

**LEHIGH VALLEY HEALTH NETWORK
System Manual**

GME – LIFE SUPPORT PROVIDER STATUS – DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DOE)

SCOPE:

Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) adopts this policy for the following selected licensed entities:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lehigh Valley Hospital | <input type="checkbox"/> Transitional Skilled Unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lehigh Valley Hospital – Dickson City | <input type="checkbox"/> Lehigh Valley Home Care |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lehigh Valley Hospital – Hazleton | <input type="checkbox"/> Lehigh Valley Hospice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lehigh Valley Hospital – Pocono | <input type="checkbox"/> Pocono VNA / Hospice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lehigh Valley Hospital – Schuylkill | <input type="checkbox"/> Lehigh Valley Home Care – Schuylkill |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LVHN Children’s Surgery Center | <input type="checkbox"/> Lehigh Valley Home Care – Hazleton |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LVHN Surgery Center – Tilghman | |

Graduate trainees (medical and dental residents and fellows) of Lehigh Valley Health Network

LINKS TO ATTACHMENTS:

- [Appendix 1 – Program-Specific Requirements](#)
- [Reference 1 – Notes on Program-Specific Requirements](#)

LIST OF ASSOCIATED FORMS: N/A

DISCLAIMER:

This policy and the implementing procedures are intended to provide a description of recommended courses of action to comply with statutory or regulatory requirements and/or operational standards. It is recognized that there may be specific circumstances, not contemplated by laws or regulatory requirements that make compliance inappropriate. For advice in these circumstances, consult with the Departments of Risk Management and/or Legal Services, as appropriate.

REVIEW:

Origination: 4 / 2016
Review / Revision: 9 / 2020, 10/2023

Approved by the Graduate Medical Education Committee

Approved by: Joseph Patruno (Physician)	Approval Date: 01/05/2024
Version: 5	Publication Date: 01/05/2024
Original Creation Date: 04/11/2016	Next Review Date: 01/05/2027

I. POLICY:

This policy sets the expectation for graduate trainees with regard to life support course certification at the start of graduate training and maintenance of certification during training.

II. DEFINITIONS:

Graduate trainee – Any postgraduate M.D., D.O., D.D.S. or D.M.D physician/dentist in training, in an ACGME/CODA approved training program and Non-Standard Training programs recognized by the ACGME.

Life Support Certification – Basic Life Support (BLS), Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), and Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP), Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS)

III. PROCEDURE:

- A. As outlined in the chart below, all graduate trainees with direct patient care responsibilities will obtain the appropriate life support provider status prior to beginning patient care responsibilities and maintain certification throughout their training.
- B. The Department of Education will confirm that graduate trainees have obtained the appropriate provider status prior to authorizing them to begin patient care responsibilities.
- C. The Department of Education will budget for initial or renewal BLS, ACLS, and/or PALS course completion/certification required of new trainees within the institution. Each sponsoring department/program will budget for any certification for continuing trainees.
- D. Individual departments and / or residencies may require additional life support courses not mentioned above (for example, neonatal resuscitation for pediatrics). In this case, each department will budget for payment of these additional courses, at rates set by LVHN's Emergency Medicine Institute (EMI).
- E. Graduate trainees wishing to complete life support courses outside of Lehigh Valley Health Network shall be responsible for any and all costs of these courses, including travel.
- F. Program Coordinators will notify residents at 180, 90 and 30 days before their Life Support provider recommended renewal date so that the resident may schedule a renewal course.
- G. During training, all graduate trainees are required to maintain current life support certifications. Continuing residents who do not fulfill life support requirements have a 30 day grace period and may then be placed on suspension from their clinical training.
- H. The online American Heart Association HeartCode® ACLS is the only online acceptable means to complete ACLS didactic components. If a trainee chooses the AHA HeartCode® option, they must still complete an in-person skill component conducted by an AHA Instructor. In-person skill assessment can be completed through LVHN's EMI. To schedule an assessment, call (484) 884-0011 and pay the applicable fee.
- I. Life support requirements for each graduate training program will follow the life support requirements as outlined in the Life Support Requirements by Department approved by Medical Executive Committee (see Appendix 1 and Reference 2). Additionally, specific graduate training programs may require life support certifications above those required of medical staff (ie. to meet specialty-specific accreditation requirements or if as part of their training or trainees rotate to areas that require additional certification). If a trainee will be completing a rotation outside of LVHN, additional certifications or requirements may apply.

IV. REFERENCES: N/A

V. ATTACHMENTS:

[Appendix 1 – Program-Specific Requirements](#)

[Reference 1 – Notes on Program-Specific Requirements](#)

Appendix 1

Program	Basic Life Support (BLS)	Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)	Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS)	Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP)	ATLS
	Prior to Arrival			Scheduled by Department	
Cardiovascular Disease	X	X			
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry	X	X			
Clinical Neurophysiology	X	X			
Colon Rectal Surgery	X	X			
Dermatology	X				
Emergency Medicine	X	X	X		X
Endocrinology	X	X			
Family Medicine	X	X	X	X	
Family Medicine - Pottsville	X	X	X	X	
Gastroenterology	X	X			
General Practice Dentistry	X				
General Surgery	X	X			X
Geriatric Medicine	X	X			
Hematology Oncology	X	X			
Hospice Palliative Medicine	X	X			
Internal Medicine	X	X			
Interventional Cardiology	X	X			
Maternal Fetal Medicine	X	X		X	
Medical Toxicology	X	X	X		X
Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology	X	X			
Mixed reality in complex intracranial surgery	X				
Nephrology	X	X		X	
Neurocritical Care	X	X			
Neurology	X	X			
OBGYN	X	X		X	
Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery	X	X			X
Pediatrics			X	X	
Plastic Surgery	X	X			X
Psychiatry (PGY 1 only)	X	X			
Pulmonary Critical Care	X	X			
Rheumatology	X	X			
Skull Base Surgery	X	X			X

Sports Medicine	X				
Surgical Critical Care	X	X			X
Transitional Year	X	X			
Vascular Neurology	X	X			
Vascular Surgery	X	X			X

* Those certifications highlighted in yellow are an LVHN Medical Executive Committee requirement.
 **All other certifications marked with an X are program-specific requirements. See Reference 1 for detailed notes.

Reference 1: Notes on Program-Specific Requirements

In addition, for Emergency Medicine Medical command certification requires ACLS certification.

Surgery: Residents who are first responders for trauma require ATLS. This includes all general surgery, surgical critical care fellow, plastic surgery residents (during PGY1-3 only)

ATLS is required of the plastic surgery resident only up until PGY3 year.