

**Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS)
Instructor Guidelines
Cincinnati Children's Hospital**

Much of the information presented below is directly taken from the American Heart Associations (AHA) Program Administration Manual (pgs. 94 – 97).

Instructor Candidate Selection: Who can take the PALS instructor course?

Each candidate will be:

- Motivated to teach
- Motivated to facilitate learning
- Motivated to ensure that students acquire the skills necessary for successful course completion
- Views student assessment as a way to improve individual knowledge and skills
- Willing to assist in teaching courses (especially at Cincinnati Children's Hospital); that is, become affiliated with our Training Center.
- (Each instructor **MUST** be affiliated with only one Training Center in the PALS curriculum. Instructors are permitted to teach at other Training Centers, however, they can only be registered with one, who will be responsible for tracking and renewing their status. Training Centers (TC) are approved by the AHA only).

Instructor Course Prerequisites

All prospective participants in an Instructor Course must have current Provider status in PALS.

A completed Instructor Candidate Application must be provided to the Course Director (Mike Moyer) for approval before the Instructor Course.

A letter of recommendation must be received from a Training Center Faculty / Course Coordinator. This could be from the last institution at which you took PALS.

Instructor Course Completion

Candidates must demonstrate satisfactory performance of course scenarios, interactive case presentations, skills presentations, and skills in student testing, assessment, and remediation. All instructors will review and become familiar with all of the PALS equipment and stations during the instructor course. Instructor candidates will be asked to present a 5-minute presentation on a given topic, which will be presented to the other instructor candidates during the course.

Candidates must demonstrate a thorough knowledge of course organization; course content, including appropriate BLS skills; and Instructor responsibilities; as well as the AHA guidelines for PALS.

Instructor candidates must achieve a score of 84% or higher on the PALS Course written examination.

Instructor Card Issuance Requirements

- The Instructor Candidate must successfully complete the Instructor Course.
- Within 90 days of successfully completing the Instructor Course, the Instructor Candidate must successfully demonstrate his/her teaching skills while being monitored during a Provider or Provider Renewal Course. If monitoring is not accomplished within 90 days, the Instructor Candidate must repeat the Instructor Course. Instructor Candidates will be monitored by experienced PALS instructors during the first few courses, unless otherwise discussed.
- Candidates will be monitored *during their first course* by Training Center Faculty.
- Within 30 days of receiving the completed monitor form (after being monitored by TCF), the Instructor Candidate's primary TC must issue an Instructor Card. Instructor cards expire in two years (same as the Provider cards, which Instructor's must also maintain).

It is important to note:

Those taking the Instructor course and becoming PALS Instructors must teach through a certified Training Center. Instructors are not permitted to "freelance" and instruct individual PALS courses, other than through a TC. Individual instructors cannot schedule PALS courses on their own; but must be coordinated through and affiliated with an approved AHA Training Center.

Our goal is to make PALS an enjoyable learning experience. We look forward to having you as an instructor!