Below is a preliminary list of the most Frequently Asked Questions related to the new First Aid/CPR/AED and Basic Life Support for Healthcare Provider programs. We will continue to add questions and responses to the list.

ECC Instructor Update FAQs for First Aid/CPR/AED and Basic Life Support Instructors

**Question:** I am a Red Cross Instructor in First Aid/CPR/AED and/or BLS, do I need to complete an update?

**Answer:** Current First Aid/CPR/AED Instructors/ITs and/or Basic Life Support Instructors certified before January 29, 2016 are required to complete the instructor update in the program(s) for which they are certified as instructors (either FA/CPR/AED and/or BLS).

**Question:** How do I update my instructor certification?

**Answer:** Instructors/ITs were automatically assigned the Instructor Update in the Red Cross Learning Management System and an email notification was sent to alert each instructor that the online update was available for them. In order to complete the update, Instructors/ITs must obtain and review all course materials and complete the online instructor update course. Course materials are available in digital format on Instructor’s Corner. Print editions will be available in April 2016.

Note: there is also the option of attending an in-person instructor group update. The same information is covered but done in person with a qualified Instructor Trainer.

**Question:** What should I do if I am a current First Aid/CPR/AED Instructor/IT and/or Basic Life Support Instructor and I did not receive the email notification and/or cannot see the update in the Red Cross Learning Center?

**Answer:** If you were not assigned the update and you think this is in error, please contact the Training Support Center.
**Question:** What is the deadline for completing the update?

**Answer:** The deadline for completing the update for instructors is July 31, 2016. The deadline for instructor trainers to complete the online update is April 30.

**Question:** I already completed a recertification assessment recently, why do I need to take an instructor update?

**Answer:** Instructor recertification is required every two years and that is done by completing a recertification assessment regardless of program updates. An instructor update is required whenever a program is revised as in this case for First Aid/CPR/AED and Basic Life Support.

The Instructor Updates for the First Aid/CPR/AED and Basic Life Support programs provide overviews of the recent ECC science changes incorporated in our programs, changes to the instructional design for the programs, and the updated course materials.

**Question:** I completed the update. How can I tell if I am updated in the system?

**Answer:** Verify your certification by checking your profile in the Learning Management System. Look under the Internal Licenses and Certifications section under the My Profile tab. You should see the certification title with an Acquired on date equal to the date you completed the update.

**Question:** What is the basic-level certification requirement for First Aid/CPR/AED Instructors/ITs and Basic Life Support Instructors?

**Answer:** First Aid/CPR/AED instructors/ITs and Basic Life Support Instructors are also now required to have a basic-level certification (or equivalent or higher level) in addition to their instructor certification.

- If an instructor/IT that teaches First Aid/CPR/AED and/or BLS courses is not already certified in the basic-level program (or equivalent or higher level), that instructor/IT must obtain basic-level certification (or equivalent or higher level) by July 31 to maintain their instructor certification(s).
• If the instructor/IT already has a current basic-level certification (or equivalent or higher level), no further action is required until nearing the expiration of the basic-level certification. If that basic-level certification expires prior to July 31, they should take the updated course.
• All instructors/ITs teaching the First Aid/CPR/AED and/or BLS programs must keep their basic-level certification current to remain certified as an instructor in those two programs.
• The basic-level certification (or equivalent or higher level) for First Aid/CPR/AED must include first aid and adult and pediatric CPR/AED.
• Information about equivalent or higher certifications can be found at the end of this document. Instructor Bulletins and related documents on Instructor’s Corner will be updated with this information and posted on Instructor’s Corner.

Question: What is the deadline for obtaining the basic-level certification?

Answer: The deadline to obtain the basic-level certification (or equivalent or higher level) is July 31, 2016.

Question: Do I need to obtain my basic-level certification before completing the online Instructor Update?

Answer: No. The update can be completed prior to obtaining the basic-level certification but the basic-level certification must be completed by July 31, 2016.

Question: Do I need to obtain my basic-level certification before teaching the updated courses?

Answer: No. Instructors may begin teaching the updated courses once they have completed the instructor update but the basic-level certification must be completed by July 31, 2016.

Question: I am a Red Cross instructor/IT in Lifeguarding, CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers and Healthcare Providers (CPRO), and/or Emergency Medical Response (EMR). Do I need to do the First Aid/CPR/AED instructor/IT update or Basic Life Support instructor update and maintain a basic-level certification?

Answer: Lifeguarding, CPRO, and/or EMR instructors/ITs that also want to teach First Aid/CPR/AED
or Basic Life Support courses are required to do the update and maintain the basic-level certification (equivalent or higher level) requirement.

