

Program Standards

ASHI ACLS™	
Intended Audience	Emergency personnel in intensive care or critical care departments and emergency medical providers.
Instructor Prerequisites	A current and properly authorized ASHI Instructor in good standing with a reasonable amount of ACLS patient care experience.
Participant Prerequisites	Training and/or education in basic cardiac rhythm analysis (ECG interpretation) and cardiovascular pharmacology. Professional level Basic Life Support (BLS/CPR/AED) required or included in ACLS course.
Required Training Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>ASHI ACLS™ Digital Resource Kit</i> (one per Training Center) • <i>ACLS Study Guide</i>, Fourth Ed. Aehlert. Elsevier © 2012 (one per participant) • <i>ASHI ACLS™ Instructor Resource Guide</i> (one per Instructor) • ASHI ACLS™ presentation media (PowerPoint®) © 2012 Mosby, or ACLS Blended Learning Solution (ASHI/Elsevier/MC Strategies)
Course Length	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Varies by class type (initial, refresher) and method. • Initial class about 15 hours. • Successful completion is based on achievement of the core learning objectives rather than a prescribed instruction time.
Student To Instructor Ratio (Skill Session Maximum)	10:1 (6:1 recommended)
Certification Requirements	<p>Written Exam: Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 85% or better* <p>Performance Evaluation: Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given a patient situation, and working in a team setting, competently direct the initial emergency care (including mechanical, pharmacological, and electrical therapy where applicable) for each of the following situations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Respiratory arrest – Pulseless ventricular tachycardia (VT)/ventricular fibrillation (VF) with an automated external defibrillator (AED) available – Cardiac rhythm management including pulseless VT/VF and two other rhythms
Certification Period	May not exceed 24 months from class completion date. More frequent reinforcement of skills is recommended.
Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occupational licensing boards, regulatory agencies, and other approvers may require specific hours of instruction or other practices.
Continuing Education	<p>Emergency medical Services CEH: 12 Advanced through Health and Safety Institute, the parent company of ASHI, an organization accredited by the Continuing Education Coordinating Board for Emergency Medical Services.</p> <p>Nursing Continuing Education: 12.79 contact hours through Elsevier Mosby's Office of Nursing CE, an accredited provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation (ANCC) Applies to initial online portion only. Renewal courses in ACLS are not eligible for NCE.</p>

* The passing (cut) score was raised from 68% or better to 85% in April 2012 after an item analysis was performed on a sample population taking the test. Item analysis is a process which examines student responses to individual test items (questions). Analysis confirmed that the wrong answers were less attractive than anticipated, making the exam easier than expected and requiring a higher passing score.