



## **Advanced Stroke Life Support® (ASLS) Blended Learning Course As of May 5, 2023**

### **Course Information**

#### **Q: What is the ASLS Blended Learning Course?**

A: The ASLS Blended Learning Course educates healthcare professionals to identify, evaluate, and manage patients with stroke. The ASLS Course was co-developed by the American Heart Association and The University of Miami's Gordon Center for Simulation and Innovation in Medical Education.

#### **Q: Who is the intended audience for the ASLS Blended Learning Course?**

A: This course is appropriate for all healthcare providers involved in the management of acute stroke patients. Three course tracks are available for students to learn how to assess and manage stroke emergencies: 1) prehospital; 2) in-hospital; 3) prehospital and in-hospital.

#### **Q: How does the ASLS Blended Learning Course work?**

A: In this blended learning course, students will complete one of three tracks of the online portion of the course (prehospital; in-hospital; or prehospital and in-hospital). Upon completion of the online portion, they will receive a certificate of completion. Students will then present this certificate of completion to gain entry into an in-person hands-on skills session led by an ASLS Instructor affiliated with an ASLS Training Center (TC) Instructor. After all required components are complete, students will receive an ASLS Provider eCard.

#### **Q: Will the ASLS Provider eCard note the specific track completed in the online portion, or will it be the same regardless of track?**

A: Yes. There is a section on the eCard where the specific track completed will be populated.

#### **Q: What are the current qualifications to add the ASLS discipline?**

A: Currently, the Stroke discipline and new ASLS Blended Learning Course is only available to AHA Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) Training Centers categorized as healthcare/hospitals, educational institutions, and first responder. It is also available to Gordon Center ASLS Training Centers.

#### **Q: How long will a course completion card be valid for this course?**

A: Upon course completion, an AHA ASLS Provider eCard will be issued for the track of the course that the student completed. This course completion card will be valid for two years.

#### **Q: What are the prices for the new ASLS Blended Learning Course materials?**

A: The pricing for ASLS Provider and ASLS Instructor digital materials are listed in the table below. This information can also be found on the Intelligo Store at <https://store.intelligohub.org/catalogsearch/result/?q=asls>.



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### INTRODUCTORY PRICING

ASLS Online: Prehospital Provider Course	\$136.00
ASLS Online: In-Hospital Provider Course	\$156.00
ASLS Online: Prehospital& In-Hospital Provider Course	\$176.00
ASLS Digital Reference Guide	\$25.00
ASLS Instructor Manual eBook	\$57.00
ASLS Digital Course Videos	\$85.00
ASLS Instructor Essentials Online	\$35.00
ASLS Instructor Essentials Digital Course Videos	\$15.00
ASLS Provider eCard	\$5.90
ASLS Instructor eCard	\$6.50

Hands-on Session pricing for the ASLS Provider Course and ASLS Instructor Essentials Course will be determined by the ASLS Training Center offering the course.

Some print materials are also temporarily available to purchase via <https://shopcpr.heart.org/courses/asls>. The ASLS print materials will ultimately be moved to the Intelligo Professional Education Hub™ when fulfillment capabilities are completed, streamlining all ASLS materials to make them accessible through Intelligo.

Below is a list of print materials available to purchase, along with pricing.

Product	Price
ASLS Reference Guide	\$25.00
ASLS Instructor Manual	\$60.00
ASLS Provider Courses Video USB	\$85.00
ASLS Instructor Essentials Course USB	\$16.50

Costs for in-person, hands-on skills sessions and the in-person portion are set by the TC offering the course.

**Q: Is a provider/student eBook available for download?**

A: No. The provider course has the eBook incorporated into the course content.

**Q: What are the components of the skills evaluation portion of the ASLS Blended Learning Course?**

A: The skills evaluation consists of three parts: a stroke scale demonstration, a stroke syndrome evaluation, and a stroke simulation scenario.

In-person skills tests will challenge learners to apply the skills and knowledge obtained from the online portion to correctly perform neurologic exams, diagnose, and manage patients with stroke. Offering education on the most common stroke screening and severity tools, skills tests can be tailored to fit the tools used in local protocols.

