Medical Education Simulation Center
University of California, Irvine
School of Medicine

HeartCode® BLS and ACLS

Frequency Asked Questions

Q: What is HeartCode® Part 1?

Q: What content is taught in HeartCode BLS Part 1?

Q: Approximately how long does it take to complete HeartCode BLS Part 1?

Q: Is a skills session required?

Q: What skills are tested during HeartCode BLS?

Q: After completion of HeartCode BLS Part 1, how long do I have to complete the skills portion?

Q: How long do I have to complete HeartCode BLS Part 1?

Q: Is HeartCode BLS Part 1 an approved program?

Q: How long is the AHA BLS card valid?

Q: Does the program require special computer or support software?

Q: Does the program require special computer or support software?

Q: What content is taught in HeartCode ACLS Part 1?

Q: Approximately how long does HeartCode ACLS Part 1 take to complete?

Q: What skills are tested during HeartCode ACLS?

Q: Is HeartCode ACLS Part 1 an approved program?

Q: How long is the AHA ACLS card valid?

Q: Does HeartCode ACLS Part 1 offer continuing education (CE/CME/CEH)?

Q: Does HeartCode BLS Part 1 offer continuing education (CE/CME/CEH)?

Q: Can students log in and out of the course on HealthStream?

Q: Can I assess program materials after the online portion is complete?

Q: I don't understand the timing requirement of complete part 2 within 60 days of part 1, who made this requirement?

Q: How do I schedule Part 2 (skills portion)?

Q: How do I sign up for HeartCode BLS and/or BLS?

Q: How long after sign up and payment before I get access to the online portion?

Q: Are there days that I cannot do Part 2?

Q: Do I get a book with this course?

Q: I need to take the skills portion, but I didn't take part 1 through your center, can I take the skills portion there?

Q: I signed up at the UC Irvine Medical Center, can I take the skills at your center?

Q: What is HeartCode® Part 1?

A: HeartCode BLS Part 1 is a Web-based, self-paced instructional program that uses eSimulation technology to allow students to assess and treat patients in virtual healthcare settings. In this environment, students apply their knowledge to real-time decision making and skills development. Debriefings and coaching are provided immediately after each simulation to facilitate learning. After completing the cognitive portion of the course, students practice and test their skills with an AHA Instructor or on a voice-assisted manikin (VAM) system.

HeartCode BLS Part 1 teaches participants both single-rescuer and team basic life support, prompt recognition of several life-threatening emergencies, giving high-quality chest compressions, delivery of appropriate ventilations, providing early use of an AED and relief of choking. It includes adult, child, and infant rescue techniques.

Q: What content is taught in HeartCode BLS Part 1?

A: Content covered in this program includes:
- Key changes in basic life support, reflecting new science from the 2010 American Heart
- Association Guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular
- Care (2010 AHA Guidelines for CPR & ECC)
- Critical concepts in high-quality CPR
- The American Heart Association Chain of Survival
- One-rescuer CPR and AED for adults, children and infants
- Two-rescuer CPR and AED for adults, children and infants
- Differences among adult, child and infant rescue techniques
- Bag-mask techniques for adults, children and infants
- Rescue breathing for adults, children and infants
- Relief of choking for adults, children and infants
- CPR with an advanced airway*

Q: Approximately how long does it take to complete HeartCode BLS Part 1?

A: Part 1 can be completed in approximately 1 to 2 hours

Q: Is a skills session required?

A: Yes. To earn an AHA BLS or ACLS for Healthcare Providers course completion card, students must successfully complete a BLS for Healthcare Providers skills practice and testing session

(Parts 2 and 3 of the course) with an AHA BLS Instructor or using a voice assisted manikin (VAM) system.

Q: What skills are tested during HeartCode BLS?

A: During skills testing, students must successfully demonstrate competency performing the following skills:
- 1- and 2-Rescuer Adult BLS (includes CPR w/pocket mask and use of a bag-mask device)
- 1- and 2-Rescuer Infant BLS (includes CPR w/pocket mask and use of a bag-mask device)

Q: After completion of HeartCode BLS Part 1, how long do I have to complete the skills portion?

A: You have up to 60 days after the completion of part 1. After that time, you will have to take the course over again.

Q: How long do I have to complete HeartCode BLS Part 1?

A: You have up to 60 days to complete part 1.

Q: Is HeartCode BLS Part 1 an approved program?

A: Yes, this is an official American Heart Association Program.

Q: How long is the AHA BLS card valid?

A: The card is valid for 2 years.

Q: Does the program require special computer or support software?

A: The minimum and recommended computer requirements are listed in the table below. You can click on Browser Check to make sure your browser is compatible. In addition, student and administrator hardware should be the recommended requirements. **PLEASE NOTE: HeartCode programs are not supported by Apple Safari.**

Minimum requirements	Recommended
Windows XP or Mac OSX	Windows XP or Mac OSX
2 GHz Pentium 4 or equivalent	2,4 GHz or higher
768Mb Ram	1Gb or higher
Adobe Flash Player 10.1	Adobe Flash Player 10.1
512Kbit/s Bandwidth	1 Mbit/s or higher
Web Browser	Internet Explorer 7+ or Firefox 2+

Q: Does the program require special computer or support software?

A: The minimum and recommended computer requirements are listed in the table below. You can click on Browser Check to make sure your browser is compatible. In addition, student and administrator hardware should be the recommended requirements. **PLEASE NOTE: HeartCode programs are not supported by Apple Safari.**

Q: What content is taught in HeartCode ACLS Part 1?

