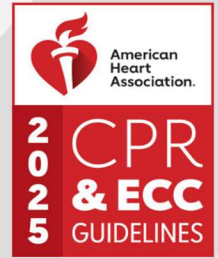


ACLS Provider Course (Instructor-Led Training) 2025 Guidelines FAQ



As of October 22, 2025

Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) Provider Instructor-Led Training (ILT) Course

Q: What is the American Heart Association's 2025 ACLS Provider Course?

A: The Association's ACLS Provider Course has been updated to reflect new science in the 2025 American Heart Association Guidelines for CPR and ECC and the 2025 ACC/AHA/ACEP/NAEMSP/SCAI Guideline for the Management of Patients With Acute Coronary Syndromes. ACLS teaches the importance of preventing cardiac arrest, high-performance teams, continuous high-quality CPR, systems of care, recognition and intervention of cardiopulmonary arrest, post-cardiac arrest care, acute dysrhythmias, stroke, and acute coronary syndromes (ACS).

The goal of the ACLS Provider Course is to improve outcomes for adult cardiac arrest, stroke and other cardiopulmonary emergencies through early recognition and time-sensitive interventions by high-performance teams.

Q: What specifically is taught in the new ACLS Course?

A: In the 2025 ACLS Provider Course, students will learn and practice

- Systematic approach (assessment)
- High-quality BLS
- Airway management
- Rhythm recognition
- Defibrillation
- Intravenous (IV)/intraosseous (IO) access (information only)
- Use of medications
- Cardioversion
- Transcutaneous pacing
- High-performance teams

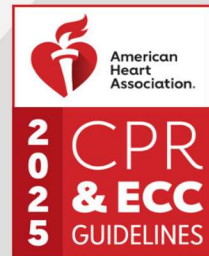
Q: What are the key differences between the 2020 Guidelines and 2025 Guidelines versions of the ACLS Provider Course?

A: The 2025 ACLS Course includes the following updates:

Course Videos

- Course videos have been fully updated, except for the Coping with Death course video, that includes a new look, updated graphics, and updated animations.

ACLS Provider Course (Instructor-Led Training) 2025 Guidelines FAQ



Instructor Manual

- The Instructor Manual (IM) has been updated with new illustrations, updated checklists, and includes an emphasis on objective testing. With a focus on measuring and reporting chest compression fraction (CCF), checklists now include space to record team CCF.

Provider Manual Updates

- The Provider Manual (PM) has been updated with new science and new illustrations. Please refer to the [2025 ACLS Science Summary Table](#) for specific science changes.

Q: What is the format for the ACLS Provider ILT Course?

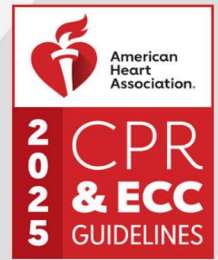
A: In the new ACLS Provider ILT Course, video prework can be completed before the course depending on the agenda chosen by the Training Center (TC) so that students are more prepared for the course.. Video prework includes the eight video lessons, each followed by interactive questions to check for learning.. The course is structured as follows:

- Core concepts are presented through case-based scenarios around a manikin as a team during class.
- The CPR Coach and Instructor coaches students by using a required feedback device as they practice CPR and ventilation skills.
- The Instructor monitors as each student/team demonstrates skills proficiency as outlined in the learning station checklists and the skills testing checklists.
- Students take the ACLS Provider Course Exam to confirm their understanding of core concepts.

The TC may choose for students to complete online video lessons (prework) before coming to class, or may choose to conduct a regular ACLS course, where all video lessons are conducted in class as interactive discussions with students. The course is designed to give students the opportunity to practice and demonstrate proficiency in the following skills used in resuscitation:

- Systematic approach (assessment)
- High-quality BLS
- Airway management
- Rhythm recognition
- Defibrillation
- Intravenous (IV)/intraosseous (IO) access (information only)
- Use of medications
- Cardioversion

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- Transcutaneous pacing
- High-performance teams

Q: Is there an ACLS Update Course?

A: Yes.

ACLS Target Audience

Q: Who is the intended audience for the ACLS Course?

A: The ACLS Course is designed for healthcare professionals who either direct or participate in the management of cardiac arrest, stroke or other cardiopulmonary emergencies. This includes personnel in emergency response, emergency medicine, intensive care/critical care units and surgery such as physicians, nurses, and paramedics, as well as others who need an ACLS course completion card for job or other requirements.

Q: What are the prerequisites for taking the ACLS Course?

