

PALS Plus™ Course FAQs



American
Heart
Association.

American Academy
of Pediatrics



DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™

As of October 10, 2023

Q: What is the PALS Plus Course?

A: The AHA and the American Academy of Pediatrics have collaborated to develop PALS Plus, a pediatric advanced life support course designed for more experienced pediatric healthcare professionals seeking advanced educational content. This course teaches more than the standard PALS curriculum through the addition of 9 PALS Advanced eLearning Modules related to pediatric emergencies.

The full course includes an online portion consisting of HeartCode® PALS Online and the student's selection of at least 6 of the 9 PALS Plus Advanced eLearning Modules, followed by a HeartCode PALS hands-on skills session with an authorized AHA PALS Instructor.

After successful completion of all PALS Plus Provider Course components, students will receive a PALS Plus Provider eCard (a PALS Provider eCard with a special designation of "PALS Plus"), valid for 2 years.

Q: What is the difference between HeartCode PALS and the PALS Plus Course?

A: The PALS Plus Course extends the cognitive learning portion of HeartCode beyond the standard PALS Provider curriculum by adding online modules focused on specialty areas related to pediatric emergent and critical conditions. There are 9 online modules and students must complete at least 6 of the 9 modules in addition to HeartCode PALS Online for completion of the cognitive portion of PALS Plus.

Students who complete the online components of PALS Plus, followed by an in-person skills session (HeartCode PALS Skills Session) with an AHA PALS Instructor receive a PALS Provider eCard with the PALS Plus designation.

Q: What are the learning objectives for the PALS Plus Course?

A: Learning objectives for the eLearning components of PALS Plus, including HeartCode PALS Online and the PALS Plus Advanced eLearning Modules can be found in the PALS Plus Course listings on ShopCPR.Heart.org or eLearning.Heart.org.

Q: What advanced modules are available as part of the PALS Plus Course?

A: Students may select from the following modules:

- Advanced Airway Management
- Child Abuse
- Toxicology
- Trauma—Overview and Approach
- Technologically Dependent Child
- Sedation and Analgesia
- Post-Cardiac Arrest Care
- Ultrasound
- Congenital Heart Disease



Q: Where can I find additional information about the PALS Plus Advanced eLearning Modules?

A: For more information about the PALS Plus Advanced eLearning Modules in the PALS Plus Advanced Modules FAQ posted on the [PALS Course Instructor Resources page](#) on Atlas.

Q: What are some of the key features of the PALS Plus Course?

A: Features of 2020 Guidelines HeartCode PALS Online and the PALS Plus Advanced Modules include:

- Engaging, **True Adaptive™** learning experience
- **Responsive design** that ensures compatibility on mobile devices and tablets
- Students can select their **level of competence** as they begin the course, and can change their selection at any time during the course
- All curriculum is web-accessible through inclusive design (WCAG 2.1 AA)
- Works on all common browsers

PALS Plus Target Audience

Q: Who is the intended audience for the PALS Plus Course?

A: The PALS Plus Course is for advanced healthcare professionals who either direct or participate in the management of respiratory and/or cardiovascular emergencies, cardiopulmonary arrest, and other emergent and critical conditions in pediatric patients. This includes personnel in emergency response, emergency medicine, intensive care, and critical care units such as physicians, physician assistants, hospitalists, advanced practice/registered nurses, advanced level prehospital providers, and others who desire additional advanced educational content beyond the traditional PALS course.

Course Length

Q: How long does it take to complete the online portion of the PALS Plus Course?

A: Because of the adaptive technology used in HeartCode PALS and the PALS Plus Advanced Modules, the completion time for the online portion of the PALS Plus Course varies based on the student's self-assessment and knowledge of the cognitive material.

Q: What is the length of the HeartCode PALS Instructor-led hands-on skills session?

A: The approximate time for the Instructor-led hands-on skills session for HeartCode PALS is 4-5 hours.

Accessing the PALS Plus Course

Q: How do students access the online portion of the PALS Plus Course?

A: Once a student either is issued or purchases a license for the PALS Plus Course, the student will go to eLearning.heart.org to activate their license and complete the online course and modules. Licenses can be purchased by either students or Training Centers/Instructors.

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PALS Plus Course Completion Requirements

Q: What are the steps for students to complete the PALS Plus Course?

A: Upon completion of both HeartCode PALS and at least 6 of the advanced modules, students will receive a certificate of completion for the online portion of HeartCode PALS and a certificate of completion for the 6 PALS Plus Advanced Modules, which must be presented for entry into an Instructor-led hands-on skills session (HeartCode PALS Skills Session). Upon successful completion of the skills session, students will receive their PALS eCard with a PALS Plus designation.

Q: How do I locate a PALS Training Center offering the PALS Plus Course/eCard designation?

