

Welcome to the American Heart Association ACLS Provider Course
TampaBayCPR.com and TampaBayCNA.com
4307 W. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa, FL 33609

(813) 528-1300

Please plan to be on time because it will be difficult for late students to catch up once we start.

Students are expected to attend and participate in the entire course. Enclosed is the agenda.

Please NOTE: If you do NOT ATTEND the scheduled class there is a \$50.00 RESCHEDULE FEE. I am sure you understand that this class is offered only once a month and the class is normally full before class date. We need an EXACT head count for each class.

How to Get Ready

Pre-course Requirements

You should prepare for the course as follows:

1. ***Pre-course checklist:*** Complete the pre-course checklist that came with your *ACLS Course Guide*. Bring the checklist with you to the course.
2. ***CPR competency:*** Be prepared to pass the 1-rescuer CPR/AED and 1- and 2-rescuer CPR skills test. You will not be taught how to do CPR or how to use an AED during the course. You must know this in advance. The resuscitation scenarios require that your BLS skills and knowledge are current. Review and understand all BLS 2010 guidelines, as they relate to the patient. You may find this information in the *BLS for Healthcare Providers* manual or in other AHA guidelines publications (see www.americanheart.org/cpr).
3. ***Pre-course Self-assessment test (required):*** Because there is no longer a CD for the ACLS Provider Manual the American Heart Association has now established an AHA Student Website at: www.heart.org/eccstudent

On arriving at the website, a code is required to access the site. The code is *compression*. Information about accessing the website is found on the bottom of page ii in the ACLS Provider Manual. On the website you can find: the Pre-course Self-Assessment, a video on ACLS Science Overview, Supplementary Materials (which includes information on Airway Management, ACLS Core Rhythms (EKG Rhythms & Defibrillation), Access for Medications (IV & IO), and Human, Ethical & Legal Dimensions), CPR& AED Skills video, IO animation video, ACLS video & Stroke video.

Please refer to this website to access the Pre-course Self-Assessment. Kindly complete this self-assessment and bring it with you to class. You must score at least 80% or higher to attend class.

4. **Practice cases:** Work through the practice cases located on the AHA Student Website to familiarize your self with the "assess-categorize-decide-act" model taught in the course. As you read through each case, try to answer the questions. Check your answers to make sure you understand the concepts.
5. **ACLS algorithms and flowcharts:** Be familiar with the ACLS algorithms and flowcharts so that you can apply them to clinical scenarios. Note that the ACLS course does not present the details of each algorithm.
6. **Supplement your knowledge:** Review and understand the information in the *ACLS Provider Manual*, the *ACLS Course Guide*, and the AHA Student Website. Pay particular attention to the systematic approach to patient assessment, the "assess-categorize-decide-act" model, and the management of respiratory and circulatory abnormalities.
7. **Course agenda:** Review the course agenda and note course activities where you might need to supplement your knowledge before attending the course.

What This Course Does Not Cover

The ACLS Provider Course does not teach CPR, ECG rhythm identification, ACLS pharmacology, or algorithms. *If you do not review CPR and if you do not learn and understand the ECG and pharmacology information, it is unlikely that you can successfully complete the ACLS Provider Course.* You will not be taught how to read or interpret ECG rhythm strips in the course, nor will you be taught details about ACLS pharmacology. You must know this in advance.

It is essential that you bring your ACLS Course Guide to class; you will need it during each lesson in the course.

You may refer to the *Handbook of Emergency Cardiovascular Care for Healthcare Providers* (optional), and you may bring it to the course to use as a reference during some of the stations in the course.

What to Wear

Please wear loose, comfortable clothing to class. You will be practicing skills that require you to work on your hands and knees, and the course requires bending, standing, and lifting. If you have any physical conditions that might prevent you from engaging in these activities, please tell an instructor. The instructor may be able to adjust the equipment if you have back, knee, or hip problems.

We look forward to welcoming to our class. If you have any questions about the course, please call Melissa Mashaw-Keen at [\(813\) 528-1300](tel:8135281300).