**Q: Are Continuing Education (CE) credits available for this course?**

A: Yes, see below for credit hours for Physicians, EMS, Nurses, and Respiratory Therapists:

**CONTINUING EDUCATION**

ASLS® Online: Prehospital and In-Hospital Provider

- Physicians/AMA: 4.5
- Nurses/ANCC: 8.0
- RT/AARC: 6.25
- EMS/CAPCE: 6.75

ASLS® Online: Prehospital Provider

- EMS/CAPCE: 4.25

ASLS® Online: In-Hospital Provider

- Physicians/AMA: 4.25
- Nurses/ANCC: 5.25
- RT/AARC: 4.75

ASLS® Online: Instructor Essentials Online

- Physicians/AMA: .25
- Nurses/ANCC: .25
- EMS/CAPCE: .25

ASLS® Prehospital and In-Hospital Provider  
Hands-on Session

- EMS/CAPCE: 1.25

ASLS® Prehospital Provider Hands-On Session

- EMS/CAPCE: 1.00

ASLS® Instructor Essentials Hands-On Session

- EMS/CAPCE: 6.25

**Q: What is the approximate length of the online portion of the course?**

A: Students will complete the self-paced, online portion of the course, which will prepare them for the in-person skills evaluation session with an AHA ASLS Instructor. Because the online portion is adaptive, meaning that students follow a learning path personalized by their own inputs and self-reported confidence level, the time it takes to complete the online portion depends on the student's level of knowledge. Estimated completion times range as follows:

- ASLS Online: Prehospital Provider: 3-6 hours
- ASLS Online: In-Hospital Provider: 4-8 hours
- ASLS Online: Prehospital & In-Hospital Provider: 5-9 hours

**Q: What is the approximate length of time for the skills session portion of the course?**

A: The in-person skills session should take approximately one hour per student. Students needing remediation will require longer for their in-person sessions.

**Q: How can one determine how long an individual participant took to complete the online course?**

A: The student completing the online module can view the length of time it took them to complete the course on the course dashboard.

**Q: How long does a student have to complete the hands-on portion of the course after completing the online module?**

A: There is no time limit to complete the hands-on session after completing the online module; however, it is recommended that the in-person session be completed soon after the online portion to ensure cognitive knowledge is retained.

**Q: What are the prerequisites to become an ASLS Provider?**

A: To become an ASLS Provider, students must be proficient in their Basic Life Support (BLS) skills, and it is highly recommended that they also are proficient in their ACLS skills. However, there is no prerequisite that



students have a current BLS or ACLS Provider card.

**Q: What is the student-to-Instructor ratio for the ASLS Blended Learning Course?**

A: The student-to-Instructor ratio is 1:1 for the skills evaluation component. However, TCs may schedule students in groups if they can set up multiple testing stations through which students rotate.

**Q: How/where can I find an ASLS Training Center to complete the in-person skills session portion required to complete my ASLS Provider training and receive an ASLS Provider eCard?**

A: Because the Stroke discipline and the ASLS Blended Learning Course are new offerings, the AHA is currently focused on building a network of Training Centers and Instructors who can offer the hands-on skills session required for successful completion of this course. Therefore, the AHA recommends that customers consult with a local AHA ACLS TC prior to purchasing the online portion to determine the TC's plans to offer skills sessions for the ASLS Blended Learning Course.

**Q: Is there an Instructor-led version of the AHA ASLS Course being offered? Is there a plan to do this type of course?**

A: No. The only offering for the AHA ASLS Course is the ASLS Blended Learning Course.

**Q: Will there be virtual skills training offered for ASLS?**

A: No. Virtual training will not be offered for ASLS.

## Course Materials

**Q: What type of equipment is required to teach this course?**

A: This course requires standardized patients or AHA Instructors serving as standardized actors for stroke symptoms. In addition, acute care equipment similar to those used for ACLS is required. A simulation manikin may be used for the simulation scenario portion of the skills evaluation.

