



## Course Participation Standards

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Potential learners frequently ask us if it is okay to miss a portion of their course. We recognize that scheduling conflicts are often unavoidable. We ask our learners to recognize that in order to maintain a high quality certification we must set high standards for course participation. This means that even learners who have very good reasons for missing a portion of a course may lose the chance for certification.

### **1. What portion of a course must a learner attend in order to be certified?**

100% attendance is required; absences from the presentation of any course material places certification at risk. If you believe you will need to be absent for some portion of the course, prior arrangements need to be arranged with the Lead Instructor.

### **2. What options are available to a learner who misses the introductory lecture?**

The introductory lecture (the first topic covered on the first day of class) is required in order to pass the course. Learners who miss this lecture may not be allowed to participate in this class. Refunds will be subject to the cancellation policy of the sponsoring organization.

### **3. If a learner is absent for a portion of the course, can missed material be made up?**

In general, any learner missing more than 2 hours of any course will not be eligible for certification in that course. It is up to the instructor's discretion whether the learner may continue. If an exception is granted, it will be up to the learner to make up any missed work before the end of the course.

### **4. Will a refund be issued for the course if the learner is asked to leave?**

WMA International will not issue a refund. Check with the sponsoring organization's cancellation policy for their refund policy.

### **5. How many hours per day are learners expected to devote to their course?**

At least eleven hours a day, not including meals, are spent on the course. Approximately nine hours (not including meals) will be spent in class. Two hours or more will be devoted to homework each evening. It is not possible to be involved in any significant activity outside of the course.

### **6. For courses that include meals, to what extent are learners expected to participate in meal preparation?**

Sponsors are told that, with the exception of breakfast, learners should not be involved in food preparation. Learners may, however, be expected to help with clean up of all meals.

### **7. How much pre-course preparation is recommended?**

Learners on recertification courses are urged to read their textbooks before their course. Course sponsors may request textbooks in advance, which they can distribute to learners who have sent in their deposit.

### **8. What is the minimum length of each course?**

WFR: 5, 7 or 8 full days; WEMT Upgrade: 5 full days; WAFA: 4 full days; WAFA to WFR Bridge: 4 full days; WALSO® : 4 full days; Open Recertification: 3 full days; Recertification: 2 full days; WFA: 2 full days. Courses broken up into evening sessions and partial days are discouraged.

### **9. May learners with current CPR certifications miss the first day of a WFR?**

No. Much more than CPR is covered on the first day and course schedules vary.

### **10. Who may participate in Recertification courses?**

WFR recertification candidates must have passed an eligible course. To be eligible, the course should have been a wilderness-based first aid training course that was at least 64 hours long and completed within 3 years of the proposed recertification option. To maintain current WMA certification, graduates must recertify in an approved WMA course every three years. There is no grace period. If CPR certification is not part of the course, evidence of a current BLS-CPR (including two-rescuer CPR) certification must be presented to the instructor or the Wilderness Medical Associates office before a recertification card will be issued. WEMT recertification students must have a WMA International WEMT and hold a current State EMT license. Checkout our *Recertification Answer Sheet and Options links* for more detailed information.