

# Understanding the Role and Responsibilities

## Understanding the Role and Responsibilities of a Level 4 First Aid Provider

(Designed for quick reference and study)

### 1. Overview of Level 4 First Aid

| Aspect                           | Description                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Position in the First Aid Ladder | Highest non-clinical certification in many jurisdictions (e.g., Australia, New Zealand, UK).                                                                                         |
| Typical Workplaces               | Construction sites, factories, large events, remote locations, schools, hospitals, and any high-risk environment.                                                                    |
| Core Goal                        | Provide comprehensive, on-scene emergency care, stabilize patients, and coordinate transfer to advanced medical services.                                                            |
| Legal Basis                      | Governed by national/state occupational health & safety legislation and the relevant first aid standards (e.g., Australian Standard AS 3745, UK Health & Safety Executive guidance). |

### 2. Core Competencies

| Competency                     | What It Enables the Provider to Do                                                                                                                                |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Advanced Primary Assessment    | Conduct a systematic ABCDE (Airway, Breathing, Circulation, Disability, Exposure) assessment, identify life-threatening conditions, and prioritize interventions. |
| Medical Emergencies Management | Recognize and treat conditions such as cardiac arrest, anaphylaxis, diabetic emergencies, seizures, strokes, and severe asthma.                                   |
| Trauma Care                    | Control major bleeding, manage fractures/dislocations, spinal immobilisation, and treat burns and hypothermia.                                                    |
| Use of Equipment               | Operate AEDs, oxygen delivery systems, suction devices, advanced bandaging kits, and (where permitted) automated medication devices (e.g., auto-injectors).       |
| Communication & Documentation  | Provide clear hand-over to emergency services, maintain accurate incident records, and complete post-incident reports.                                            |

# Understanding the Role and Responsibilities of a Level 4 First Aid Provider

| Competency                | What It Enables the Provider to Do                                                                      |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Leadership & Coordination | Direct other first aid responders, manage scene safety, and organise evacuation or transport logistics. |

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## 3. Legal and Ethical Responsibilities

1. **Duty of Care** – Must act promptly, within the limits of training, to prevent further injury or death.
  2. **Scope of Practice** – Provide only the interventions covered by the Level 4 certification; avoid performing invasive procedures reserved for medical professionals.
  3. **Consent** – Obtain explicit consent when the patient is conscious and capable; implied consent applies in life-threatening situations.
  4. **Confidentiality** – Protect personal health information in accordance with privacy legislation (e.g., HIPAA, GDPR).
  5. **Record Keeping** – Complete a First Aid Incident Report (FAIR) as soon as practicable, noting: time, nature of injury/illness, actions taken, and outcomes.
  6. **Continual Competence** – Attend refresher training (typically every 12–24 months) and stay updated on changes to protocols and legislation.
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## 4. Typical Duties in the Workplace

| Situation          | Provider Actions                                                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cardiac Arrest     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Verify safety, call emergency services, start CPR (30:2 compressions to shocks).</li><li>- Apply AED as soon as available, follow prompts.</li></ul> |
| Severe Bleeding    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Apply direct pressure, use pressure dressings, consider tourniquet if uncontrolled.</li></ul>                                                        |
| Anaphylaxis        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Administer epinephrine auto-injector, position patient, provide supplemental oxygen, monitor vitals.</li></ul>                                       |
| Diabetic Emergency | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Recognise hypo vs hyperglycaemia, give oral glucose if conscious, or administer glucagon/insulin per protocol.</li></ul>                             |
| Spinal Injury      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Immobilise cervical spine, maintain neutral alignment, use spine board</li></ul>                                                                     |