

Certifications

If you want to be more competitive, you should obtain certifications to increase your chances. Once hired, your hospital will offer these classes, so you could wait to take them and have your hospital pay for them and pay you for your time; however, if you have these already completed makes you stand out. I know the cost (about \$200 each) can be challenging, so do what is best for you and I am confident even without these certifications, you will do well. I have taken each class at Edcor [www.edcor.net], and I like their teaching and testing format. It is less intimidating to complete these certifications at Edcor since they are willing to work with you – to an extent – to pass. Most hospitals will be very strict and will not pass if you miss anything.

It is important to note that the written portion of each certification exam is open book. However, in real-life scenarios like a mega code where you are the team lead, you must be able to recognize the cardiac rhythms and signs of distress to delegate and implement interventions effectively. While the algorithm card that comes with your book can provide guidelines, I encourage you to rely on your knowledge and skills as much as possible and not use the book and/or card during testing.

Each certification listed below is linked to the corresponding website.
GOOD LUCK and BEST WISHES TO YOU!

ER

- [ACLS](#)
- [PALS](#)
- [NRP](#) **this one is optional – not all ERs want this class*

ICU (Pedi) | Cath Lab | Pre-Op | OR | PACU

- [ACLS](#)
- [PALS](#) **if your OR has pediatric cases*

ICU (Adult)

- [ACLS](#)

L&D

- [ACLS](#)
- [NRP](#)

MED/SURG

- [ACLS](#)

All specialties will need the **NIH stroke scale certification**. I found a free website for you to take the class. Be sure to register and fill out EVERY questions when you register, or you have to start all over again. You will need to complete: [Certification A and B](#).