



Photo Courtesy of Alex Zhitnik

WILDERNESS FIRST RESPONDER (WFR)

Sponsored by *NOLS Southwest* & *NOLS Wilderness Medicine*



DATES: *January 24 - February 2, 2020*

COST: *\$795 - Tuition only*

LOCATION: *Tucson, Arizona*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Wilderness First Responder course is essential if you work or recreate in the outdoors or in other austere environments where access to medical care is delayed or communication is unreliable. It is the industry standard for professional guides, trip leaders, search and rescue team members, outdoor recreationists, and international travelers. Upon completion, you will be able to conduct a thorough physical exam, obtain a patient history, assess vital signs, provide emergency care in the wilderness, and make crucial evacuation decisions. During this fast-paced, engaging course, you will spend half your time practicing skills and participating in realistic scenarios, including a full-scale night mock rescue.

NOLS Wilderness Medicine's nationally recognized curriculum encompasses a wide range of topics including long-term patient care, wound management, selective spine immobilization, reducing dislocations, litter packaging, and epinephrine administration. Dynamic educators who have practiced medicine in both wilderness and urban environments will teach you skills and protocols to step forward in an emergency, and you will finish the intensive 80-hour course with the tools and confidence to manage patients in the backcountry for multiple days.

Upon successful course completion, you will earn the following NOLS Wilderness Medicine certifications: Wilderness First Responder, Adult, and Child CPR & Airway Management, and Epinephrine Auto-injector.

CLASS FORMAT AND PERSONAL PREPAREDNESS

Check-in is at 7:45 AM on the first day of the course. Course days run from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, with two additional evening sessions. Ten-day courses will include a day off; nine-day courses do not. The class format is classroom lectures integrated with practical scenarios, case studies, and skills practice sessions. Attendance is required at all classes.

Scenarios and practice sessions will take place both inside and outside. Bring outdoor clothing appropriate for lying on the potentially wet, snowy, or cold ground playing the role of both rescuer and patient. Frequently stage (moulage) blood and make-up are used to enhance the realism of a scenario. The classroom environment generally lends itself to a pair of indoor comfy shoes and a camp chair. A 4-hour evening, outdoor mock rescue is part of the curriculum; dress accordingly.

PACKING CHECKLIST

- Notebook and pencil or pen
- Watch with a second hand or digital second
- Sunglasses and hat
- Water bottle
- Light day pack
- Headlamp
- Waterproof outerwear top and bottom
- Light hiking boots or sturdy shoes
- Clothing layers that allow you to be comfortable in a variety of weather conditions
- Slippers or comfortable shoes for classroom time (optional)
- Camp chair for classroom time (optional)

COURSE OUTLINE

For the full course outline, visit the [NOLS Wilderness Medicine WFR](#) course page.

REGISTRATION AND TUITION PAYMENT

A deposit of \$300 is required to reserve your spot on the course. The balance of tuition is due two weeks prior to the first day of the course. You can pay your balance online by following this [link](#) (we accept Visa or Mastercard). You can also call NOLS Wilderness Medicine office with credit card information, or by mailing a check (with driver's license number).

The tuition fee includes instruction, textbooks, equipment use, certification, and continuing education credits. A full refund will be given if we need to cancel the course for any reason.

Course Tuition: \$795 general public

Less Deposit: \$300 (due at time of registration)

Balance due: \$495.00 2 weeks prior to the course beginning.

WAF/WFR/WEMT RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

NOLS Wilderness Medicine Graduates
NOLS Wilderness Medicine certification holders will be afforded a one-year period after expiration within which to recertify. This one-year re-entry period is only offered to those certified through NOLS Wilderness Medicine. Enrolled students must bring their certification card to the course so that the instructor can verify the expiration date.

Graduates from Other Wilderness Medicine Providers

NOLS Wilderness Medicine welcomes eligible graduates from other providers to recertify on our Wilderness First Responder Recertification course or our Hybrid Wilderness First Responder Recertification course. To be eligible for recertification you must possess a current (unexpired) WAF/WFR certification, WFR certification from a provider whose WFR course is a minimum of 70 hours, or WEMT certification.

There is no re-entry period once your certification expires. It is your responsibility to make sure your certification meets this standard. If you are unsure, please contact NOLS Wilderness Medicine to verify your certification qualifies before enrolling in a course.

Students certified by other wilderness medicine providers are required to submit a photocopy of their unexpired certification card on the first day of the course. We

cannot issue you a new card until we have verified your previous training.

