***FAQs – for ATLS Instructors/Potential Instructors***

***I have already taken the Generic Instructor Course (GIC) and am currently a PALS/ ALS/ APLS Instructor. Do I still need to do the ATLS Instructor Course?***

Yes. Although the two courses are similar, the ATLS Instructor Course teaches participants how to teach ATLS, whereas the Generic course (as the name suggests) is non-course specific.

***Does taking the ATLS Instructor Course enable me to teach on ALS/ APLS/ PALS courses?***

Yes. The ATLS Instructor Course can be used in place of the Generic Instructor Course for the purposes of ALS/ APLS/ PALS courses, as long as you have been awarded instructor status for that course.

***How long does my ATLS Instructor Status last?***

***How long is my ATLS Instructor Certificate valid for?***

4 years six months for ATLS

***What is the next step after I’ve passed the Instructor Course?***

After completing the ATLS Instructor course, you will become an Instructor Candidate. You will then need to teach on a Provider Course as a member of the faculty – you will run and be critiqued on the following sessions:

* Skills stations
* Moulage
* Lecture

This is known as Instructor Candidacy. At the end of the course, the faculty will then decide whether you should be awarded full ATLS Instructor status. The Course Director should inform you of their decision. The course centre will then notify The Royal College of Surgeons of England accordingly. The College will then issue you with a certificate which you should expect to receive approximately 6 weeks after the post course paperwork is submitted to RCS.

***How do I arrange my Instructor Candidacy?***

You can arrange the Instructor Candidacy yourself by contacting the ATLS Course centres via the [RCS website](http://www.rcseng.ac.uk/courses/course-search/regional-courses/regional-search?b_start:int=20&page_name=atls.html). Ensure that the centre is aware that you are an instructor Candidate as they will need to allow for this on the programme so that the Course Director is free to critique your performance and you are paired with experienced instructors.

***Can I do my Instructor Candidacy at an ATLS Instructor Course?***

No. The purpose of the ATLS Instructor Course is to teach candidates how to teach ATLS. Technically, as an Instructor Candidate, you are still undergoing the learning process and therefore are not eligible to teach on an ATLS Instructor course. It is recommended that you wait until you have a few courses under your belt prior to teaching on an instructor course.

***How do I arrange my recertification and what is involved?***

Every 4 years and 6 months you will need to reverify your instructor status. In order to do this, you need to teach on a Provider Course as a member of the faculty – you will run and be critiqued on the following sessions:

* Skills stations
* Moulage
* Lecture

You will also be requested to do an Instructor Reverification MCQ and score 32 or more.

At the end of the course, the faculty will then decide whether you should be awarded full ATLS Instructor status for a further 4 years and 6 months. The Course Director should inform you of the faculty’s decision. The course centre will then notify The Royal College of Surgeons of England accordingly. The College will then issue you with a certificate which you should expect to receive approximately 6 weeks after the course.

***Can I recertify on an ATLS Instructor course?***

No. Technically when you are recertifying, you become an Instructor Candidate for the duration of the course. You will need to be closely monitored throughout the course and this is not possible during an Instructor Course since all faculty should be focussed on the participants to ensure quality control of the instructors that the course produces.

***Do I need to reverify my ATLS provider status as well as my instructor status?***

No. Once you become an instructor, you only need to recertify your instructor status as the MCQ confirms your knowledge of the core content. If you can teach the content we assume you can provide it.