



January 6, 2025

Division of Physician Assistant
Education

tel 503 494-3633
fax 503 494-1409

paprgm@ohsu.edu
www.ohsu.edu/PA

Mail code: CL5PA
2730 S Moody Ave
Portland, OR 97201

Dear Class of 2027,

In anticipation of the start of your academic year, you will need Basic Life Support (BLS) certification designed for Health Care Providers. This is not the type of certification designed for the lay public. Your certification must show an expiration date of June 2026 or later. The reason for this requirement is that during your ½ day a week of clinical practicum (mentoring), you will be in contact with patients in a clinical setting. The BLS certification is required by the program to enable you to participate in these clinical settings.

Please upload a current BLS certificate for health care providers (front and back) to your Student Folder by 6/27/25.

If your current BLS certification is not valid through June 2026 or you have never been BLS certified, you can contact your local chapter of the American Heart Association to inquire about registering for potential classes.

Prior to the start of your clinical year (summer 2026), you will be enrolled in an Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) course. In addition, students will be required to recertify BLS at that time to keep their certification active throughout the clinical year.

We hope this information clearly explains the BLS requirement. If not, or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at paprgm@ohsu.edu.

Thank you,
PA Program Faculty