

# FLORIDA HEART CPR\*

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION  
BLS, ACLS, PALS TRAINING CENTER

(772) 388-5252

3455 AIRPORT WEST DRIVE, VERO BEACH, FL 32960

## PALS Precourse Letter to Participants

Dear **PALS** Course student:

Class begins with registration at 8:45 a.m. Please be on time! Students are expected to attend and participate in the entire course. You can access a textbook or purchase an online version of the textbook from **Worldpoint.com**

### **\*\*ATTENTION: TO BEGIN PREPARATION FOR THE COURSE:\*\***

1. Visit **elearning.heart.org/courses**.
2. In the search bar find the course name (PALS Pre-course Assessment).
3. Choose the PALS Pre-course Self Assessment and PALS pre-course work, then select Launch Course to begin.
4. Make sure you complete both the PALS Pre-course Assessment AND PALS Pre-course work exercises and videos. **PRINT BOTH CERTIFICATES AND BRING THEM TO CLASS.**

*Note:* If you haven't already logged in, the system will ask you to do so. If you haven't visited the site before, you'll be prompted to set up an account.

The PALS Provider Course is designed to teach you the lifesaving skills required to be both a team member and a team leader in either an in-hospital or out-of-hospital setting. Because the PALS Provider Course covers extensive material in a short time, you will need to prepare for the course beforehand. You should prepare for the course as follows:

1. **CPR competency:** Be prepared to pass the child 1-rescuer CPR/AED and the infant 1 and 2 rescuer CPR skills test. You will not be taught how to do CPR or how to use an AED during the course. You must know this in advance. Review and understand all current BLS guidelines, especially as they relate to the pediatric patient. You may find this information in the BLS for Healthcare Providers manual or in other AHA guidelines publications (see [www.americanheart.org/cpr](http://www.americanheart.org/cpr)).
2. Complete the self-assessment certificates and print your score with 70% or better; bring the printouts of your scores with you to the PALS course. This test consists of 3 sections: ECG rhythm identification, pharmacology, and practical application. Use this assessment to identify areas where you need to increase your knowledge.

**\*\*\*You must submit the pre-course assessment. This is an AHA requirement**

3. **PALS algorithms and flowcharts:** Be familiar with the PALS algorithms and flowcharts so that you can apply them to clinical scenarios. Note that the PALS course does not present the details of each algorithm. We will review these in class, however.
4. **Supplement your knowledge:** Review and understand the information in the PALS Provider Manual. Pay particular attention to the systematic approach to pediatric assessment, the “evaluate, identify, intervene” treatment model, and the management of respiratory, cardiac and circulatory abnormalities.
5. **Print the PALS Study Guide from the website** and look up the answers in your textbook or supplemental material. This will help you prepare for the course immensely!

### **What This Course Does Not Cover**

The PALS Provider Course does not teach ECG or pharmacology information. **If you do not review CPR and if you do not learn and understand the ECG and pharmacology information in the self-assessment computer based test, it is unlikely that you can successfully complete the PALS Provider Course.**

You will not be taught how to read or interpret ECG rhythm strips in the course, nor will you be taught details about PALS pharmacology. **You must know this in advance.**

**It is essential that you bring your PALS Provider Manual to class: The student text is an essential reference during class lessons, and during the written exam!** You may refer to the Handbook of Emergency Cardiovascular Care for Healthcare Providers (optional), and you may bring it to the course to use as a reference during some of the stations in the course. We have the handbook for sale at Florida Heart.

We look forward to having you in class. **If you have any questions about the course, or are having difficulty accessing the student website, please call Florida Heart @ 388-5252 well in advance of the date of the course.**

*Thanks! See you in class!*

*Gayl Nye*

*PALS Course Coordinator*