

**BY ORDER OF THE  
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE**

**AIR FORCE INSTRUCTION 36-2644**

**19 AUGUST 2014**

Certified Current 17 April 2020

**Personnel**



**SELF-AID AND BUDDY CARE TRAINING**

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OPR: AFMSA/SG3XT

Certified by: AF/SG  
(Lieutenant General Thomas W. Travis)

Supersedes: AFI 36-2644, 2 April 2012

Pages: 15

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This Instruction implements Air Force Policy Directive (AFPD) 36-26, Total Force Development. It outlines guidance and requirements for Self-Aid and Buddy Care (SABC) Training. This Instruction applies to all Air Force (AF), Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC) and Air National Guard (ANG) units. Note: Guidance in this instruction applicable to Major Commands (MAJCOMs) also applies to Headquarters Air Force (HAF), National Guard Bureau (NGB), Geographically Separated Units (GSU), and Limited Scope Facilities. The term GSU includes detachments and operating locations. All references to wings include installations and bases. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 33-363, Management of Records, and disposed of in accordance with (IAW) the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule (RDS) located at <https://www.my.af.mil/afrims/afrims/afrims/rims.cfm>. This instruction may be supplemented at any level but all supplements must be coordinated with the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) before publication. Refer recommended changes to the OPR using AF Form 847, Recommendation for Change of Publication. The authorities to waive wing/unit level requirements in this publication are identified with a Tier ("T-0, T-1, T-2, T-3") number following the compliance statement. See AFI 33-360, Publications and Forms Management, Table 1.1 for a description of the authorities associated with the Tier numbers. Submit requests for waivers through the chain of command to the appropriate Tier waiver approval authority, or alternately, to the Publication OPR for non-tiered compliance items.

***SUMMARY OF CHANGES***

This document has been substantially revised and must be reviewed in entirety. Significant revisions include: reorganized content; updated training exemptions; deletion of Exercise Evaluation Team (EET), Staff Assistance Visit (SAV) and Military Personnel Flight (MPF) requirements; introduction of Medical Readiness Decision Support System (MRDSS) SABC module. Major changes are a result of Air Force Instruction (AFI) reduction and compliance tiering. Commander (CC) responsibility, program execution and overall management are streamlined in this update.

## Chapter 1

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

**1.1. Overview.** SABC training fulfills an Expeditionary Skills Training (EST) requirement to produce deployment-ready Airmen. SABC training provides knowledge and skills to minimize injury and prevent death or disability in deployed environments or home station emergencies. Foundational education received during basic military enlisted/officer training courses do not fulfill the SABC requirement for pre-deployment EST. SABC training does not qualify as formal medical education therefore is exempt from regulatory and educational requirements associated with formal medical courses (e.g., Blood-Borne Pathogen Protection, Privacy Act).

**1.2. Applicability.** Unless otherwise stated, this instruction applies to AF personnel (AF, AFRC and ANG) and designated civilian/contract employees. Designated civilian/contract employees are individuals who have a SABC requirement referenced in their position description.

## Chapter 2

### ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

#### 2.1. AFMSA/Operational Support and Training Division (AFMSA/SG3XT):

2.1.1. Develops a SABC training program to meet EST requirements. Publishes this AFI and a corresponding Self-Assessment Checklist (SAC) for the Management Internal Control Toolset (MICT).

2.1.2. Provides professional guidance and technical expertise for the SABC training program.

2.1.3. Develops and maintains the standardized SABC courses, lesson plans and presentations located on the Advanced Distributed Learning System (ADLS) and the Air Force Medical Service (AFMS) Knowledge Exchange SABC Knowledge Junction at <https://kx2.afms.mil/kj/kx1/SABC/>.

2.1.4. Reviews/validates T-1 and T-0 waiver requests. Coordinates AF/SG3 (HAF) review and concurrence of T-1 waivers. Coordinates higher level consideration of T-0 waiver requests.