Students recertifying the wilderness portion of their WEMT certification must submit a photocopy of their current EMT card on course.

NOLS WILDERNESS MEDICINE STUDENT AGREEMENT

Please download the **[NOLS Student Agreement](#)** and read it carefully as it affects your legal rights.

Bring the two-page signed document to the first day of the course. If you are a minor, a parent or guardian must sign the document as well. Without a signed document, you cannot participate in the course. NOLS Wilderness Medicine participants, including minors, will have unsupervised free time throughout the course. Any activities during the free time are not part of the NOLS Wilderness Medicine program and are at the sole risk of the participant.

NOLS WILDERNESS MEDICINE POLICIES

Cancellations

If you cancel or withdraws from a course:

- Greater than or equal to 30 days prior to the course start date, NOLS Wilderness Medicine will retain a \$35.00 administrative fee. The remainder of tuition collected to date will be refunded.
- Within 30 days of the course start date, tuition is non-refundable and non-transferable as per the following:
 - WFA, WFR-R, WMPP – loss of full tuition.
 - WFR, WAF/W, WUMP – loss of course deposit.
- Once the course begins, no refunds will be awarded. All course registrations are non-transferable.

Pets

Pets are not allowed at the course site. This includes leashing them outside. Any student bringing a pet to class will be asked to leave until the pet is safely situated in a kennel or other facility. No exceptions.

Service Animals

Please contact the Wilderness Medicine office at 1-866-831-9001 if you intend to bring a service animal to the course.

Alcohol, Drugs, Tobacco & Weapons

No alcohol, no drugs, no tobacco, and no weapons are allowed in the classroom or on the campus.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

EMT Continuing Education

NOLS Wilderness Medicine is proud to be a [**Commission on Accreditation of Pre-Hospital Continuing Education \(CAPCE\)**](#) accredited organization. Current EMTs are eligible to receive 70 CEU hours at no additional cost for participation in a Wilderness First Responder course.

Please bring a photocopy of your current EMT card(s) with you to your course. Also, ensure that CAPCE CEUs will be accepted by your State EMS organization.

Fellowship in the Academy of Wilderness Medicine (FAWM)

Through joint sponsorship with the Wilderness Medical Society, active members of WMS may earn up to 55 hours at no additional cost for participation in the Wilderness First Responder course. Learn more about WMS [here](#).

COLLEGE CREDITS

Pre-Course Access to College Credit

The WFR course is pre-approved for 3 credit through Western State Colorado University or an additional cost. Interested students must initiate registration and payment for credit by contacting Western at least 30 days prior to the course start. More information can be found [here](#).

On-Course Access to College Credit

The WFR course is pre-approved for one semester hour credit through the University of Utah for an additional cost. If you are interested in receiving college credit, please ask your instructors on the first day of class for the necessary information.

STUDENT LOGISTICS

Meals and Lodging

There are no meals available for this course.

Camping, showers, restrooms and internet access are available at NOLS Southwest for \$7 per night. You will need to bring your own camping gear. Please be in touch with Ben Venter using the contact information below to reserve camping space.

Additional lodging suggestions in the area:

- *Comfort Suites at Sabino Canyon: 7007 E Tanque Verde, Tucson, AZ 85715; (520) 298-2300. (If there are rooms available they have a NOLS discount, please use this [link](#) to access the discounted rate.)*
- *[US Forest Service Camping on Mt. Lemmon](#) (Santa Catalina Mountains), \$10/ night*

Travel

The course will be held at NOLS Southwest, located at 2751 N Soldier Trl in Tucson, Arizona. The campus is located on the far northeast side of Tucson, close to the base of Mt. Lemmon. Click [here](#) for driving directions.

Once you arrive follow signs for "Instructor Parking" and walk towards the large building with the glass entryway. You'll find the classroom at the end of the hallway on the right. See the map below for an overview of the campus.

If you are flying to the course, we recommend flying to Tucson International Airport. There are a variety of shuttle and taxi services that can get you to the NOLS Southwest campus from the airport:

- **Tucson Stagecoach Express Shuttle:** (520) 889-1000
- Uber, Lyft and Totalride: rideshare companies available in Tucson by their apps.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.

Course Host:

Office Hours: M-F from 8am-5pm MST

Phone: 520-749-0955

Email: ben_venter@nols.edu

Website: www.nols.edu

NOLS Wilderness Medicine:

Office Hours: M-F from 8am-5pm MDT

Phone: (866) 831-9001

Email

Website

