



RESUSCITATION COUNCIL of SOUTHERN AFRICA



RCSA Policy Statement # 8

RCSA e-LEARNING POLICY

The AHA offer several online / e-Learning programmes (HEARTCODE courses). This policy describes their use and implementation within the South African context and provides RCSA instructors and training sites with guidance on their acceptability and use.

1. Basic Life Support and Heartsaver HEARTCODE

1.1 Since CPR training is primarily skills-based and high quality BLS requires skills proficiency, the RCSA only allows HEARTCODE training for students who already have a valid non-expired certificate and who wish to renew their currency. As such, students will need to provide proof of a valid non-expired certificate to the training centre overseeing the training when booking the HEARTCODE session of the relevant course (a 90-day grace period will be allowed for certificates that have expired).

1.2 Students will be expected to purchase the online portion of the course either directly from the AHA or via the RCSA office using a keycode link provided by the training site.

1.3 Students will be required to follow the AHA process completely in that the online portion of the course must be successfully completed, and an online certificate generated, prior to booking the skills practice and testing sessions with a training site.

1.4 Skills practice sessions and testing will be run according to the HEARTCODE lesson maps and criteria for the relevant course and training sites should not mix new students doing the full course and those doing the HEARTCODE course in the same session as these follow two separate sets of lesson maps and instructional DVD sessions.

1.5 Upon successful completion of the skills practice and testing, training centres may issue students with a course completion card identical to students who complete the traditional course. To purchase this course completion card from the RCSA, training sites will be required to forward a copy of the student's online certificate to the RCSA when ordering the card.

1.6 Since the total duration of the HEARTCODE course and the outcomes align with the traditional course, students may receive the full CPD allocation applicable to the relevant course completed.

1.7 Training sites may determine the fee charged to students for the skills practice and testing session.

2. Advanced Life Support courses

2.1 HEARTCODE ACLS and PALS courses are approved by the RCSA for initial and renewal training for training sites that wish to offer this option, and for students who prefer this option with the undertaking that they have the technology skills and availability to complete the online portion of the course.

2.2 Students will be expected to purchase the online portion of the course either directly from the AHA or via the RCSA office using a keycode link provided by the training site.

2.3 Students will be required to follow the AHA process completely in that the online portion of the course must be successfully completed, and an online certificate generated, prior to booking the skills practice and testing sessions with a training site.

2.4 Skills practice sessions and testing will be run according to the HEARTCODE lesson maps and criteria for the relevant course and training centres should ideally not mix new students doing the full course and those doing the HEARTCODE course in the same session as these follow two separate sets of lesson maps and instructional DVD sessions. However, should HEARTCODE students be mixed with traditional students this should be done only by instructors who are comfortable and experienced enough to allow integration so as not to disadvantage either group of students.

2.5 Upon successful completion of the skills practice and testing, training sites may issue students with a course completion card identical to students who complete the traditional course. To purchase this course completion card from the RCSA, training sites will be required to forward a copy of the student's online certificate to the RCSA when ordering the card.

2.6 Since the total duration of the HEARTCODE course and the outcomes align with the traditional course, students may receive the full CPD allocation applicable to the relevant course completed.

2.7 Training sites may determine the fee charged to students for the skills practice and testing session.

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