**2.2. MAJCOM AF, AFRC and ANG Commander:** Must appoint a primary and alternate MAJCOM SABC Advisor to oversee the SABC training program (T-1). MAJCOM CCs may delegate appointing authority to other MAJCOM staff.

#### 2.3. MAJCOM SABC Advisor:

2.3.1. Provides consultation/technical expertise for Wing/Unit/CCs and Wing SABC Advisors.

2.3.2. Reviews/validates waiver requests and forwards to the appropriate waiver authority.

2.3.3. Notifies AFMSA/SG3XT of SABC program concerns and recommends changes through the SABC workflow box at [usaf.pentagon.af-sg.mbx.af-sabc-workflow@mail.mil](mailto:usaf.pentagon.af-sg.mbx.af-sabc-workflow@mail.mil).

#### 2.4. Wing/Installation/Host Commander:

2.4.1. Must ensure Unit CCs provide SABC training for assigned AF personnel and designated civilian/contract employees (T-2). Wing CCs maintain training responsibility for wing staff members not directly assigned to a tenant unit.

2.4.1.1. IAW AFI 38-101, Air Force Organization, other tenant/co-located wings/units or personnel not directly assigned by Personnel Accounting Symbol (PAS) code should have a training support agreement between the host installation and parent unit(s). Agreements should clearly define each wing/unit's SABC program roles and responsibilities.

2.4.1.2. AFRC and ANG units retain responsibility for their personnel even when co-located with active duty units. AFRC and/or ANG units may attend and/or consolidate SABC training with other (AF, AFRC and/or ANG) units for program efficiency. Consolidated training programs should be clearly defined in an agreement outlining each unit's SABC training program roles and responsibilities.

2.4.1.3. Other tenant/co-located wings/units or personnel not participating in a host installation's SABC training program remain responsible for accomplishing SABC IAW EST requirements.

2.4.2. Must appoint a primary and alternate Wing SABC Advisor to manage the SABC program (T-3). Wing CCs may delegate appointing authority to other wing staff. For installations with more than one wing, the host wing may provide a centralized installation Wing SABC Advisor position. Other tenant/co-located wings then appoint Unit SABC Monitor(s) to support the host installation's Wing SABC Advisor. A centralized installation advisor position with supporting monitors creates a streamlined structure for program execution and/or inspection.

## **2.5. Wing/Installation/Host SABC Advisor:**

2.5.1. Must be a current SABC Instructor (T-3).

2.5.2. Must conduct the SABC Instructor Course as needed to train/qualify instructor candidates (T-3). May delegate other Unit SABC Monitors or Instructors to assist with or teach the SABC Instructor Course.

2.5.3. Provides consultation and technical expertise for unit SABC training programs to include oversight of Unit SABC Instructor evaluations and currency maintenance. May utilize Unit SABC Monitors or Instructors to assist with program consultations.

2.5.4. Briefs SABC program status to the Wing/CC as requested or whenever significant issues arise.

2.5.5. Reviews/validates waiver requests. Coordinates Wing/CC review and concurrence of T-3 waivers. Forwards T-2, T-1 and T-0 waiver requests to the MAJCOM SABC Advisor for further consideration.

## **2.6. Unit Commander:**

2.6.1. Must conduct and maintain a SABC training program to ensure unit personnel accomplish SABC training IAW EST requirements (T-3). Units may attend and/or consolidate SABC training with other units for program efficiency. Consolidated training programs should be clearly defined in an agreement outlining each unit's SABC training program roles and responsibilities.

2.6.2. Must appoint a primary and alternate Unit SABC Monitor(s) to manage the unit's SABC training program (T-3). Small units may appoint a primary SABC Monitor only. Units may merge SABC Monitor position(s) under a consolidated training program with other units.

2.6.3. Must appoint Unit SABC Instructor(s) to teach Hands-on training classes (T-3). Units may merge SABC Instructor position(s) under a consolidated training program with other units.

