



COVID-19 Update: Instructor Reauthorization Extension and Certification Cards March 17, 2020 • Health & Safety Institute

As government, individuals, organizations, companies, and countries across the world step up to combat the COVID-19 crisis, HSI continues to receive questions from our Training Centers regarding the extension of reauthorization and certification expiration dates.

Instructor and Instructor Trainer Reauthorization Extension

Effective today, HSI is extending the authorization period by 90 days for all currently Authorized Instructors or Instructor Trainers whose two-year authorization period ends between March 1 and July 1, 2020. HSI will take responsibility for managing this extension by automatically extending the authorization period.

For example, if an instructor's authorization is set to expire on May 20, 2020, their authorization period will be automatically extended to August 20, 2020. Their Instructor Authorization card in the Otis Learning Manager Portal will reflect the new expiration date. This extension of the authorization period may be increased or more widely applied based on the rapidly evolving COVID-19 public health crisis.

Student Certification: Renewal Classes and Two-Year Certification Periods

Under normal conditions, when an individual's CPR, AED, and first aid certification expires, they have a 30-day grace period in which they can enroll in a renewal class to renew their certification. Beyond 30 days, the student would be required to take a full class in order to receive a new certification card. However, during the COVID-19 crisis, HSI will allow individuals with an ASHI, MEDIC First Aid, or EMS Safety certification card expired 90 days or less to participate in a renewal class.

These grace periods, whether the normal 30 days or the extended 90 days, do not also extend the actual certification period. Certification may not exceed two years from the month of class completion. The grace periods are simply an extension of the time in which a student qualifies for a renewal class option for their re-certification needs.

To that end, HSI is not extending the expiration period of a legitimately issued certification card. Given the level of disruption COVID-19 is causing, HSI expects regulatory agencies and employers who require emergency care training and certification for licensing or employment to be reasonably lenient about expiration dates for certification. Leniency in this instance is the decision of employers and regulators, not HSI. We continue to track legislation and regulations related to COVID-19 for their impact on emergency care training and will provide updates as necessary.

Thank you for everything you do to help make our workplaces and communities safer.