A: To find a PALS Training Center offering PALS Plus, you will need to contact PALS Training Centers near you to ask if the PALS Plus designation is being offered. You can search for a PALS Training Center using the Training Center Search [here](#). Please note: PALS Plus is not currently listed as a separate course in the Atlas Find a Class tool.

Q: How can Instructors verify the authenticity of certificates of completion for the online portions of PALS Plus?

A: Instructors can verify completion certificates at https://elearning.heart.org/verify_certificate. HeartCode PALS and the advanced modules will be two separate completion certificates.

PALS Plus Provider eCard

Q: Where can AHA PALS Training Centers and Instructors find more information about PALS Plus Provider eCards and how to issue new and replacement eCards?

A: For more information and step-by-step instructions on issuing a new or replacement PALS Plus eCard, PALS Training Centers should refer to the PALS Plus eCard Users' Guide posted on the [PALS Course Instructor Resources page](#) on Atlas.

Q: Will the AHA Course Card Reference Guide (CCRG) be updated to include information about the PALS Plus designation on the PALS Provider eCard?

A: Yes. The updated CCRG will be available soon at <https://cpr.heart.org/en/resources/course-card-information>. In the interim, below is an image of the PALS Provider eCard with the PALS Plus designation.

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PEDIATRIC ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT

PALS
Provider



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Test Student

has successfully completed the cognitive and skills evaluations in accordance with the curriculum of the American Heart Association Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) Program.

PALS Plus™

Issue Date

9/26/2023

Renew By

09/2025

Training Center Name

Cascade Healthcare Services LLC dba Cascade Training Center

Instructor Name

Cascade Admin

Training Center ID

WA15590

Instructor ID

10160507130

Training Center City, State

Seattle, WA

eCard Code

235423769238

Training Center Phone Number

(206) 213-3116

QR Code



To view or verify authenticity, students and employers should scan this QR code with their mobile device or go to www.heart.org/cpr/mycards.
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Additional Option for PALS Plus eCard Designation

Q: I haven't taken the PALS Plus Course, but I have a valid PALS Provider card and have also completed 6 PALS Plus Advanced eLearning Modules separately. Can I have the PALS Plus designation added to my PALS card?

A: Students with a valid PALS Provider eCard who complete at least 6 of the individual PALS Plus modules before their PALS Provider card expires may request that a PALS Plus designation be added to their eCard by presenting their certificates of completion for the 6 advanced modules to their AHA Training Center. **The Training Center must be the same one that issued the student's current PALS Provider eCard.** The updated PALS Provider eCard with the PALS Plus designation will have the same "Renew By" date as the current card. This option will be available only through March 2025.

Continuing Education (CE) Information

Q: Is CE offered for the online portions of the PALS Plus Course?

A: Yes. Please see CE information below:

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Continuing Education (CE) Information:

In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by the American Heart Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics. The American Heart Association is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

PALS Plus Advanced Modules

AMA Credit Designation Statement - Physicians

The American Heart Association designates this activity for a maximum of 2.50 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

AAPA Credit Acceptance Statement – Physician Assistants

AAPA accepts certificates of participation for educational activities certified for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ from organizations accredited by ACCME or a recognized state medical society. Physician assistants may receive a maximum of 2.50 hours of Category I credit for completing this program.

AANP Credit Acceptance Statement – Nurse Practitioners

American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) accepts AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ from organizations accredited by the ACCME.

ANCC Credit Designation Statement – Nurses

The maximum number of hours awarded for this CE activity is 3.25 contact hours.

Continuing Education Accreditation – Emergency Medical Services

This continuing education activity is approved by the American Heart Association, an organization accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Pre-Hospital Continuing Education (CAPCE), for 3.50 Advanced CEHs, activity number 23-AMHA-F3-0013.

HeartCode PALS Online Course

AMA Credit Designation Statement - Physicians

The American Heart Association designates this live activity for a maximum of 3.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

AAPA Credit Acceptance Statement – Physician Assistants

AAPA accepts certificates of participation for educational activities certified for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ from organizations accredited by ACCME or a recognized state medical society. Physician assistants may receive a maximum of 3.75 hours of Category I credit for completing this program.

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AANP Credit Acceptance Statement – Nurse Practitioners

American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) accepts AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ from organizations accredited by the ACCME.

ANCC Credit Designation Statement - Nurses

The maximum number of hours awarded for this CE activity is 4.75 contact hours.

ACPE Credit Designation Statement – Pharmacists

ACPE Credit: 3.75 Contact Hours. Universal Program Number: JA0000134-0000-20-012-H04-P.

Continuing Education Accreditation – Emergency Medical Services

This continuing education activity is approved by the American Heart Association, an organization accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Pre-Hospital Continuing Education (CAPCE), for 5.25 Advanced CEHs, activity number 20-AMHA-F3-0097.