## **2.7. Unit SABC Monitor:**

2.7.1. Must be a current SABC Instructor (T-3). Unit SABC Monitor(s) may be "dual-hatted" with other unit positions such as the Unit Training Manager (UTM), Unit Deployment Manager (UDM) or SABC Instructor. Units may appoint an administrative-only

monitor who is not a current SABC Instructor. Administrative-only monitors are not qualified to conduct SABC Instructor evaluations IAW Paragraph 2.7.3.

2.7.2. Must schedule unit personnel for SABC Hands-on training and update completion in ADLS, ARCNet (Air Reserve Component Network) or MRDSS (T-3). May delegate scheduling/documentation duties to the UTM, UDM, SABC Instructors, or other unit personnel.

2.7.3. Must evaluate each Unit SABC Instructor at least once every two (2) years (T-3). May conduct additional evaluations as needed to maintain instructor quality. May utilize other SABC Instructors to assist with evaluations. Instructor evaluations should include in-class observation and review of respective class documentation.

2.7.4. Must disqualify and/or retrain Unit SABC Instructors with poor instructor evaluations or who failed to maintain teaching currency qualification IAW Paragraph 2.8.2 (T-3).

2.7.5. Must ensure sufficient training materials are available to instruct SABC Hands-on training (T-3). Units with consolidated SABC training programs may share resources. SABC Monitors should inventory and restock the SABC Hands-on Training Instructor Kit(s). May delegate inventory/restocking duties to SABC Instructors or other unit personnel. National stock numbers (NSNs) are available on the AFMS Knowledge Exchange SABC Knowledge Junction at <https://kx2.afms.mil/kj/kx1/SABC/>.

2.7.6. SABC Monitors should interview/recommend instructor candidates to the Unit CC and arrange instructor training for selected candidates.

## **2.8. Unit SABC Instructor:**

2.8.1. Must initially complete both the SABC CBT (regardless of AFSC exemption) and the SABC Instructor Course (T-3). Instructors are encouraged to annually review the SABC CBT to remain updated on battlefield care and Individual First Aid Kit (IFAK) components.

2.8.1.1. MAJCOM SABC Advisors may grant an initial Instructor qualification exempt from the initial SABC CBT and/or Instructor Course requirement for:

2.8.1.1.1. Specific instructor candidate(s) at a remote location without ready access to a SABC Instructor Course.

2.8.1.1.2. Specific instructor candidate(s) with extensive medical knowledge/skills.

2.8.1.2. A SABC Instructor who was qualified and actively instructing at a previous unit may resume SABC teaching duties within six (6) months of assignment to a new unit without repeating the SABC CBT and/or Instructor Course.

2.8.1.3. A SABC Instructor who was qualified and actively instructing prior to this AFI's publication date is exempt from the initial SABC CBT and/or Instructor Course requirement.

2.8.2. Must maintain SABC Instructor currency by teaching a minimum of three (3) SABC training classes per twelve (12) month period. AFRC and ANG SABC Instructors must teach three (3) classes per eighteen (18) month period (T-3).

2.8.2.1. SABC Instructors may count teaching credit(s) for instructing the SABC Hands-on training, SABC Instructor Course, or the Pararescue and AFSOC specific courses

identified in Paragraphs 3.2.2 and 3.2.3. Instructors may also count teaching credit(s) for instructing SABC to members from other units or at consolidated/mass training venues.

2.8.2.2. A previously qualified SABC Instructor who becomes non-current secondary to a deployment may resume SABC teaching duties after deployment return. Instructor currency should be fully regained IAW Paragraph 2.8.2 timeframes after deployment return.

2.8.3. SABC Instructor(s) submit completed trainee rosters, performance checklists, and course critiques to their respective Unit SABC Monitor. Example documents are available at the AFMS Knowledge Exchange SABC Knowledge Junction <https://kx2.afms.mil/kj/kx1/SABC/>. Units may coordinate with Wing SABC Advisors to develop local documents/forms for program efficiency.

