You must take a Basic Life Support (BLS) Healthcare Provider course before you start nursing school. This course must be taught by the American Heart Association (AHA).

Start early with looking for the course most convenient to you because these courses are commonly scheduled according to instructor availability – which may be limited around holidays.

Unless you have been previously and recently BLS certified as a Healthcare Provider, you cannot take the renewal course. Prepare to take the initial course. This can take all day or part of two days. Starting early with this process will enhance your own convenience in arranging this.

How to find a BLS Healthcare Provider course near you:

- Go to this link: http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/classConnector.jsp?pid=ahaweb.classconnector.home#
- 2. Enter your zip code into search box #1
- 3. Choose at least 50 miles in the drop down menu of "Zip Radius"
- 4. Check the box under #2 for "View scheduled classes (optional)"
- 5. Add an end date to the "Class Start Date Range" boxes (wider is better more choices)
- 6. Press "Search."
- 7. Under the "YES" column, select "BLS for Healthcare Providers" in the drop down menu.
- 8. Press "Submit" just below that and wait for the result. It could take a few minutes.

Note: You may have to adjust the "Zip Radius" mileage and "Class Start Date Range" parameters before getting a result you like.