



Philmont First Aid and CPR requirements

Beginning in 2025, Philmont began requiring each crew to have three participants trained in Wilderness First Aid (WFA) and three with CPR training. Either youth or adult participants can meet these requirements. As part of completing your crew roster, CPR and WFA certificates will need to be uploaded to the Philmont Camping Gateway for verification upon arrival.

With three Wilderness First Aid-trained participants on each trek, we hope that the crew will be better able to handle minor medical issues as well as emergencies and keep as many participants on the trail as possible. Wilderness First Aid and CPR training should be completed early in preparation for your Philmont adventure; some of these classes fill up quickly.

CPR Requirements:

Philmont requires that at least three crew members have CPR training before attending a Philmont trek. They can be, but do not need to be the same three members that have Wilderness First Aid training.

Philmont will accept CPR training from any recognized institution as long as it includes both classroom and hands-on training. *Fully online courses will not meet Philmont's CPR training requirements.* Training should include recognition of and treatment for adult cardiac arrest, respiratory arrest, AED use, and airway obstruction. Training agencies must issue each participant a card or certificate.

Wilderness First Aid Requirements:

Philmont requires a minimum of a sixteen-hour Wilderness First Aid training course. Hybrid classes are allowed provided they have at least 8 hours of in person skills practice. *Fully online courses will not meet Philmont's Wilderness First Aid requirements.*

WFA training is important as it may take several hours for Philmont staff to reach a remote backcountry location after a message is delivered for help. Wilderness First Aid training allows for proper and prompt attention to be provided for injuries and/or illnesses.

The Boy Scouts of America has worked closely with the American Red Cross and the Emergency and Safety Institute (ECI) to help councils become self-sufficient in teaching First Aid Courses. Wilderness First Aid is specified in these agreements. Visit your council service center for more information about implementing the agreements that may be in place for your council.

Accepted Wilderness First Aid Course Providers

- American Red Cross – www.redcross.org
- American Safety and Health Institute (ASHI) – www.ashinstitute.org

- Emergency Care and Safety Institute – www.ECSInstitute.org – Wilderness First Aid Advanced Level Course
- National Safety Council – www.nsc.org – NCS Advanced First Aid
- National Ski Patrol – www.nsp.org – Outdoor Emergency Care
- Remote Medical International – www.remotemedical.com
- Sierra Rescue – www.sierrarescue.com
- SOLO – www.soloschools.com
- The Mountaineers – www.mountaineers.org – Mountaineering Oriented First Aid
- Wilderness Medical Associates (WMA) – www.wildmed.com
- Wilderness Medicine Institute (WMI) – www.nols.com/wmi/
- Wilderness Medicine Outfitters – www.wildernessmedicine.com – (Distance Learning course does NOT qualify)
- Wilderness Medicine Training Center – www.wildmedcenter.com
- Wilderness Safety Council – www.wfa.net
- Wilderness Safety & Emergency Response (W.I.S.E.R.) – www.wiser-wfr.com

If you are curious about a Wilderness First Aid course provider that is not on this list, please contact the Philmont Infirmary at (575) 376-2281 Ext: 51024 or email Philmont.Infirmary@scouting.org to discuss whether it would satisfy Philmont's Wilderness First Aid requirements *prior* to enrollment in the class.

Advanced Medical Certifications*:

Philmont will alternately accept the following advanced levels of training in place of a Wilderness First Aid Certification. A copy of the current applicable license or certification must be shared with Philmont during the registration process:

- Wilderness First Responder
- Outdoor Emergency Care/Ski Patrol
- EMT-Basic, EMT-Advanced, or Paramedic
- Military Corpsman, Medic, or Equivalent Medical Training
- Registered Nurse
- Licensed Nurse Practitioner
- Licensed Physician's Assistant
- Licensed Physician, MD or DO

*Please note that advanced medical certifications may be used in place of WFA certification ONLY. They may not be used in place of a CPR certification. Your crew must have 3 members with current CPR certifications.