## Chapter 3

### SABC TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

**3.1. Personnel Who Require SABC Training:** AF personnel (AF, AFRC and ANG) and designated civilian/contract employees must complete SABC training IAW Expeditionary Skills Training (EST) requirements for their specific Air Expeditionary Force (AEF) vulnerability period as listed on the AEF On-Line, Pre-Deployment Training page <https://aef.afpc.randolph.af.mil/Predeployment.aspx>. Exempt personnel are identified in Paragraph 3.2 and on Attachment 2.

**3.2. Personnel Exempt from SABC Training:**

3.2.1. Personnel listed on Attachment 2 are exempt from completing the SABC CBT and/or Hands-on training. Pararescue and Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) have course specific exemptions in Paragraphs 3.2.2 and 3.2.3.

3.2.2. The Pararescue Medical Skills Certification or Refresher course as outlined in AFI 10-3502v1, Pararescue and Combat Rescue Officer Training, fulfills both the SABC CBT and Hands-on training requirements. The Pararescue Medical Skills Certification or Refresher course completion date may be annotated as the SABC completion date.

3.2.3. The AFSOC taught Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) course fulfills both the SABC CBT and Hands-on training requirements. The AFSOC TCCC completion date may be annotated as the SABC completion date.



## Chapter 4

### SABC TRAINING PROGRAMS

#### 4.1. SABC CBT and Hands-on Training:

4.1.1. The SABC CBT presentation provides updated information on battlefield care concepts and the IFAK components. The SABC CBT may be completed online at the ADLS website or by a mass training/off-line format as outlined in Paragraph 4.3. Exempt personnel are identified in Paragraph 3.2 and Attachment 2.

4.1.2. The SABC Hands-on training emphasizes skills performance in an instructor led format. SABC skills increase competence with battlefield care and the IFAK components. The SABC Hands-on training may be completed by attending one-on-one, classroom or a mass training/off-line format as outlined in Paragraph 4.3. Exempt personnel are identified in Paragraph 3.2 and Attachment 2.

4.1.2.1. Hands-on instructor to trainee ratio must not exceed one (1) instructor for every twenty (20) trainees (1:20) (T-2). Instructors may teach smaller class sizes or conduct one-on-one training to meet mission requirements.

4.1.2.2. SABC Instructor(s) teach the Hands-on training class by utilizing the current lesson plans located on the AFMS Knowledge Exchange SABC Knowledge Junction at <https://kx2.afms.mil/kj/kx1/SABC/> or by utilizing a mass training/off-line format as outlined in Paragraph 4.3.

4.1.2.3. Trainees must have their SABC skills evaluated by utilizing a skills performance system or checklist (T-2). Instructors demonstrate proper techniques and procedures prior to trainee practice/evaluation. Example documents are available at the AFMS Knowledge Exchange SABC Knowledge Junction <https://kx2.afms.mil/kj/kx1/SABC/>. Units may coordinate with Wing SABC Advisors to develop local documents/forms for program efficiency.

4.1.3. Units may blend the SABC CBT and Hands-on training portions into a cohesive or interactive format for training efficiency (e.g., CBT tourniquet section may be paused for instructor demonstration and trainee practice/evaluation).

4.1.4. Units may append additional course material to the CBT and/or Hands-on portions as needed for unit or mission specific training.

4.1.5. AF personnel (AF, AFRC and ANG) and designated civilian/contract employees may fulfill SABC training requirements by attending any other AF, AFRC and/or ANG sponsored SABC training program(s).

4.1.6. Unit SABC Monitors update CBT and/or Hands-on training completion in ADLS, ARCNet or MRDSS. Trainees may receive an optional printed certificate of completion for deployment folders or to meet theater reporting instructions.

**4.2. SABC Instructor Course:** The SABC Instructor Course prepares instructor candidates to become Unit SABC Instructors. Candidates learn the proper techniques and skills to teach the SABC Hands-On training course. Curriculum, lesson plans, course material, and other guidance

are located on the AFMS Knowledge Exchange SABC Knowledge Junction at <https://kx2.afms.mil/kj/kx1/SABC/>.

