

Requirements for First Aid, Heimlich Techniques, and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Training in Office of Developmental Programs' (ODP) Licensed Facilities

ODP Announcement 22-028

AUDIENCE:

- Licensees subject to 55 Pa.Code Chapter 2380 (relating to Adult Training Facilities), 6400 (relating to Community Homes for Individuals with an Intellectual Disability or Autism), or 6500 (relating to Life Sharing Homes)
- All interested parties

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this announcement is to notify licensees that training in First Aid, Heimlich techniques, and/CPR provided to staff and caregivers in ODP-licensed settings on or after **April 1, 2022**, must have an in-person component.

DISCUSSION:

Chapters 2380, 6400, and 6500 require that certain staff and caregivers be trained in First Aid, Heimlich techniques, and CPR by an individual certified as a trainer by a hospital or other recognized health care organization.¹

¹ § 2380.36(c); § 6400.46(d); § 6500.45(a),(b)

ODP requires that such training include an in-person component. Learning and executing proper form is key to performing life-saving techniques, both to provide assistance to someone in need and to help avoid injury to the person help is being administered to. Using approved manikins, visual aids, and hands-on instruction, an in-person class offers a wider range of experiences to address the different learning styles of participants. Taking a class in person also has the added benefit of meeting professionals who are knowledgeable in the techniques and can respond to questions that may be more difficult to address through an online-only course.

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, ODP permitted online-only courses with no in-person component as many hospitals and health-care organizations were not offering in-person classes. Hospitals and health-care organizations have since resumed in-person instruction with necessary COVID precautions in place. As such, any training in First Aid, Heimlich techniques, and/or CPR provided to staff and caregivers in ODP-licensed settings on or after **April 1, 2022**, must have an in-person component.

CONTACT:

Questions about this announcement should be directed to ODP's Regulatory Administration Unit at RA-PW6100REGADMIN@pa.gov.