

COVID-19 information for participants at APLS courses 2020

Welcome back to the APLS provider course program. As an organisation, our highest priority is to provide a safe educational environment for our participants, instructors and staff.

Strategies used will depend on the current COVID guidelines in the state the course is held in, and the current COVID situation in the community.

The guiding principles for measures to provide a COVID-safe environment include:

- Effective and evidence based
- Match national, local state government and Safe Work Australia guidelines
- Practical and achievable

A number of different strategies will be implemented, including the following.

Minimising the risk of Covid-infected participants attending courses.

Please don't attend the course if you answer yes to any of these screening questions. If you are unwell course fees are fully transferrable and you will be supported in enrolling for another suitable course.

1. Do you feel unwell with any cold or flu like symptoms such as cough, sore throat, headache, fatigue or body aches?
2. Do you/have you felt feverish, had night sweats or had a high temperature recorded recently?
3. Have you been on a cruise ship or arrived from overseas or interstate in the last 14 days?
4. Have you been in contact with someone that is a suspected (being tested) or confirmed COVID-19 case in the last 14 days?

Social distancing measures, including:

- Venue arrangements to ensure 1 participant per 4 m² rule and 1.5 m separation, depending on state guidelines
- Individual catering arrangements to ensure safety

Hygiene measures, including:

- Plentiful provision of hand sanitiser, hand washing facilities and gloves
- Ceasing BLS expired air resuscitation training and substituting BVM ventilation
- Regular cleaning of surfaces, furniture, equipment in accordance with national/local recommendations

Implementation of protective measures where social distancing is not feasible, e.g. during scenario and skills teaching. Strategies will include:

- Surgical face masks when <1.5 m distance
- Strict hand hygiene before and after interaction with equipment
- Cleaning of equipment, mannikins with Clinell wipes (or alternative) between users

Recommending local courses only for the rest of 2020.

To minimise disruption caused by differing state and workplace guidelines on interstate travel, as well as the risks of further outbreaks, we are currently recommending that all candidates and faculty take local courses only for the rest of 2020. We will update this guidance every three weeks in accordance with state and federal government advice.

We look forward to meeting you at the course. Please contact us if you have any concerns about these issues.