Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to outline the IUSB Vera Z. Dwyer College of Health Sciences (IUSB-CHS)* guidelines for professional-level CPR requirements.

Policy:

All students must have professional-level CPR certification (Healthcare Provider CPR through the American Heart Association, or CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer through the American Red Cross) before they will be allowed to participate in clinical experiences. The professional level includes: one- and two-man CPR; adult, child and infant CPR; adult, child and infant choking; and use of the AED (automatic external defibrillator). **Heart saver certification is inadequate.**

Re-certification is required prior to expiration. The American Heart Association certification is valid for a two-year period. However, failure to re-certify prior to the expiration requires that the student complete the entire certification course. A re-certification course will only be accepted if completed prior to the expiration date.

The IUSB-CHS strongly encourages students to obtain their CPR certification or re-certification through the American Heart Association. It is possible for individuals previously certified through the American Red Cross to be re-certified through the American Heart Association. The American Heart Association CPR certification is valid for a two-year period.

BLS Healthcare Provider Online Renewal Course

The online BLS Renewal Course provides a review for healthcare professionals who have prior CPR training. This program recognizes that healthcare professionals have knowledge and skills acquired from prior CPR training and years of patient care. **Be careful, there are online programs which appear to be American Heart but are not—they do not require skills validation. Skills validation by an AHA instructor is required.**

Once you have completed the online portion of the course, go to an authorized American Heart Association Training Center for the skills validation portion. After you have completed both sections of the course, you will be issued an American Heart Association BLS - Healthcare Provider card.

The cost for the online portion, plus the cost of the skills check varies by site. See the Advising Center for further information.

**It is your responsibility to locate local programs for CPR Courses/Skills Validation.**

Documentation and Verification should be kept on file in the department.

*This policy applies to Health Science majors at the point of internship or community course specific.