A: Providers who take the ACLS Course must be proficient in the following:

- Performing high-quality BLS skills according to the current American Heart Association Guidelines for CPR and ECC
- Reading and interpreting electrocardiograms (ECGs)
- Understanding ACLS pharmacology
- Providing bag-mask ventilation

Q: What resources are available to help prepare students for the ACLS Course?

A: The following ACLS resources are available to students at eLearning.heart.org:

- Mandatory Precourse Self-Assessment
- Precourse Preparation Checklist
- Pework (Video lessons)
- ACLS Supplementary Information
- IO Video
- Coping With Death Video

Precourse Self-Assessment

Q: What is the ACLS Precourse Self-Assessment?

A: The Precourse Self-Assessment is an online tool that evaluates a student's knowledge in three sections: rhythm recognition, pharmacology, and practical application. Students complete the assessment *before the course* to help evaluate their proficiency and determine the need for additional review and practice before the course. All students must complete the Precourse Self-Assessment and achieve a score of at least 70% before taking the ACLS Course. Students

ACLS Provider Course (Instructor-Led Training) 2025 Guidelines FAQ



must print their successful scoring report and Course Completion Certificate and bring it with them to class.

Q: Why is the ACLS Precourse Self-Assessment required?

A: Students need to make sure they are prepared for the ACLS Provider Course to minimize the risk of failing the course. Market research indicates a significantly favorable response from Instructors on making the Precourse Self-Assessment mandatory. The need for the mandatory Precourse Self-Assessment has increased due to more non-traditional students taking ACLS.

Course Materials

Q: What materials are available for the ACLS Provider Instructor-led Course?

A: Materials for the Association's ACLS Provider Instructor-led training course are currently available through ShopCPR.Heart.org. Materials include:

Student Materials:

25-1106 ACLS Provider Manual
25-1120 ACLS Reference Card Set (Set of 3)
25-3100 ACLS Provider Manual eBook
25-3109 ACLS Digital Reference Cards (Set of 3)

Instructor Materials:

25-1109 ACLS Provider Course Videos: DVD
25-1154 ACLS Provider Course Videos: USB
25-1413 ACLS Provider Course Videos: Digital & Streaming
25-1107 ACLS Instructor Manual
25-3101 ACLS Instructor Manual eBook
25-1138 ACLS Instructor Package: Digital & Streaming Videos
25-1108 ACLS Instructor Package: DVD Videos
25-1155 ACLS Instructor Package: USB Videos

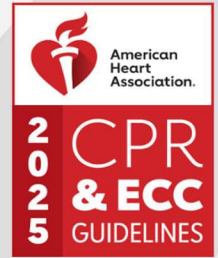
Cards

25-3000 ACLS Provider eCard
25-3015 ACLS Instructor eCard

Supplemental

25-1111 ACLS Posters (Set of 10)
25-1110 ACLS Emergency Crash Cart Cards (Set of 4)
25-1112 Suspected Stroke and EMS Acute Stroke Routing Algorithm Card (Pack of 25)

ACLS Provider Course (Instructor-Led Training) 2025 Guidelines FAQ



Course Length

Q: How long is the ACLS Course?

A: Approximate times for each version of the ACLS Provider Course with breaks are listed below:

- ACLS Course with Video Prework: 13.25 – 14.25 hours with breaks
- ACLS Update Course with Video Prework: 8.25 – 9.25 hours with breaks
- ACLS Course: 15.50 – 16.50 hours with breaks
- ACLS Update Course: 8.50 – 9.50 hours with breaks
- HeartCode® ACLS Instructor-Led Hands-On Skills Session: 6.75 – 7.75 hours with breaks

Teaching the New ACLS Provider Instructor-led Course

Q: Who can teach the new ACLS Provider ILT Course?

A: The new ACLS Course may be taught by Association ACLS Instructors who have completed their 2025 Guidelines Instructor Update for ACLS and have received and reviewed their new ACLS Course Instructor materials.

Q: What resources are available to help Instructors understand the new ACLS Course and materials?

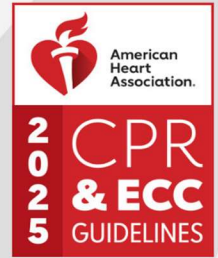
A: The Association developed the ACLS Product & Course Orientation (P&CO) to help ACLS Instructors understand the new, 2025 ACLS course design and teaching strategies, and to quickly get up to speed on the latest and most important updates to the ACLS Course materials. This orientation is available free of charge to Instructors through eLearning.Heart.org (requires login with Association Atlas credentials).