#### **4.3. SABC Mass Training and Off-Line Formats:**

4.3.1. Mass training and/or off-line formats may be considered for units with limited computer access/availability, unusual mission constraints, or to efficiently execute SABC training.

4.3.2. Mass training formats must be led by a SABC Instructor(s) (T-1).

4.3.3. Mass training and/or off-line courses not based on current SABC lesson content must have the curriculum approved by the SABC OPR (AFMSA/SG3XT) before EST equivalency credit is awarded (T-1). Unapproved course content may be inaccurate or outdated. Standardized core content ensures equal training quality for AF personnel.

4.3.4. SABC Instructor(s) may conduct mass CBT and/or Hands-on instruction by displaying the ADLS SABC CBT in the Browse/Review Course mode or by displaying an approved EST equivalency course. Mass training using the ADLS SABC CBT may conclude with the end of course exam or with an optional written exam. Units may post the SABC CBT or approved EST equivalency course onto a local server for off-line access.

4.3.5. AF personnel (AF, AFRC and ANG) and designated civilian/contract employees may fulfill SABC training requirements by attending any other AF, AFRC and/or ANG sponsored SABC training program(s).

4.3.6. The mass training or off-line training completion date may be annotated as the SABC CBT and/or Hands-on completion date in ADLS, ARCNet or MRDSS. Trainees may receive an optional printed certificate of completion for deployment folders or to meet theater reporting instructions.

## Chapter 5

### SABC MANAGEMENT TOOL

**5.1. MRDSS SABC Module:** The newly developed MRDSS SABC module provides SABC Monitors and Instructors with an optional management tool for scheduling, documenting and overall program execution. SABC CBT completion dates automatically flow from ADLS or ARCNet into MRDSS. The module provides MAJCOM/Wing SABC Advisors and higher levels with a unified platform to oversee program compliance. A MRDSS user's guide is available on the AFMS Knowledge Exchange SABC Knowledge Junction at <https://kx2.afms.mil/kj/kx1/SABC/>.

SAMUEL D. COX, Lieutenant General, USAF  
DCS, Manpower, Personnel, and Services

**Attachment 1****GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

DODD 6200.04, *Force Health Protection*, 9 October 2004 (certified current 23 April 2007)  
DODI 1322.24, *Medical Readiness Training*, 6 October 2011  
AFPD 36-26, *Total Force Development*, 27 September 2011  
AFI 10-3502v1, *Pararescue and Combat Rescue Officer Training*, 16 February 2011  
AFI 33-360, *Publications and Forms Management*, 7 February 2013  
AFI 36-2201, *Air Force Training Program*, 15 September 2010  
AFI 36-2644, *Self-Aid and Buddy Care Training*, 2 April 2012  
AFI 38-101, *Air Force Organization*, 2 May 2013  
AFMAN 33-363, *Management of Records*, December 2002

***Prescribed Forms***

None

***Adopted Forms***

AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

***Abbreviations and Acronyms***

**ADLS**—Advanced Distributed Learning System  
**AEF**—Air Expeditionary Force  
**AF**—Air Force  
**AFI**—Air Force Instruction  
**AFMAN**—Air Force Manual  
**AFPD**—Air Force Policy Directive  
**AFMS**—Air Force Medical Service  
**AFMSA/SG3XT**—AF Medical Support Agency/Operational Support and Training Division  
**AFSC**—Air Force Specialty Code  
**AFSOC**—Air Force Special Operations Command  
**AFRC**—Air Force Reserve Command  
**AFRIMS**—Air Force Records Information Management System  
**ANG**—Air National Guard  
**ARCNet**— Air Reserve Component Network  
**CBT**—Computer Based Training