A: Content covered in this program includes:
- Key changes in advanced cardiovascular life support, reflecting the 2010 American Heart
- Association Guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care
- Recognition and early management of respiratory and cardiac arrest
- Recognition and early management of periarrest conditions such as symptomatic bradycardia
- Airway management
- Related pharmacology
- Management of acute coronary syndromes (ACS) and stroke
- Effective communication as a member and leader of a resuscitation team

Q: Approximately how long does HeartCode ACLS Part 1 take to complete?

A: Part 1 can be completed in approximately 10 hours; however, unprepared or inexperienced students may require additional time. Also, the time to complete may be longer if students are using the program at a location where there is a firewall. Time to complete a skills practice and testing session (Parts 2 and 3) varies.

Q: What skills are tested during HeartCode ACLS?

A: During skills testing, students must successfully demonstrate competency performing the following skills:
- 1- Rescuer Adult CPR and AED
- Bag-mask ventilation

Q: Is HeartCode ACLS Part 1 an approved program?

A: Yes, this is an official American Heart Association Program.

Q: How long is the AHA ACLS card valid?

A: The card is valid for 2 years.

Q: Does HeartCode ACLS Part 1 offer continuing education (CE/CME/CEH)?

A: Yes. Students who successfully complete the program may claim the following CE/CME/CEHs:

Continuing Medical Education Accreditation – Physicians

The American Heart Association is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The American Heart Association designates this enduring material for a maximum of 9.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

All faculty participating in CME/CE activities sponsored by The American Heart Association will disclose to the audience (1) significant financial relationships with the manufacturer(s) of products from the commercial supporter(s) and /or the manufacturer(s) of products or devices discussed in their presentation, and (2) unlabeled/unapproved uses of drugs or devices discussed in their presentation. Such disclosures will be made in writing in course presentation materials.

Continuing Medical Education Accreditation – Physician Assistants

AAPA accepts Category I credit from AOACCME, Prescribed credit from AAFP, and AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ from organizations accredited by ACCME.

Continuing Education Accreditation – Nurses

The American Heart Association is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. The maximum number of hours awarded for this CE activity is 9.75 contact hours. Accredited status does not imply endorsement by the American Heart Association or the American Nurses Credentialing Center of any commercial products displayed in conjunction with an activity.

<u>Continuing Education Accreditation – Pharmacists</u>

The American Heart Association is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education as a provider of continuing pharmacy education. ACPE Credit: 10.00 Contact Hours or 1.000 CEUs. Universal Program Number: 0256-0000-11-647-H01-P. Successful completion of this CE activity includes the following: Students are presented with a Team Dynamics lesson, 10 ACLS cases in hospital-based scenarios, and a written test. While interacting with the program, students assess each patient, formulate a treatment plan based on ACLS guidelines, and provide treatment. Once successful completion has been achieved, a CME/CE certificate can be claimed immediately by clicking on the CME/CE link or request button. Complete the series of demographic questions including the selection of your discipline and then click on the Show or Print button to retrieve.

<u>Continuing Education Accreditation – Emergency Medical Services</u>

This continuing education activity is approved by the American Heart Association, an organization accredited by the Continuing Education Coordinating Board for Emergency Medical Services (CECBEMS), for 10.25 Advanced CEHs, activity number 11-AMHA-F3-0123.

Q: Does HeartCode BLS Part 1 offer continuing education (CE/CME/CEH)?

A: No, CE/CME/CEH credits are not offered for this program, as BLS training is most often an educational requirement and a basic qualification for employment.

Q: Can students log in and out of the course on HealthStream?

A: Yes you can log in and out as many times as you choose and start where you left off, except during the exam.

Q: Can I assess program materials after the online portion is complete?

A: Yes, you will have access up to 24 months

Q: I don't understand the timing requirement of complete part 2 within 60 days of part 1, who made this requirement?

A: American Heart Association made this requirement so that the knowledge piece from Part 1 is close to the skills demonstration from Part 2.

Q: How do I schedule Part 2 (skills portion)?

A: Contact the Medical Education Simulation Center by email: medsim@uci.edu or 949-824-8835. If we are not available, leave your information and we will call you back to set up a time to come in and do the skills portion.

Q: How do I sign up for HeartCode BLS and/or BLS?

A: You can sign up through the center website http://www.medsim.uci.edu/acls_bls.asp and choose the appropriate option.

Q: How long after sign up and payment before I get access to the online portion?

A: The center will be notified of the registration right away; however, it can take up to a business day for the payment confirmation to make it through the campus credit card system. We you do not receive an email within three (3) business days of your payment submission contact us: medsim@uci.edu or 949-824-8835.

Q: Are there days that I cannot do Part 2?

A: Yes. The Medical Education Simulation Center schedules every part 2 skills session to ensure that the simulation specialists are available to help you through the skills portion. The center operates on a scheduled basis only. The center is also closed on all major federal holidays and Caesar Chavez Day. Additionally, the campus is closed from 25 December – 1 January.

Q: Do I get a book with this course?

A: The course does not come with a book. The reference materials will be located within your eSimulation course. If you choose to purchase the "hard copy" version of the material there are several options. One such option is: www.channing-bete.com.

Q: I need to take the skills portion, but I didn't take part 1 through your center, can I take the skills portion there?

A: No, we have a closed training system, meaning you have to take both part 1 and skills portion through our system.

Q: I signed up at the UC Irvine Medical Center, can I take the skills at your center?

A: No, the Medical Education Simulation Center operates on a different training system. Try contacting the HR department at the hospital.