The P&CO provides ACLS Instructors with:

- Information about new course materials, course curriculum updates, and how the changes impact the way you will teach the ACLS Course
- Details, clarification, and direction on various course formats
- Specifics about new ACLS course materials
- Steps to incorporate new updates into various course settings

While all ACLS Instructors are strongly encouraged to complete the P&CO before teaching the new course, it is not required. Viewing the P&CO is most helpful if Instructors have new course materials in hand while viewing.

ACLS Provider Course (Instructor-Led Training) 2025 Guidelines FAQ



Q: Does the 2025 ACLS Provider Course include an option for students to earn a BLS Provider Card during an ACLS class?

A: Yes. The Association does offer an official agenda for Instructors to add BLS skills testing and an exam to provide both a BLS Provider eCard and an ACLS Provider eCard upon successful completion of the ACLS course. If a BLS Provider card is to be issued, a BLS Instructor must be present to complete the infant CPR skills tests as well as the exam. Renewal of BLS skills during an ACLS class should be a preplanned option, with registration for the BLS portion to allow for both the students and the Instructor to prepare. Finally, during an ACLS course, if a BLS card is also being issued, it must come from the same Training Center that is issuing the ACLS card.

2025 ACLS Exam

Q: Are students allowed to access resources when taking the ACLS Provider Course Exam?

A: The Association has an open-resource policy for exams. Open resource means that students may use resources as a reference while completing the exam. Resources could include the provider manual, either in printed form or as an eBook on personal devices, any notes the student took during the provider course, the 2025 Handbook of ECC for Health Care Professionals, etc. Open resource does not mean open discussion with other students or the Instructor. Students may not interact with each other during the exam.

Continuing Education (CE) Information

Q: Does the ACLS Provider ILT Course offer continuing education (CE)?

A: Yes. The following CE is available for the ACLS Provider and the ACLS Update Courses:

Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support Course

Continuing Education Accreditation – Emergency Medical Services

This continuing education activity is approved by the American Heart Association, an organization accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Pre-Hospital Continuing Education (CAPCE), for 13.75 Advanced CEHs, activity number 25-AMHA-F2-0029.

Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support Video Prework

AMA Credit Designation Statement - Physicians

The American Heart Association designates this activity for a maximum of 1.50 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

AAPA Credit Acceptance Statement – Physician Associates

ACLS Provider Course (Instructor-Led Training) 2025 Guidelines FAQ



AAPA accepts certificates of participation for educational activities certified for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™* from organizations accredited by ACCME or a recognized state medical society. Physician associates may receive a maximum of 1.50 hours of Category I credit for completing this program.

AANP Credit Acceptance Statement – Nurse Practitioners

American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) accepts *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™* from organizations accredited by the ACCME.

ANCC Credit Designation Statement - Nurses

The maximum number of hours awarded for this CE activity is 1.50 contact hours.

ACPE Credit Designation Statement – Pharmacists

ACPE Credit: 1.50 Contact Hours. Universal Program Number: JA0000134-0000-25-039-H01-P

****ACPE Credit must be claimed within 30 days of participation. ACPE credit will no longer be available to claim after the 30-day period has elapsed.**

Continuing Education Accreditation – Emergency Medical Services

This continuing education activity is approved by the American Heart Association, an organization accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Pre-Hospital Continuing Education (CAPCE), for 1.50 Advanced CEHs, activity number 25-AMHA-F3-0026.

Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support Course With Video Prework

Continuing Education Accreditation – Emergency Medical Services

This continuing education activity is approved by the American Heart Association, an organization accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Pre-Hospital Continuing Education (CAPCE), for 12.5 Advanced CEHs, activity number 25-AMHA-F2-0030.

Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support Update Course

Continuing Education Accreditation – Emergency Medical Services

This continuing education activity is approved by the American Heart Association, an organization accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Pre-Hospital Continuing Education (CAPCE), for 8.0 Advanced CEHs, activity number 25-AMHA-F2-0031.

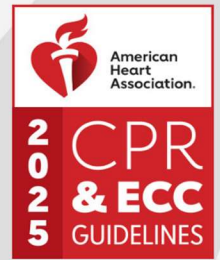
Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support Course Card and BLS Card With Video Prework

Continuing Education Accreditation – Emergency Medical Services

This continuing education activity is approved by the American Heart Association, an organization accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Pre-Hospital Continuing Education (CAPCE), for 12.5 Advanced CEHs, activity number 25-AMHA-F2-0030.

Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support Update Course Card and BLS Card With Video Prework

ACLS Provider Course (Instructor-Led Training) 2025 Guidelines FAQ



Continuing Education Accreditation – Emergency Medical Services

This continuing education activity is approved by the American Heart Association, an organization accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Pre-Hospital Continuing Education (CAPCE), for 7.75 Advanced CEHs, activity number 25-AMHA-F2-0025.