

ACS COT Surgical Skills Instructor Pathway

This pathway is required for individuals seeking to teach ASSET, ATOM, or BEST who are not currently ATLS Instructors.

Eligibility Requirement

- You must have successfully completed the relevant Surgical Skills course (ASSET, ATOM, or BEST) as a student within the last 2 years.

Step-by-Step Process

Step 1: Complete Required Surgical Skills Course

- Successfully complete the appropriate Surgical Skills course (ASSET, ATOM, or BEST) as a **student** within the past **24 months**.

Step 2: Instructor Potential Form Submission

- Your **Course Director** completes the *Surgical Skills Instructor Potential Form*.
- The Course Director submits the completed form to **traumaeducation@facs.org**.

Step 3: Receive Learning Management System (LMS) Access

- After the form is received, **Trauma Education Customer Service** sends you a link to the course in the **LMS** (*Surgical Skills Instructor Readiness Course*).

Step 4: Complete the Online Readiness Course

- Access the LMS using the provided link. (Use your ACS username and password.)
- Complete **all required components** of the Surgical Skills Instructor Readiness Course, including the Course Evaluation and claiming your credit.

Step 5: Confirm Course Completion

- Send an email with your Certificate of Completion to traumaeducation@facs.org to notify them that you have **successfully completed** the online readiness course.

Step 6: Teach as an Instructor Candidate (IC)

- Teach the appropriate Surgical Skills course as an **Instructor Candidate (IC)**.
- Teaching must occur under **direct observation by the Course Director**.

Step 7: Candidate Observation Form

- The **Course Director** completes the *Candidate Observation Form* following your IC teaching experience.

Step 8: Instructor Status Update

- Upon receipt of the completed Candidate Observation Form, **Trauma Education Customer Service** updates your status in the **CMS** to **Surgical Skills Instructor** for the applicable course(s).



ATLS Educator Applicants (Alternative Pathway)

This pathway is required for individuals seeking to become ATLS Educators, via an Alternative Pathway.

- **Experienced clinicians** engaged in teaching ATLS/ATCN as well as serve as educators for students, residents and or colleagues/faculty in their institutions but lack formal training in education
- **Advanced educators** who have advanced training and experience in education (e.g. EdD, MEd) but lack clinical experience

Eligibility Requirement

- You must have been approved by ACS Trauma Education to apply for ATLS Educator status via an Alternative Pathway. Successful completion of this online course is required before submitting the ATLS Educator application.

Step-by-Step Process

Step 1: Submit Required Documentation

- Submit all required **ATLS Educator documentation** to **Trauma Education Customer Service**.
 - Current contact: Neil Kato (nkato@facs.org)
- Documentation submission is **reviewed and confirmed** by the **Trauma Education Assistant Director** and/or **Medical Director**.

Step 2: Receive Learning Management System (LMS) Access

- Once documentation is approved, **Trauma Education Customer Service** sends you a link to the course in the **LMS** (*Surgical Skills Instructor Readiness Course*).
- **Step 3: Complete the Online Readiness Course**
- Access the LMS using the provided link. (Use your ACS username and password.)
- Complete **all required components** of the Surgical Skills Instructor Readiness Course, including the Course Evaluation and claiming your credit.

Step 4: Confirm Course Completion

- Send an email with your Certificate of Completion to traumaeducation@facs.org to notify them that you have **successfully completed** the online readiness course.

