

Wilderness Remote First Aid - 2020

Obtaining Wilderness Remote First Aid has been difficult during the COVID-19 outbreak. For summer 2020, the BSA has been working with ECSI to design a blended learning format that combines 8-hours of online learning with 8-hours of in-person skills testing. The platform is now live and ready for participants to begin the course. Information, for both participants and instructors, is available on ECSI's website. <https://www.ecsinstitute.org/scouting>

In addition, there are several options to satisfy this requirement for backcountry, wilderness and remote programs. The options are listed below:

1. The crew has at least one member with a current certificate of training in WFA
2. The crew has at least one member who meets the criteria for an extension from the issuing agency. It is incumbent on the individual to research and obtain the extension with the issuing agency.
3. A member of the crew obtains "just in time training" prior to arrival. This may become more accessible as states begin to reopen.
4. A WFA trained staff member accompanies the crew.
5. A crew member completes the 8-hour online course, followed by the 8-hour skills test (prior to arrival, or upon arrival) resulting in a certificate of training.

Councils may wish to organize a "just in time" skills check course for those that complete the online course and are participating in a backcountry trek this year. Current BSA ECSI WFA Instructors will be able to conduct the 8-hour skills check which is based upon the BSA WFA curriculum. Have potential instructor candidates contact ECSI directly if you need to develop additional BSA WFA instructors.

Any BSA participant may take the 8-hour online WFA course as an awareness class but if they require certification, they will need to show competency by successfully completing the 8-hour skills check with a certified ECSI BSA WFA instructor. Current CPR/AED certification is the only pre-requisite for students.

Additional information for both instructors and students will be available on both the ECSI website [here](#) and BSA Health & Safety WFA page.

The fee for the eLearning course is \$24.00 and includes a one-year e-book version of the ECSI WFA course book.