- Lifeguarding, CPRO, and EMR instructors/ITs were automatically assigned the update in the Learning Management System ONLY if they have reported teaching at least one course of record from the First Aid/CPR/AED or Basic Life Support program in the past 2 years. (January 29, 2014 – Jan 29, 2016).
- For those Lifeguarding, CPRO, or EMR instructors that have not reported teaching any First Aid/CPR/AED courses in the past 2 years, but would like to teach these courses, they should complete a web form (to be posted on Instructor's Corner) allowing them to complete the update (if prior to July 31, 2016) or to complete a self-orientation bridge (if after August 1, 2016 and beyond) to be eligible to teach those First Aid/CPR/AED classes.

Any instructor/IT teaching First Aid/CPR/AED classes is required to maintain basic-level certification (equivalent or higher level) in first aid and adult and pediatric CPR/AED.

Note: While Lifeguarding, CPRO, and/or EMR instructors/ITs can complete the update and teach the revised First Aid/CPR/AED courses, please do not attempt to modify the content of other courses (Lifeguarding, CPRO and/or EMR) to incorporate the latest ECC guidelines.

**Question:** I am a Red Cross instructor in other programs but do not teach the First Aid/CPR/AED or BLS programs, do I need to do this update and/or meet the basic-level certification requirement?

**Answer:** No. Only First Aid/CPR/AED or BLS instructors (or other qualified instructors as described in the above question/answer) are required to complete the update and obtain/maintain the basic-level certification requirement at this time.

**Question:** I am a Red Cross instructor in Lifeguarding, CPRO, and/or EMR programs, can I still teach these programs and will the associated certifications remain valid?

**Answer:** While science changes were incorporated in the First Aid/CPR/AED and BLS programs, the current training in our other programs and courses (Lifeguarding, EMR, CPR for Professional Rescuers, etc.) is valid and saves lives. Additionally, all current American Red Cross programs and associated certifications remain valid. Continue to teach the other programs as outlined in your instructor and instructor trainer manuals until those are updated.
**Question:** Are all Red Cross instructors/ITs required to maintain a basic-level certification for the program that they teach?

**Answer:** The updates released applies to the First Aid/CPR/AED and BLS programs only and does not address any policies or procedures in other courses. Any instructor/IT teaching the First Aid/CPR/AED and/or BLS classes are required to maintain basic-level certification (equivalent or higher level). Other instructors such as Lifeguarding, EMR, Wilderness & Remote First Aid, etc. are currently not required to maintain the basic-level certification for the program they are certified to teach at this time. Instructors who teach directly for the Red Cross as a paid or volunteer instructor may have additional certification requirements based upon their position; they should contact their supervisor with any questions.

**Question:** When is the Lifeguarding program being updated? When is the CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers and Health Care Providers program being updated?

**Answer:** The Lifeguarding program is currently being revised and should release in the winter of 2017. All Lifeguarding instructors/ITs will be required to complete the Lifeguarding update once that program releases.

The CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers and Health Care Providers program is being updated in conjunction with the revisions to the Lifeguarding program which will be available with the Lifeguarding course as well as a stand-alone course and planned for release in the winter of 2017.

**Question:** When are other programs being updated?

**Answer:** Release dates for other programs will be announced over the coming months. In the meantime, the current training is valid and saves lives and the associated certifications remain valid. Continue to teach the other programs as outlined in your instructor and instructor trainer manuals until those are updated.
Basic-Level Certification Requirements and Equivalencies

**Question:** What certifications are recognized as part of the First Aid/CPR/AED basic-level certification requirement?

**Answer:** First Aid/CPR/AED Instructors/ITs are required to have a current trained lay responder (or higher level) certification in Adult & Pediatric (Child and Infant) CPR/AED and first aid training from the American Red Cross or from a Red cross-approved organization as identified in the list below:

- American Red Cross: Lifeguarding/FA/CPR/AED, EMR, CPR for Professional Rescuer and First Aid or Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers and First Aid.
- Canadian Red Cross
- American Heart Association
- National Safety Council
- Health & Safety Institute (HSI) including American Safety and Health Institute and Medic First Aid
- Emergency Care & Safety Institute
- Emergency First Response
- National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians, State Licensed, or state Certified (active status):
  - Paramedic
  - Advanced Medical Technician
  - Emergency Medical Technician
  - Emergency Medical Responder
**Question:** What certifications are recognized as part of the Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers basic-level certification requirement?

**Answer:** Basic Life Support Instructors are required to maintain a current Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers certification from the American Red Cross or the equivalent from a Red Cross-approved organization (see the equivalency chart):

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Certification</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Red Cross</td>
<td>Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers</td>
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<td></td>
<td>CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers and Health Care Providers</td>
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<td>Emergency Medical Response</td>
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<td>Lifeguarding/First Aid/CPR/AED</td>
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<td>American Heart Association</td>
<td>BLS for Healthcare Providers</td>
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<td>CPR Pro for the Professional Rescuer</td>
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<td>Healthcare Provider (HCP) CPR &amp; AED</td>
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<td>National Registry of Emergency Medical</td>
<td>Paramedic</td>
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<td>Technicians, State Licensed, or State</td>
<td>Advanced Emergency Medical Technician</td>
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