



RESUSCITATION COUNCIL OF SOUTHERN AFRICA



RCSA Policy Statement # 19

ACCREDITATION OF INSTRUCTORS FROM OTHER AHA ITC'S

Overview:

The Resuscitation Council of Southern Africa (RCSA) is currently one of several International Training Centers (ITCs) that has been given permission from the American Heart Association (AHA) to conduct training in Southern Africa. This policy will address the process for recognition and accreditation by the RCSA of AHA instructors who have been trained and certified by another AHA ITC.

Aims:

- To describe the process for recognition and accreditation of instructors by the RCSA of AHA instructors trained and certified by another AHA ITC.

1. BLS Instructor Status

BLS instructors from another AHA ITC will be recognised and subsequently accredited by the RCSA if they meet the following requirements:

- 1.1 The BLS instructor certificate issued by the other AHA ITC must be valid (issued within the previous two (2) years).
- 1.2 The instructor must own their own personal copy of the current version of the BLS Instructor Manual and current version of the BLS Provider Manual.
- 1.3 The instructor must align with an RCSA accredited BLS Training Site (TS)
- 1.4 The instructor must attend day one of the RCSA BLS instructor course, as this covers all the relevant policies and procedures used by the RCSA.
- 1.5 The instructor will need to be monitored during the presentation of their first RCSA BLS Provider Course.
- 1.6 Upon successful completion of the above 5 steps, a RCSA BLS instructor certificate will be issued.
- 1.7 The instructor must register with the RCSA as an instructor and align to an RCSA approved Training Site.

2. Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support / Experienced Provider Instructor Status

ACLS Instructors from another AHA ITC will be recognised by the RCSA if they meet the following requirements:

- 2.1 The ACLS instructor certificate issued by the other AHA ITC must be valid (issued within the previous two (2) years).
- 2.2 The instructor must be a current RCSA BLS instructor (see item 1 above).
- 2.3 The instructor must hold a current ACLS for Experienced Provider course certificate.
- 2.4 The instructor must own their own copy of the current ACLS Instructor Manual and current ACLS Provider Manual and ECC Handbook.
- 2.5 The instructor must align with a RCSA accredited ACLS Training Site (TS).
- 2.6 The instructor will need to be monitored by an RCSA approved ACLS Faculty member during the entire presentation of their first RCSA accredited ACLS Provider Course. It is highly recommended that the instructor attend, as an observer, at least one ACLS course presented by an RCSA accredited Training Site.
- 2.7 The instructor must attend a two-day RCSA ACLS Instructor course if their ACLS instructor status issued by another ITC has expired.
- 2.8 Upon successful completion of the above relevant steps, a RCSA ACLS instructor certificate will be issued.

3. Pediatric Advanced Life Support Instructor Status

PALS Instructors from another AHA ITC will be recognised by the RCSA if they meet the following requirements:

- 3.1 The PALS instructor certificate issued by the other AHA ITC must be valid (issued within the previous two (2) years).
- 3.2 The instructor must be a current RCSA BLS instructor (see item 1 above).
- 3.3 The instructor must hold a current AHA Neonatal Resuscitation Program (or equivalent) certificate.
- 3.4 The instructor must own their own copy of the current PALS Instructor Manual and current PALS Provider Manual.
- 3.5 The instructor must align with a RCSA accredited PALS Training Site (TS).
- 3.6 The instructor will need to be monitored by an RCSA approved PALS Faculty member during the entire presentation of their first RCSA accredited PALS Provider Course. It is highly recommended that the instructor attend, as an observer, at least one PALS course presented by an RCSA accredited Training Site.
- 3.7 The instructor must attend a two-day RCSA PALS Instructor course if their PALS instructor status issued by another ITC has expired.
- 3.8 Upon successful completion of the above relevant steps, a RCSA PALS instructor certificate will be issued.

4. Former RCSA-Registered Instructors aligned to other AHA ITC's

AHA Instructors who have initially been trained and registered by the RCSA and have subsequently aligned to another AHA ITC may, upon written request and approval by the RCSA Executive Committee, train at a RCSA TS if all the following criteria have been met:

- 4.1 The Instructor provides a written motivation to the RCSA Executive Committee.
- 4.2 The Instructor's current Instructor status has been successfully monitored by a RCSA-approved Faculty member.
- 4.3 The Instructor will be expected to attend a dedicated RCSA orientation programme and/or update as may be required from time to time.

- 4.4 The respective RCSA TS accepts full responsibility for the courses presented and ensures that all RCSA Policies and Procedures are always adhered to.
- 4.6 The RCSA reserves the right to review and revoke such permission at any time.

5. Instructors from a non-RCSA AHA ITC wishing to run Local RCSA courses

- 5.1 Persons falling into this category must hold a valid non-expired AHA-approved BLS / Heartsaver instructor card. Or in the case of Advanced CPR for Professionals, a valid AHA ACLS provider certificate and then follow the policy on instructor training for this course.
- 5.2 Instructors will only be able to present those Local courses equivalent to their current AHA BLS; Heartsaver; or ACLS instructor status.
- 5.3 Instructors are required to attend a 1-day RCSA update / bridging course where the RCSA structure and relevant policies will be explained and orientation to the Local RCSA courses will be done. Attending day one of the RCSA BLS / Local instructor course will suffice for this requirement.
- 5.4 Following attendance of this day, the instructor is required to be monitored running their first local RCSA course on the highest level they wish to teach. Video submission may only be requested should circumstances not allow for in-person evaluation.
- 5.5 Once completed, the instructor will need to register with the RCSA as a local instructor, align with an RCSA TS (or establish their own) and purchase the relevant teaching material before being able to purchase RCSA local course material and run the training.
- 5.6 All relevant RCSA policies and procedures shall apply when running Local RCSA training.

<i>RCSA Policy Title:</i>	Accreditation of Instructors from other AHA ITC's	<i>Date implemented:</i>	April 2011
<i>Compiled by:</i>	RCSA Executive Committee	<i>Last Reviewed:</i>	January 2024
<i>Custodian:</i>	Darren Van Zyl	<i>Policy ref</i>	Policy # 19