

CPR & Emergency Cardiovascular Care

As of March 28, 2017

Q: What is the Heartsaver Bloodborne Pathogens (BBP) Online Course?

A: The AHA's Heartsaver Bloodborne Pathogens course teaches employees how to protect themselves and others from being exposed to blood or blood-containing materials. This course is designed to meet US Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requirements for bloodborne pathogens training when paired with site-specific instruction.

Q: What updates have been made to the Heartsaver BBP Online Course?

A: The AHA's Heartsaver Bloodborne Pathogens Online Course has been updated to reflect updates to the Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens Standard (29CFR 1910.1030), which is published by OSHA. The primary change/addition is regarding use of a high-velocity air dryer in the handwashing section.

This course has also been updated to match the look/feel and functionality of the AHA's other Heartsaver Online courses.

Q: Specifically, what content is taught in the Heartsaver BBP Online Course?

A: The Heartsaver BBP Online Course uses the PACT acronym (Protect, Act, Clean, Tell) and slogan, "Make a PACT, Know How to Act," to help students learn and easily recall bloodborne pathogens training.

After successfully completing this course, students will be able to:

- Explain the importance of taking the Heartsaver Bloodborne Pathogens Course
- Define bloodborne pathogens
- Describe the four main steps for staying safe when facing an occupational exposure
- Discuss how universal precautions, personal protective equipment, and handwashing can protect them from infection
- Recognize warning signs and labels for biohazards
- Recall how to safely remove gloves
- Discuss how to dispose of sharps and other blood-containing items
- Identify the types of spills and methods to clean them
- Discuss their exposure control plan

Q: What is site-specific training?

A: Site-specific training is training that is provided by the student's employer and covers anything specific to the workplace and/or industry. For more information about site-specific training, students and employers should refer to the Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens Standard (29CFR 1910.1030), published by OSHA.

Target Audience

Q: Who is the target audience for the Heartsaver BBP Online Course?

A: The Heartsaver Bloodborne Pathogens Course was designed specifically for workers with a reasonable chance of coming into contact with bloodborne pathogens such as correctional officers, childcare workers, security guards, maintenance workers, school personnel, hotel housekeepers, health and fitness club staff, and tattoo artists.

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Course Format

Q: What is the format for this program?

A: Heartsaver BBP Online is an eLearning course that uses a variety of assets such as dramatizations, animations, self-directed learning, and interactive activities to teach how to protect themselves from exposure to bloodborne pathogens. This course contains required exercises which must be completed before the student can receive a certificate of completion.

Q: Is a skills practice or testing session required for Heartsaver BBP Online?

A: There is no skills test or skills demonstration required for completion of this course.

Q: Is there an exam for Heartsaver BBP Online?

A: The AHA does not require completion of an exam for this eLearning course. However, the AHA provides an optional written exam if the employer requires an exam for completion. This exam can be downloaded from the AHA Instructor Network by Instructors and Facilitators.

Q: Does successful completion of this course result in receipt of an AHA course completion card?

A: No.

Course Length

Q: How long does it take to complete the Heartsaver BBP Online Course?

A: Depending on the student's experience, this course takes approximately 60 minutes to complete.

Accessing Heartsaver BBP Online

Q: How do students access Heartsaver BBP Online?

A: This program, AHA product number 15-1405, can be purchased at eLearning.Heart.org or from any of AHA's Distributors (Channing Bete, Laerdal, and WorldPoint).

Once a student is either issued or purchases a key for the online portion of the course, the student will go to eLearning.Heart.org to activate the key and complete the online portion of the course.

Q: Can a student log in and out of the course?

A: Yes. Students can enter and exit a course as often as necessary. If they are active in the course for 30 minutes, their user session will expire. When this happens, a message will notify students their session expired. They will simply log in again and return to the course, where they will see all of their completed exercises have been saved.

Q: Can course material be accessed after the online portion is completed?

A: Yes, students may access all material included in the Heartsaver BBP Online Course for 12 months (1 year) following initial activation of their course key.

Continuing Education

Q: Does Heartsaver BBP Online offer continuing education (CE/CME)?

A: Yes, the following CE is available upon successful completion of this eLearning course:

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Continuing Education Accreditation – General Audience



The American Heart Association has been accredited as an Authorized Provider by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET).

The American Heart Association is authorized by IACET to offer 0.5 CEUs for this program.

Transition to New Heartsaver BBP Online Course

Q: When must students begin using the new Heartsaver BBP Online Course? When will keys for the old Heartsaver BBP Online Course be transitioned?

A: The new Heartsaver BBP Online Course must be used for training beginning Tuesday, May 30. The old version of Heartsaver BBP Online will be discontinued on Tuesday, May 30.

For customers who have unused/unactivated keys for the old Heartsaver BBP Online Course, overnight on May 30, 2017, the AHA will automatically transition any unused/unactivated keys to the new version of this course.

Technical Specifications

Q: What are the minimum technical requirements for the Heartsaver BBP Online Course?

A: Minimum technical requirements are available at <https://elearning.heart.org/static/technicalspecs>.

Customer Support Information

Q: Whom should I contact for technical assistance with Heartsaver BBP Online?

A: Customers may contact the AHA ECC Customer Support at 888-242-8883 for technical assistance. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Central Time.