

First Aid Kits

Frequently Asked Questions

What department is responsible for the purchasing and/or maintaining first aid kits at PCC?

EH&S is responsible for the Cintas first aid kits that are installed in various academic and operational areas. Departments may purchase separate supplies/units, but are responsible for the supplies and servicing of these separately purchased units.

Who services the first aid kits at PCC?

EH&S contracts with Cintas to inspect and restock many first aid kits throughout the district. These first aid kits will typically be identified with the Cintas logo and these are used primarily to address incidents involving PCC employees and volunteers.

Where are first aid kits located?

The Cintas first aid kits will typically be placed in areas under the control of employees and where employees may be present such as office suites and break rooms. Cintas first aid kits are not intended for the exclusive use of employees in the departments in which the first aid kits are located. Rather, any employee should be allowed to access the first aid kits and retrieve supplies to address an injury or illness.

What kinds of items should be included in a first aid kit?

The components of a first aid kit will depend on the potential hazards that may be found in the space and the minor injury types likely to be encountered in these spaces. The contents of a first aid kit located in an area that consists primarily of offices will differ from those of a first aid kit in a laboratory or machine shop. The American National Standards Institute, ANSI, provides guidance on the types and quantities of supplies that should be present in first aid kits (ref. ANSI Z308.1, *Minimum Requirements for Workplace First Aid Kits*)

Is there a shelf-life on components in a first aid kit?

Some components, such as antibiotic ointments, personal eyewash bottles and drops, antiseptic sprays and creams do have a shelf life. The Cintas kits are inspected monthly and Cintas personnel replace those components whose expiration dates have passed or will occur in the immediate future.

Why aren't there any treatments for headaches, colds, allergies, etc. available in the first aid kits?

PCC does not dispense over the counter medications in the first aid kits. Individuals with chronic conditions, such as allergies, should purchase their own supplies of these medicines.

Why aren't there gloves and goggles in the first aid kits?

Gloves and goggles are examples of personal protective equipment (PPE). PPE is not considered first aid equipment

I have to work outside and I'm concerned about sunburn. Can sunscreen be stocked in the first aid kits?

Departments may elect to purchase sunscreen for their employees that work outside.

How can I request a Cintas first aid kit for my area?

Requestors should use ReADY or the Service Request Center to make their requests known to EH&S. EH&S follows a process in approving new first aid kits that involves determining the hazards in area and evaluating the distances to other first aid kits in the same building.