**Q: Do you need a simulation lab to do skills sessions for ASLS?**

A: No, but you do need access to all the equipment, a standardized patient (or Instructor), and for the simulation scenario, a standardized patient (or Instructor).

**Q: How do students access the online portion of the ASLS Blended Learning Course?**

A: Once a student is either issued or purchases a license for the online portion of the blended learning course, the student will go to <https://www.intelligohub.org> to activate the license and complete the online portion of the course. Licenses can be purchased by either students or Instructors at the Intelligo Store (<https://store.intelligohub.org/catalogsearch/result/?q=asls>).

## Applying to Teach the ASLS Blended Learning Course

**Q: How can an AHA ACLS TC add the new Stroke discipline and ASLS Blended Learning Course?**

A: To start the application process to add the Stroke discipline, AHA ACLS TCs should send an email to [harold.kellogg@heart.org](mailto:harold.kellogg@heart.org) and indicate "Request to Add AHA Stroke Discipline" in the subject line.

**Q: What is the cost to add the new Stroke discipline to your AHA ACLS TC?**



A: There is no cost associated with adding the new Stroke discipline to your ACLS TC.

**Q: Does the TC Coordinator of an existing TC need to be an ASLS Instructor to add Stroke as a discipline?**

A: No, an AHA ACLS TC does not need to have existing ASLS Instructors since Stroke is a new discipline for AHA ACLS TCs. The AHA is currently accepting applications from all AHA ACLS TCs interested in adding ASLS even if they currently do not have any ASLS Instructors.

**Q: Will the Training Center ID number change after AHA approves the addition of the Stroke discipline for the TC?**

A: The TC ID will remain the same; however, the TC Security ID will change to reflect the added ASLS discipline and allow the TC to purchase ASLS eCards.

## Instructor Training

**Q: What is the process to become a new ASLS Instructor during the initial launch phase?**

A: Through June 2023, the AHA is hosting Instructor and Faculty rollout training events in areas across the US with concentrated numbers of submitted and approved ASLS applications. ACLS Training Centers that submitted applications and were approved to add the ASLS disciplines to their TC are invited to attend these rollout trainings.

Beginning July 2023, regional hubs will be designated in key areas for new TCs to receive Faculty/Instructors.

**Q: Is there an ASLS Instructor Essentials Course?**

A: Yes, there is an ASLS Instructor Essentials Course. This course is comprised of two parts: a self-directed, online portion covering material about becoming an ASLS Instructor, and an in-person portion taught by ASLS Faculty. Instructor Candidates also must be monitored by ASLS Faculty before teaching a course on their own.

**Q: Do existing ACLS Instructors have to complete the ASLS Instructor Essentials Course to become ASLS Instructors?**

A: Yes, existing ACLS Instructors will have to complete the ASLS Instructor Essentials Course to become ASLS Instructors.

**Q: What is the student-to-Instructor ratio for the ASLS Instructor Essentials Course?**

A: The student-to-Instructor ratio is 6:1 for the Instructor Essentials in-person component.

**Q: What are the prerequisites to become an ASLS Instructor after the initial launch phase?**

A: Students must first successfully complete the ASLS Blended Learning Course and receive their ASLS Provider Card to begin the process to become an ASLS Instructor.

Interested ASLS Instructor Candidates must identify an ASLS Training Center that is accepting new Instructors, and then successfully complete the ASLS Instructor Essentials Blended Learning Course conducted by that TC and their Faculty.



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**Q: What is the process for becoming ASLS Faculty? To become Faculty, do you have to be an ASLS Instructor for 2 years first?**

A: To become an ASLS Faculty member, you must have completed provider and Instructor courses and be selected by your TC to have the Faculty designation. You must be an active Instructor, but no minimum time as an Instructor is required.

**Q: Can an Instructor just be an ASLS Instructor? Or do they need to be an Instructor for both ACLS and ASLS?**

A: There is no prerequisite for Instructors to be ACLS Instructors before becoming an ASLS Instructor.

