

National ECC Training Memo

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From: Jo Haag, RN, MSN
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Subject: AHA HEARTSAVER INSTRUCTOR COURSE

Purpose: To introduce the approved curriculum for a second BLS (CPR) instructor level, the Heartsaver Instructor.

Background: The expanding market of business, school and community sites created a need for a BLS Instructor level that did not require an entry level of Healthcare Provider skills. This course requires Heartsaver skills as its skill base. The Heartsaver Instructor course focuses on the skills necessary to teach all Heartsaver level courses. It is designed to allow adaptations to the agenda when all participants are professional educators.

Information: The Heartsaver Instructor course meets the needs of lay individuals in business, community, and school settings who wish to become BLS Instructors. The Heartsaver Instructor will be eligible to teach the following courses:

- Heartsaver CPR
- Heartsaver AED
- Heartsaver AED with Pediatric CPR
- Heartsaver CPR with AED
- Heartsaver CPR in Schools
- CPR for Family and Friends
- Heartsaver FACTS (with proper recognition from the National Safety Council)

Additional courses may be added to this list as new programs are developed.

1. The Heartsaver Instructor Course

The AHA Heartsaver Instructor Course provides candidates with the knowledge and skills to instruct and evaluate Heartsaver providers. It is appropriate only for training laypersons who wish to become Heartsaver Instructors.

The Instructor Course is structured with a segment on educational principles that can be omitted when training the professional educator.

2. Teaching criteria for Heartsaver CPR Instructor course

- AHA-recognized BLS Instructor-Trainer
- AHA BLS Training Center Faculty
- AHA BLS Regional Faculty

3. Prerequisites for the Heartsaver Instructor Course

a. Submission of one of the following AHA course completion cards:

- Heartsaver CPR with AED
- Heartsaver AED with Pediatric Heartsaver CPR
- Healthcare Provider

The course prerequisite can be met by including in Day 1 of training the Heartsaver AED with Pediatric CPR Course or the Heartsaver CPR with AED Course.

OR

One of the following American Red Cross cards:

- CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer
- Workplace or Community CPR (must include all ages) and AED Essentials
- CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer Instructor
- First Aid/CPR/AED Instructor

b. Documented score of 90%, achieved without remediation, on the final exam of any of the AHA courses listed above

c. Completion and submission to the Course Director of the Instructor Candidate application from the BLS Instructor's Manual

The AHA strongly recommends pretesting instructor candidates, even with the presentation of the appropriate credentials.

4. Course length and content

a. One day — approximately 8 hours
Content — Instructor training

b. If students have not completed prerequisites:
Two days — approximately 8 hours each day
Content — Day 1: Prerequisite provider training
Day 2: Instructor Training

5. Card to be issued

Heartsaver Instructor (valid for two years)

6. Requirements for course completion and issuance of Instructor card

- Successful completion of the Heartsaver Instructor Course
- Score of 84% or greater on the Heartsaver Instructor exam
- Monitoring, within 90 days of course completion, by BLS Instructor-Trainer, BLS Training Center Faculty, or BLS Regional Faculty while teaching an actual course. Satisfactory performance must be documented.

7. Renewal requirements for Heartsaver Instructor

Renewal requirements are the same as those listed for the BLS Instructor in the current Program Administration Manual.

8. Administrative information

A. Specific guidance for training the Heartsaver Instructor is provided in the interim document, "Guide for Training the Heartsaver Instructor," and in the current BLS Instructor Manual.

B. Interim materials (instructor trainer guide, video and instructor test) will be sent to staff before April 30, 2002. The Instructor-Trainer guide will also be posted on the TC Coordinator site.

C. Heartsaver Instructors cards are available through AHA Distributors.

Action: Distribute information to all instructor trainers.