**CC**—Commander  
**DCS**—Deputy Chief of Staff  
**DRU**—Direct Reporting Unit  
**EET**—Exercise Evaluation Team  
**EST**—Expeditionary Skills Training  
**FOA**—Field Operating Agency  
**GSU**—Geographically Separated Unit  
**HAF**—Headquarters Air Force  
**IAW**—In Accordance With  
**JS**—Joint Staff  
**MAJCOM**—Major Command  
**MICT**—Management Internal Control Toolset  
**MPF**—Military Personnel Flight  
**MRDSS**—Medical Readiness Decision Support System  
**MTF**—Medical Treatment Facility  
**NGB**—National Guard Bureau  
**NREMT**—Nationally Registered Emergency Medical Technician  
**NSN**—National Stock Number  
**OPR**—Office of Primary Responsibility  
**OSD**—Office of the Secretary of Defense  
**PAS**—Personnel Accounting Symbol  
**RDS**—Records Disposition Schedule  
**SABC**—Self-Aid and Buddy Care  
**SAC**—Self-Assessment Checklist  
**SAV**—Staff Assistance Visit  
**SG**—Surgeon General  
**TCCC**—Tactical Combat Casualty Care  
**USAF**—United States Air Force  
**UTA**—Unit Training Assembly  
**UDM**—Unit Deployment Manager  
**UTM**—Unit Training Manager

## Attachment 2

## PERSONNEL EXEMPT FROM SABC TRAINING

**A2.1.** This Attachment contains tables of personnel exempt from SABC CBT and/or SABC Hands-on training.

**Figure A2.1. Table of AFSCs exempt from SABC CBT only.**

<b>Primary or Duty AFSC</b>	<b>CORPS</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
042F3	BSC	Podiatrist
044A3	MC	Chief Hospital/Clinic Services
044B3	MC	Preventive Medicine
044D3**	MC	Pathologist
044H3	MC	Nuclear Medicine Physician
044N3	MC	Neurologist
044P3**	MC	Psychiatrist
044R3**	MC	Diagnostic Radiology
044S3**	MC	Dermatologist
044T3	MC	Radiotherapist
044U3	MC	Occupational Medicine
044Z3	MC	Allergist
045P3	MC	Physical Medicine Physician
046A3	NC	Nurse Administrator
046P3	NC	Mental Health Nurse
047B3	DC	Orthodontist
047D3	DC	Oral Pathologist
047E3	DC	Endodontist
047G3**	DC	Dental Officer
047H3	DC	Periodontist
047K3	DC	Pediatric Dentist
047P3**	DC	Prosthodontist
4N1X1**	ENL	Surgical Service Technician

**Figure A2.2. Table of AFSCs exempt from both SABC CBT and Hands-on Training.**

<b>Primary or Duty AFSC</b>	<b>CORPS</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
042G3**	BSC	Physician Assistant
044E3**	MC	Emergency Services Physician
044F3	MC	Family Physician
044G3	MC	General Practice Physician
044K3**	MC	Pediatrician
044M3**	MC	Internist
044Y3**	MC	Critical Care Medicine
045A3	MC	Anesthesiology
045B3**	MC	Orthopedic Surgeon
045E3**	MC	Ophthalmologist
045G3**	MC	OB/GYN
045N3**	MC	ENT
045S3**	MC	Surgeon
045U3**	MC	Urologist
046F3	NC	Flight Nurse
046N3**	NC	Clinical Nurse
046S3	NC	Operating Room Nurse
046Y3**	NC	Privileged Advanced Practice Nurse
047S3	DC	Oral Maxillofacial Surgeon
048A3**	MC	Aerospace Medicine Specialist
048G3**	MC	Aerospace Medicine Physician
048R3**	MC	Residency Trained Flight Surgeon
048V3**	MC	Pilot Physician
4N0X1**	ENL	Aerospace Medical Service Technician
OTHER	OTHER	current SABC Instructors current Nationally Registered Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) current Nationally Registered Paramedics

\*\* = All AFSC Suffixes