Career Readiness Indicator Questionnaire

This questionnaire is designed to help guide the process for review of a Career Readiness Indicator (CRI). It is the responsibility of the local education agency proposing the addition of the CRI to gather the information and submit it to Josh Laney, Assistant Director for Workforce Development. Answers should be as concise as possible. Information should be submitted as a completed packet, not piecemeal. Additional information may be included at the discretion of the applying agency if it might be pertinent to the evaluation process.

Contact information for person filling out questionnaire
Agency: SDE  Email: mbrown@alsde.edu  Phone number: 334-252-8949  Date of submittal: 09-09-15

CRI: BLS Instructor with Healthcare Provider

Why do we want this CRI?
1. What industry is asking for the CRI? (List multiple if applicable.)
   • Hospitals, Medical Clinics, Nursing Homes, Hospice, Assisted Living, Home Health, Postsecondary, Higher Education, K-12 Schools, Athletic Departments, Daycares, Pre-Schools, Headstart, Community
2. What companies within the industry are requesting this CRI? Letters of Support attached from the following: 1) Alabama Hospital Association and 2) Birmingham Regional Emergency Medical Services System (BREMESS)
3. What entity, company, or testing agency is the “owner” of the CRI? (Who determines what it takes to earn the CRI?) Provide contact numbers, names, websites, or other info for inquiries.
   • American Heart Association
     7272 Greenville Avenue
     Dallas, TX 75231
     Phone: 1-800-242-8721
     www.heart.org
4. For what career technical program(s) is the CRI being requested? Health Science

How does one actually get the CRI?
5. How long does it take for a student to earn this CRI? (Answer in approximate hours of instruction, not school years or terms. Give an average or best estimate.)
   • Total 31.5 hours
     o Complete AHA BLS for Healthcare Provider – 6.5 hours
     o Complete BLS Instructor Certification – 12 hours
     o Prepare to conduct a CPR or BLS course – approx. 6.5 hours
     o Conduct a CPR or BLS course while being observed – 6.5 hours
6. How does the student earn the CRI? (Does the student have to take a written exam, log a certain number of hours, complete a skills demonstration, some combination of these, etc?)
   • Complete AHA BLS for Healthcare Provider (HCP) training
   • Skill demonstration for HCP
   • Written exam for HCP
   • Complete BLS Instructor training
   • Skill demonstration for BLS Instructor
   • Written exam for BLS Instructor

Rev: 7/27/15
- Prepare for conducting a CPR or BLS certification course
- Conduct a CPR or BLS certification course while being observed

7. Is there a minimum age requirement for gaining the CRI? No
8. Are students required to be graduates before earning the CRI? No
9. Are there minimum pre-requisite course requirements for earning the CRI? No
10. What equipment is required to train for this CRI? (Only list items which are different than what would be found on the standard equipment list for the program.) Equipment required noted on the standard equipment list for Health Science.
11. Does the earning of the CRI require the student to have computer access for the testing? Testing can be administered as a written exam, but online testing may be an option for part of exam.

How much does it cost and what resources are required?

12. What is the cost of the exam for earning this CRI? $255.00 or less
13. Is there a practice test available from the CRI issuer or from other parties? No, not to my knowledge
   a. If yes, does the practice test have a cost in addition to the actual exam and if so, how much? N/A
   b. Can rights to the practice material be purchased once or is there a recurring fee? N/A
14. Who can administer the exam? (Some CRIs prohibit the person who trained the student from administering the exam.)
   - The Health Science teacher can provide the training and administer the exam for BLS for Healthcare Providers as long as the teacher is a certified AHA BLS Instructor.
   - A Regional Training Center Faculty (TCF) is required to provide instruction for BLS Instructor training. Typically, the Health Science teacher will not be eligible to be a TCF.
15. Is special certification or licensure required for a teacher to administer the CRI? Yes
   a. If yes, what is the cost for gaining the appropriate licensure?
      - There are two levels of certification required for the instructor: AHA BLS Instructor and BLS Training Center Faculty
      - AHA BLS Instructor required to certify students in BLS for Healthcare Providers – approx. $180.00
      - Fee for Regional Training Center Faculty to provide BLS Instructor training will vary across the state.
   b. Is this a one-time or recurring fee?
      - One-time fee for initial instructor certification approx. $180.00
      - Renewal fee every 2 years approx. $100
16. Is site, facility, or equipment certification required for administering the CRI? No
   a. If yes, what costs are included? N/A
   b. Is this a one-time or recurring fee? N/A
August 27, 2015

