



PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER'S DIRECTIVE

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Subject

CAMPUS RESPONSE TEAMS - GENERAL GUIDELINES

Direction

Definition of a St. John Ambulance Brigade Campus Response Team

A St. John Ambulance Brigade Campus Response Team (CRT) is a Brigade division of St. John Ambulance in active partnership with a post-secondary educational institution. The CRT is primarily comprised of students of that educational institution, and members of its community.

In as much as this is a St. John Ambulance Brigade Division, the members shall abide by St. John Canada Instructions and Provincial Commissioner's Directives. Members shall also be afforded the benefits of St. John Ambulance Brigade membership, including Insurance for Liability and Personal Injury, Administrative/Operational support, Membership Services, Mutual Aid and Member Recognition.

Purpose

1. Provide campus based volunteer service within the mandate of St. John Ambulance's Mission and the Brigade's Statement of Purpose.
2. Provide valuable first response patient care services to members of campus communities.
3. Provide meaningful volunteer and leadership opportunities for members of campus communities.
4. Recruit long-term members of St. John Ambulance, through positive training and experiences.
5. Enhance safety awareness to help prevent injury and promote health.
6. Provide a means for St. John Ambulance Brigade members to maintain active membership while attending school.

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Authority

Direction (cont.)

Service

St. John Ambulance Brigade CRTs provide different types of service, according to the needs of the campus community and the agreements reached with the supporting educational institution and St. John Ambulance.

CRTs may provide coverage for special campus events as booked by the event organizers. Typical events include sports functions, displays, concerts, etc. (similar to traditional Brigade community service events). CRTs may also provide ongoing coverage to intramural sports, and some CRTs provide an on-call service. This involves being available by pager or radio to provide first response care to a large area of the campus in cooperation with campus emergency services, for a period of time ranging from 8 to 24 hours a day. Often these CRTs are dispatched through the campus emergency number.

CRTs may also occasionally work with local St. John Ambulance patient care provider divisions to work at campus events, or they invite other divisions to join them in covering on campus events.

Membership

Campus Response Team members are generally recruited from the student population and are subject to the same membership and screening requirements and procedures as traditional Brigade patient care providers. (See St. John Canada Instructions Part 2)

Leadership

The CRT is lead by the Coordinator (Divisional Superintendent), assisted by an Executive body. The Executive comprises positions such as Coordinator (and if required Assistant Coordinator), Training Coordinator (Officer), and Public Relations Coordinator. These positions are generally elected from within the CRT. Note: the standard Brigade policies and procedures for appointments to leadership positions also apply.

Training

Campus Response Team applicants often have a wide variety of training and experience, that may include St. John or Red Cross first aid training, life guard experience, Ski Patrol, volunteer fire department experience, EMCA certification, nursing/health care discipline training, law & security experience, etc. This diverse training and experience serves to enrich the CRT and enhance its training.

CRT members are expected to have a Level "C" Basic Rescuer CPR and a Standard First Aid certificate from a St. John Ambulance Brigade recognized agency at the time of application. New members must successfully complete the Brigade Training System (BTS) Level 1 assessment. This assessment usually follows intensive weekend training(s) at the beginning of September. The CRTs generally recruit and test early in the school year to ensure sufficient membership to fulfill service requests for the year.

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CRTs may also offer a winter (January) weekend training and/or ongoing, in-service type training throughout the year on topics from within the BTS program or of specific interest to the CRT and the needs of the community, i.e. Critical Incident Stress, rape/sexual assault, drugs and alcohol, sports injury management. Based on the specific needs of the campus, some CRT's may choose to pursue more advanced/enhanced training such as oxygen administration, BTS 2, or training in the use of specific patient care equipment.

CRT members must meet the same minimum standard of training and perform to the same level of care as other St. John Ambulance Brigade independent patient care providers.

Equipment

CRTs will generally purchase patient care equipment appropriate to the type of service they provide. Examples of such equipment include:

1. The St. John Ambulance fanny pack or other style pack such as a backpack or trauma bag. Such packs will depend on the nature of service, the equipment carried and practical mobility issues such as biking or running across campus.
2. Soft supplies such as bandages or dressings purchased, or donated from campus health services, private companies, local branch offices, or St. John Ambulance stores.
3. Hard supplies such as hard cervical collars, oxygen, KED® style devices, commercial splints, etc. Larger pieces of equipment such as spine boards tend to be impractical in most CRT settings.

Dress

When performing service on and off campus, CRT members will have as their recognized service wear the following: (note: the dress is designated/designed by the local CRT in accordance with the following standards)

1. A red T-shirt with the educational institution insignia and St. John Ambulance insignia.
2. Clean, non-ripped pants; off campus, dark coloured trouser-type pants are recommended.
3. Closed-toed footwear appropriate for the service and environment.
4. A red jacket with the insignia as in item 1.
5. Other items such as sweatshirts, long-sleeved T-shirts, etc. may be utilized by CRTs keeping in mind the principle of uniformity i.e. consistency, continuity, professional image, and appropriateness to the environment and work.

Educational Institution Support

The CRT works closely with the educational institution's administration to ensure that the needs of both the CRT and the institution are met. CRTs may be affiliated with campus departments such as health services, security, or athletics, and share in those departments' resources.

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For example, the CRT may use radios from the security department or be dispatched by the campus emergency services dispatcher. Other items/resources, as agreed on by the administration of the educational institution and the team, should be made available, such as:

1. Rooms/offices.
2. Stationery/office supplies.
3. Photocopying.
4. Email and postal service.

St. John Ambulance Support

1. Patient Care (e.g. BTS) training and development, including standards, instructors, evaluators and resources as needed.
2. Volunteer and Leadership development opportunities.
3. Local, Area, Provincial, and National support structure to facilitate leadership development, continuity and standards, training, and organizational/administrative support.
4. Liability and personal injury insurance for all members.
5. Shared experience and resources e.g. mutual aid.
6. Funding assistance when and where available.
7. Networking with other St. John Ambulance Brigade CRTs.
8. Opportunities to work with St. John Ambulance Brigade divisions across the province and the world.

Financial Support

Many Campus Response Teams operate as independent (non-branch supported) divisions, raising their own funds through applications to grant programs or initiatives on campus, St. John Ambulance grant programs e.g. Billes, and local community efforts. Some CRTs are funded wholly or in part through a local St. John Ambulance branch.

Start-up money may be available through the St. John Council for Ontario for newly formed CRTs. CRTs often receive donations for the service they provide and may receive donations from benefactors.

CRT finances (including donations) should be managed through the local branch (if affiliated with the CRT), through the campus department that the team is affiliated with, or through whatever process is deemed to be most appropriate by the CRT, the educational institution and the St. John Council for Ontario. The CRT must adhere to standard financial operating procedures and business practices.