

ACLS/BLS/PALS CERTIFICATION / RECERTIFICATION

All residents/fellows entering any graduate medical education program sponsored by UTHSC must obtain Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certification prior to or within 30 days of beginning training at UT and must maintain certification throughout the entirety of their training. Individual programs may have additional life support certification requirements. ACLS certification must be through the American Heart Association. Note: Pediatrics and Pediatric Subspecialties may obtain Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) in lieu of ACLS.

Residents not obtaining certification after 30 days of employment will be placed on leave without pay and removed from training program until certification is completed. If within the 30 days of leave without pay the resident has not achieved ACLS certification the resident may be terminated. The University must be provided with a copy of current ACLS cards for inclusion in residents' files. Certification dates will be entered by the Program Coordinator in each trainee's New Innovations personnel profile. The resident's ACLS/BLS card should be uploaded into New Innovations.

ACLS certification is available at no cost to residents via the HeartCode© computerized modules. Upon receiving the names of residents accepted into UT programs, new residents will be provided codes to access the on-line modules. All modules, with the exception of the skills testing, can be completed online prior to the start of training. Residents may also complete the skills component prior to the start date of their training by calling the Simulation Center to schedule the skills component.

Recertification:

All residents must maintain certification. Residents not achieving recertification within 30 days following their ACLS expiration will be placed on leave without pay during which time they may attempt to achieve recertification. If within the 30 days on leave without pay the resident has not achieved ACLS recertification the resident may be terminated. Following completion of a recertification course, the resident is responsible for providing the university with a copy of his or her new ACLS card. Note: you must recertify your BLS before you will be able to recertify your ACLS.