

June 23, 1999

Daniel J. Sabatino, Corporate Safety Director  
Christenson Electric, Inc.  
111 S.W. Columbia, Suite 480  
Portland, OR 97201-5886

Dear Mr. Sabatino:

This is in response to your letter of March 23, 1999, requesting information on the requirements for first aid/CPR training for general industry and construction. Please accept our apologies for the delay in our response.

As you explained, both Divisions 2 and 3 define a qualified first-aid person as someone who can show valid first aid/CPR training by the American Red Cross or equivalent. Traditionally, this has been interpreted to mean that all aspects of the training must meet the Red Cross requirements, including the retraining schedule. American Red Cross currently requires recertification for first aid every 3 years, and CPR every year.

Lately, other first aid training providers have offered CPR training with a retraining schedule of every two years. These providers have used programs based on the American Heart Association's first-aid/CPR syllabus. While this does not strictly conform to the retraining schedule, we do not believe that Oregon OSHA is an appropriate venue to determine whether or not this is an appropriate time period for CPR training.

Therefore, any first aid/CPR program that is provided by or based on a nationally recognized first aid/CPR provider, such as the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, or the National Safety Council, will be accepted as meeting the intent of OAR 437-002-0161, "Medical and First Aid," and OAR 437-003-1926.50 of the same title.

This letter supercedes all previous interpretations on this matter.

If you have any questions or if we can be of further assistance, please contact David McLaughlin in our Technical Section at (503) 947-7457.

Sincerely,

Marilyn K. Schuster, Manager  
Standards and Technical Resources Section  
Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division

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