Training Memo:
Virtual Training Options for AHA Provider Courses

Date of Release	August 5, 2021
Purpose	The Training Memo, "Interim Guidance: Virtual Training Options for AHA Provider Courses," was issued to Training Center Coordinators only on April 2, 2020, and June 11, 2020, and was expanded to include all TCCs and Instructors globally on December 15, 2020. This memo supersedes the Interim Guidance of December 15, 2020. This memo does not replace the Interim Guidance for virtual AHA Instructor Training issued on January 14, 2021.
General Information	The American Heart Association will allow Training Centers to conduct virtual training for provider courses under the requirements outlined in this memo, to ensure consistency and quality in all AHA provider-level courses.
Provider Course Clarification	Virtual training options apply to the following provider-level courses: BLS Provider, ACLS Provider, PALS Provider, and all Heartsaver® courses (e.g., Heartsaver First Aid CPR AED and Heartsaver Pediatric First Aid CPR AED).
Information for Training Centers and Instructors	When considering virtual training, please note the following: • All other AHA requirements for conducting the training, as described in the course Instructor Manual and Training Center Agreement, must be fulfilled. Hands-on skills practice and testing are required. • The Instructor conducting the virtual training must be aligned with the Training Center and be current in the discipline being taught and course card(s) being issued. • Upon request, the Training Center must provide course rosters to the AHA for all classes conducted with virtual training. Virtual Training Requirements • For Heartsaver courses, the student will complete the appropriate Heartsaver online course for the cognitive work. • If the student requires the Heartsaver written exam, the Heartsaver written exam is permitted on a Learning Management System (LMS). A second option is for the instructor to deliver the exam verbally with the students. The student would return the completed exam sheet to the instructor electronically or through the mail. • For BLS, ACLS, and PALS, the student will complete the appropriate HeartCode eLearning course.

	• Instructor-led Heartsaver, BLS, ACLS, and PALS classes offered through a video or web-based platform are no longer permitted. • Instructor-led, pre-recorded Heartsaver, BLS, ACLS, or PALS classes for student viewing are no longer permitted. Hands-on skills practice and testing • A feedback device meeting the AHA's requirements for measuring compression rate and depth during skills practice and testing must be used by students. • An AHA Instructor will observe skills practice and testing via live video. • The sound and camera positioning for virtual testing must be adequate for the Instructor to accurately assess high-quality CPR including feedback from the feedback device, student hand position, manikin chest rise, and other required skills elements. Virtual skills testing should not be used if the Instructor is unable to adequately assess high-quality CPR skills performance. • A sustained loss of internet connection, visibility and/or audio will require rescheduling the skills practice and testing. The required skills practice and testing must be completed, or the session will need to be rescheduled. • Instructors must adhere to the student to instructor ratios in the respective Instructor Manuals. • The student must have all required equipment onsite for the virtual skills practice and testing. It is not acceptable for the Instructor to retain the equipment and ask the student to verbalize the skills. • It is acceptable for BLS courses to have only one student for activities that normally require 2 or more students. In this case, the student should be able to verbally provide instruction on what the second rescuer (or team members) should be doing in the scenario-based learning and testing stations specified in the course Lesson Plans. For ACLS/PALS, at least 3 students must be in attendance.