Dr. Philip Cleveland, Deputy State Superintendent
Alabama State Department of Education
Office of Career and Technical Education/Workforce Development
P.O. Box 302101
Montgomery, AL 36130-2101

Dear Dr. Cleveland:

The Alabama Hospital Association strongly and actively supports the Health Science Programs sponsored through the Alabama Department of Education’s Career and Technical Education. Specifically, we support the Career Readiness Indicators (CRI’s) initiative that helps to identify and prepare students to be college and career ready in the following areas:

- Certified Billing and Coding Specialist (CBCS)
- Certified Patient Care Technician (CPCT)
- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
- Certified Electronic Health Records Specialist (CEHRS)
- Certified Medical Administrative Assistant (CMAA)
- Certified EKG Technician (CET)
- Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPhT)
- BLS Instructor with Healthcare Provider
- National Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
- National Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

The Alabama Hospital Association supports this initiative, due to the intense shortage of nurses and other allied health professionals in Alabama. The demand for these health professionals far exceeds the supply in our state. Our hospitals are currently experiencing significant staffing shortages and projections for the future describe a worsening crisis unless steps are made to increase the supply.

Although each of these certifications may not be a requirement to work in Alabama hospitals, each certification is indicative of a better-prepared student who is available for immediate employment and may also be the gateway to future education in the area of
healthcare. Our hospitals may particularly be interested in considering students with the following credentials:

- Certified Billing and Coding Specialist (CBCS)
- Certified Electronic Health Records Specialist (CEHRS)
- Certified EKG Technician (CET)
- Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPhT)
- BLS Instructor with Healthcare Provider
- National Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

In addition to bringing potential of health careers into the focus of high school students, graduates with industry recognized CRI’s can provide much needed support to many areas of patient care in our state. As the population in our state continues to grow and age, it is imperative that we seek ways to increase the number of students who will be prepared to care for our expanding and aging population. Your support of this initiative allows health care providers more access to competent, well trained workers.

If I can provide further information about our support of this initiative and Alabama’s Career and Technical Education programs, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lacy D. Gibson
Director of Human Resources and Workforce Development
August 21, 2015

Alabama State Department of Education
Office of Career and Technical Education/Workforce Development
Dr. Philip Cleveland, Deputy State Superintendent
P. O. Box 302101
Montgomery, AL 36130-2101

Dr. Cleveland:

There are many reasons one should learn Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)/Basic Life Support (BLS). Most importantly, the classes will teach medical and nonmedical individuals to safely and effectively respond to an emergency situation until the EMS responders arrive. This training is extremely beneficial for the community to gain, but individuals seeking employment or advancing their education in healthcare are required to be certified in varying levels of BLS. Due to the importance of training as many individuals as possible to provide emergency assistance, there is a need for qualified BLS instructors.

In order to obtain BLS certification, an individual must complete an approved certification program administered by an approved BLS instructor. The instructor certification is rigorous and includes several parts for completion which include theory, skills, and competency testing. The certification also requires the individual to conduct at least one CPR/BLS certification class.

As a Training Center Coordinator with the Birmingham Regional EMS System, I highly support this certification and training as part of Career and Technical Education. BLS instructor certification is required in order to certify others to recognize life-threatening emergencies. Although BLS instructors are often volunteer workers, we currently employ individuals who hold this credential. There are other areas of industry who actively seek the employment of such individuals.

In conclusion, the most important thing a first responder can do is ensure the integrity of the circulatory system and respiratory system. By certifying qualified students as BLS instructors, there will be an available workforce to train others to become informed and ready to save lives. Please contact me, if I can provide additional information regarding this important credential.

We have used this program now for almost three years at the Blount County Career Tech Center.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

John Reed, MPH, BSN, RN, Paramedic Manager, BREMSS Education Services