

National Training Organizations

There are several national training organizations - the big three being the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, and the National Safety Council. But also recognized on a national scale are the American Safety and Health Institute, the Boy Scouts of America, and many other content-specific organizations (Ellis and Associates for Water Safety and Lifeguarding, e.g.). These organizations are involved in science, research and conferencing on an international level and are responsible for developing programs and course materials for the general public.

So which organization is better? It's all a matter of personal preference. The training you receive is based on international guidelines (currently operating under Guidelines 2005) and so you'll essentially be learning the same material no matter whose program you follow. The difference between them is in the text presentation and materials provided. For example, the National Safety Council provides a take-home skills DVD to all its participants as part of the program materials. The instructional style is pretty much standardized as well, using video-led instruction so all course participants see the same skills performed in the same way.

Major differences between the organizations involve duration of certification after completing the program. Test length, information included in the textbook, course duration (but only slight variation here), and layout of text and materials. Also the course costs and record privacy can vary with the different organizations.

Save and Aid recognizes the qualities in all organizations whose programs we offer. Depending on your specific needs we will recommend one or another certifying (national) organization. With us, you can be confident that you are always getting the best value and the best training, adhering to the most recent international guidelines, and you will receive a certification card with national or international recognition and acceptance. We are happy to answer any additional questions you might have, and look forward to doing business with you.