

# BASIC LIFE SUPPORT (BLS) CERTIFICATION

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Cardiopulmonary resuscitation skills (CPR) are considered a core competency for all health professionals. Students enrolled in the University of Nebraska College of Pharmacy professional program are expected to demonstrate competency in adult and child cardiopulmonary resuscitation/basic life support (CPR/BLS).

All pharmacy students must be certified in CPR/BLS – adult and child – by the end of the second semester of the first professional year. Only the American Heart Association (AHA) program is acceptable (see below). Evidence of such certification (i.e., a photocopy of the certification card) will be placed in the student's file in the Dean's Office. Students failing to be appropriately certified will not be allowed to complete registration for the next academic year (i.e., P2 year).

The CPR/BLS certification must be kept current while enrolled in the College of Pharmacy. Therefore, in most cases, students must renew their certification during the spring semester of their third professional year. This will ensure current certification during the final P4 clerkship year. Students failing to complete recertification at the appropriate time will not be allowed to begin fourth-year clerkships.

Students may accomplish this professional requirement by the following methods:

- Completion of the "BLS for Healthcare Providers" course offered on campus by Clarkson College.  
Contact information, class schedule and cost information is available from the Dean's Office.
- Completion of the American Heart Association (AHA) Basic Life Support (BLS) certification course for Healthcare Providers or more advanced AHA courses such as ACLS or PALS.