



## Basic Life Support and AED Course Guidance Notes

1. Each BLS or BLS/AED provider course must be registered with ERC using the Course Management System (CMS). The course should be approved by an ERC BLS/AED Provider Course Director. The Course Director may delegate delivery of the course to a qualified ERC BLS/AED instructor.
2. There should be a minimum of one ERC BLS/AED instructor (either full instructor or instructor candidate) to every 6 candidates.
3. Every BLS/AED instructor candidate (IC) requires direct supervision by a full instructor. Alternatively an ERC registered Course Director may supervise 2 ICs provided that he is not directly involved in teaching himself.
4. The minimum duration for the BLS Provider Course is 3 hours and for the BLS/AED Provider Course is 4 hours.
5. Whenever possible at least two sets of equipment (resuscitation manikin ± AED) should be available for each group of 6 candidates. Where local circumstances do not allow these levels of equipment, the time available in the programme for group practice for BLS and AED should be extended by up to 60 minutes.
6. Candidates that complete the BLS course will be issued with an ERC BLS certificate. Candidates completing the BLS/AED course will be issued with a combined ERC BLS/AED certificate.
7. BLS Providers who wish to train to use an AED should complete the full BLS/AED Provider Course. This will allow for the revision of vital BLS skills which are an essential component of the AED use.
8. The BLS/AED course contains the core generic material that is applicable to all BLS/AED providers. Where local circumstances require the inclusion of additional skills, optional modules may be added to the core course content. This will increase the course duration. Examples include: pocket mask; bag-valve-mask; oxygen administration; acute coronary syndromes; foreign body airway obstruction; emergency first aid. These modules will be made available by ERC as PPT slides and handout materials.
9. Candidates' competence at performing BLS and / or AED skills must be assessed on the course. The assessment may be undertaken either continuously during the practical sessions or during a separate assessment at the end of the course, at the discretion of the Course Director. The results of the assessment should be registered in the CMS.