

American Heart Association Course Matrix

The BLS for Healthcare Provider Class is intended for healthcare providers such as EMS personnel, physician assistants, doctors, dentists, nurses, and respiratory therapists who must have a credential (card) documenting successful completion of a BLS class. The BLS for Healthcare Providers Class covers core material such as adult and pediatric CPR (including two-rescuer scenarios and use of the bag mask), foreign-body airway obstruction, and automated external defibrillation. The BLS for Healthcare Providers Class is approximately 4 hours long concluding with a written test and skills pass off testing. At the conclusion of this class, the learner will be able to demonstrate the accurate steps of CPR, demonstrate the proper use of an AED, and demonstrate methods used to relieve choking.

The BLS for Healthcare Providers *Renewal* Class is intended for students who possess a valid BLS Healthcare Provider Card with a current date. Expired cards require the learner to attend the BLS Healthcare Provider Class. Students complete an online class and an online written test. After completing the online class and online written test, the student prints a Certificate of Completion. The Certificate is brought to a BLS Renewal Class Skills Pass Off. The skills pass off is approximately 45 minutes long. At the conclusion of this class, the learner will be able to demonstrate the accurate steps of CPR, demonstrate the proper use of an AED, and demonstrate methods used to relieve choking.

The Heartsaver/AED Class is intended for those who have a duty to respond to a cardiac emergency because of job responsibilities or regulatory requirements. This class teaches CPR, AED (automated external defibrillator) use, relief of choking in adults and children, and infant CPR and relief of choking, and use of barrier devices for all ages. Heartsaver/AED is not a certification class in that there is no pre-test or post-test. This class is approximately 3 ½ hours long. At the conclusion of this class, the learner will be able to demonstrate the accurate steps of CPR, demonstrate the proper use of an AED, and demonstrate methods used to relieve choking.

The Family & Friends CPR Class is intended for family members of patients at risk and members of the general community who want to learn CPR but do not need a course completion card. This class teaches infant, child and adult CPR, as well as relief of choking. This class is approximately 2 hours long. At the conclusion of this class, the learner will be able to demonstrate the accurate steps of CPR, demonstrate the proper use of an AED, and demonstrate methods used to relieve choking.

The Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) Provider Class is intended for healthcare providers such as pediatricians, emergency physicians, family physicians, physician assistants, nurses, nurse practitioners, paramedics, respiratory therapists, and other healthcare providers who initiate and direct advanced life support in pediatric emergencies. At the conclusion of this class, the learner will be able to discuss the “assess-categorize-decide-act” approach, explain the purpose and components of the general assessment, evaluate respiratory or circulatory problems, recognize signs that a child is in respiratory distress or respiratory failure, recognize clinical signs and symptoms of shock, discuss management of shock, recognize and manage cardiac rhythms, select appropriate medications for treatment of symptomatic cardiac rhythms. This class is a two-day class, approximately 14 hours total.

The Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) **Renewal** Class is intended for healthcare providers such as pediatricians, emergency physicians, family physicians, physician assistants, nurses, nurse practitioners, paramedics, respiratory therapists, and other healthcare providers who possess a valid PALS Provider Card with a current date. Expired cards require the learner to attend the two-day PALS Provider Class. At the conclusion of this class, the learner will be able to discuss the “assess-categorize-decide-act” approach, explain the purpose and components of the general assessment, evaluate respiratory or circulatory problems, recognize signs that a child is in respiratory distress or respiratory failure, recognize clinical signs and symptoms of shock, discuss management of shock, recognize and manage cardiac rhythms, select appropriate medications for treatment of symptomatic cardiac rhythms. This class is approximately 7 hours long.

The PEARS Provider Course is designed to help the basic pediatric healthcare provider develop the knowledge and skills for emergency assessment and treatment of seriously ill infants, and children. Those who attend the PEARS course must have a current BLS Healthcare Provider card. Students learn how to recognize respiratory distress and failure, shock, and cardiac arrest as well as provide appropriate lifesaving actions within the initial minutes of response until the child is transferred to an advanced life support provider. At the conclusion of this course, the learner will be able to assess a seriously ill or injured child using the general and primary assessments; understand the “assess-categorize-decide-act” approach to recognition and management of the child in respiratory distress or failure, shock, or cardiac arrest; know appropriate actions to take for stabilizing a critically ill or injured child during the initial minutes of response until the next level of care arrives; recognize and take appropriate actions for a child in cardiac arrest; and use elements of effective communication as a team member. This is a one-day class (8 hours).