recommendations.
- The recommendations of the Australian Resuscitation Council (19 March) that: "routine first aid and resuscitation courses should be postponed until the current COVID-19 pandemic has abated".

Next Steps:

We will work to ensure:

- Any courses which have started can pick up where they left off once the suspension is able to be lifted.
 - We will leverage Microsoft Teams to support the delivery of planned T&A planning/admin activities.
 - The Volunteer Training team will continue working on all of the key projects set out in the strategic plan 'VT - 2020'.
 - We will keep all training and assessment stakeholders updated on any further changes.
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