



Standard Guide for Training First Responders Who Practice in Wilderness, Delayed, or Prolonged Transport Settings¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F 1655; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This guide covers minimum training standards for first responders who may care for sick or injured persons in the specialized pre-hospital situations of the wilderness, delayed, or prolonged transport settings, including catastrophic disasters.

1.2 This guide establishes supplemental or continuing education programs that will be taught to individuals trained to the first responder level by an appropriate authority.

1.3 This guide does not provide training to be used, ordinarily, in the traditional EMS or ambulance transportation environments.

1.4 Included in this guide is a standard for the evaluation of the knowledge and skills defined within this guide.

1.5 Successful completion of a course based on this guide neither constitutes nor implies certification or licensure.

1.6 This guide does not establish medical protocols, nor does it authorize invasive procedures without specific authorization and medical control.

1.7 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard.

1.8 Operating within the framework of this guide may expose personnel to hazardous materials or environments, procedures, and equipment or all of these.

1.9 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

F 1177 Terminology Relating to Emergency Medical Services²

F 1287 Guide for Scope of Performance of First Responders Who Provide Medical Care²

F 1453 Guide for the Training and Evaluation of First Responders Who Provide Medical Care²

F 1490 Terminology Relating to Search and Rescue²

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *access, n*—the process of reaching the patient/subject and establishing physical contact.

3.1.2 *basic life support/cardiopulmonary resuscitation (BLS/CPR), n*—a set of skills that includes airway management, chest compressions, and others as defined by the American Heart Association.

3.1.3 *definitive care, n*—a level of therapeutic intervention capable of providing comprehensive health care services for a specific condition. (See Terminology F 1177.)

3.1.4 *evacuation, n*—the process used between the time of extraction and transportation. (See Terminology F 1490.)

3.1.5 *extraction, n*—the process of initial assessment, treatment, stabilization, and packaging of the patient as well as the removal of the patient/subject from the immediately hazardous environment. (See Terminology F 1490.)

3.1.6 *first responder, n*—an individual trained in accordance with Guide F 1453.

3.1.7 *transportation, n*—the use of a dedicated vehicle for the removal of the patient to a medical facility or definitive care facility.

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 *delayed or prolonged transport, n*—when time between patient injury and arrival to a definitive care facility is greater than 60 min.

3.2.2 *non-traditional EMS environment, n*—environments not readily accessible to a ground ambulance.

3.2.3 *wilderness first responder (WFR), n*—an individual trained to meet the requirements of this guide.

3.2.4 *wilderness setting, n*—situations in which EMS delivery is complicated by one or more of the following four factors: (1) remoteness as far as logistics and access; (2) a significant delay in the delivery of care to the patient; (3) an environment that is stressful to both patients and rescuers; and (4) a lack of equipment and supplies.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 Individuals will be initially or concurrently trained in accordance with U.S. D.O.T. Course Guide for First Responders³ and Guide F 1453.

¹ This guide is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F-30 on Emergency Medical Services and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F30.02 on Personnel, Training and Education.

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 13.01.

³ U.S. D.O.T. HS 900-025, *Course Guide, Emergency Medical Services, First Responder Training Course*, March 1979.