**Q: Do existing Gordon Center-trained ASLS Instructors have to complete the ASLS Provider Blended Learning Course and the ASLS Instructor Essentials Course to become ASLS Instructors?**

A: Yes, existing ASLS Instructors will have to complete the new ASLS Provider Blended Learning Course (both the online portion and the in-person, hands-on skills session) and the ASLS Instructor Essentials Blended Learning Course (both the online portion and in-person classroom session) to become ASLS Instructors. ASLS Instructors who taught the ASLS course offered through the Gordon Center are required to complete both new courses to teach the new ASLS Blended Learning Course.

## Curriculum Questions

**Q: Does this course help us meet the education requirements for stroke center designations?**

A: Yes. It can be used toward the education hours required for stroke center designations.

**Q: Do you suggest that all Comprehensive Stroke Centers include this option for their staff? If so, what time frame would be expected?**

A: The ASLS Blended Learning Course is the most comprehensive and standardized stroke education course available. All healthcare organizations that care for stroke patients should consider having their staff complete the course.

**Q: Since Stroke Center Certification is required on an annual basis, how will this course meet the need for hourly training since it offers a 2-year course completion card?**

A: Completion of the ASLS Blended Learning Course annually meets the annual requirement for Stroke Center Certification. However, CE credits for completion of the ASLS Blended course can only be awarded every two years.

**Q: Does it cover prehospital severity scales like FAST-ED and RACE?**

A: Yes. It covers most of the commonly used stroke screening exams, and stroke severity scales used in stroke care (14 in total).

**Q: Will the Adult Suspected Stroke Algorithm remain a component of ACLS?**

A: Yes, the Adult Suspected Stroke Algorithm is part of the ASLS Blended curriculum.



**Q: Is there a video segment for the hands-on skills portion of the ASLS Blended Learning Course?**

A: Yes, ASLS Course Videos are required for all ASLS Instructors. The hands-on skills session of ASLS is focused on skills testing; however, it is required to have the videos available in the event a student needs remediation and additional skills demonstration. Course Videos are available to purchase in Digital or USB formats.

**Q: Is the Team Dynamics concept included in the skills sessions?**

A: The Team Dynamics concept is not covered in ASLS but is still a key concept in ACLS. Since ACLS proficiency is a highly recommended prerequisite for ASLS, this skill should already be known by the student.

**Q: Is this a course my ER Techs could take? Are EMTs of all levels eligible to take this course or only paramedics?**

A: The ASLS Blended Learning Course is appropriate for all healthcare providers who care for patients with stroke or work in settings with patients who are at risk for stroke. However, continuing education credits are only offered for the groups noted above.

**Q: Is this course designed to be able to take the place of other NIHSS training?**

A: No, this course does not take the place of the NIHSS training. However, the NIHSS is included in the curriculum with videos showing how to do each component and in video case scenarios. Additionally, during the skills evaluation component, the NIHSS can be selected for stroke scale demonstration and stroke syndrome evaluation where a student will have an opportunity to perform the exam twice with feedback from the Instructor.

**Q: For those going through the initial ASLS Course, is there an RQI version of the course to renew/maintain their course completion card?**

A: No, there is no RQI version of ASLS.

### ***LMS Considerations***

**Q: Will the ASLS Blended Learning Course be available for purchase via Healthstream?**

A: The AHA is actively working on LMS integration for the Intelligo platform. The ASLS Blended Learning Course is currently only available from the Intelligo Store (<https://store.intelligohub.org/catalogsearch/result/?q=asls>).

### **ASLS Support Contacts**

- **ASLS Application Requests:** [Harold.Kellogg@heart.org](mailto:Harold.Kellogg@heart.org) – interested TCs who are ready to apply should email Harold directly to request an application
- **ASLS Support Inbox:** [ASLS@heart.org](mailto:ASLS@heart.org) – answers general course questions, assists with event registration and follow up, provides updates as they are available
- **Intelligo Help Inbox:** [intelligo.help@intelligohub.org](mailto:intelligo.help@intelligohub.org) – assists with technical inquiries/issues on Intelligo
- **Intelligo Sales Inbox:** [intelligo.sales@intelligohub.org](mailto:intelligo.sales@intelligohub.org) – follows up with Training Centers/systems to assist with course and material purchasing