



FCCS Faculty Continuum



FCCS Course Instructor

What Are the Responsibilities of an FCCS Instructor?

Each licensed FCCS course must be taught by at least two FCCS-approved instructors, one of whom may be the course director. Becoming an FCCS Instructor provides the committed individual with opportunities to educate others within his/her own community, as well as around the world.

It is recommended that provider courses serve as instructor identification courses, and that potential instructors are encouraged to participate in the instructor component of the course.

What Is the FCCS Instructor Curriculum?

The FCCS instructor curriculum consists of reading assignments and skill station tutorials, accompanied by discussion sessions, observation, and practice teaching during an FCCS instructor course. As explained in the FCCS Course Administration document, the instructor course may be embedded within the schedule of an FCCS provider courses. Materials for holding an FCCS Instructor course are available on the [Licensed Activities Portal](#).

How Does One Become an FCCS Instructor?

1. To become an FCCS-approved instructor, an individual (referred to as “instructor candidate”) must apply for instructor status. Before submitting the application, an instructor candidate must complete one of these three pathways:
 - Successfully complete an FCCS provider course (with $\geq 80\%$ post-test score), including core skill stations, and complete the instructor curriculum.
 - Successfully complete an FCCS provider course (with $\geq 80\%$ post-test score), including core skill stations, and attend the Fundamentals Faculty Academy (FFA) course with successful completion of two core skills stations during the course.
 - Successfully complete a self-directed online FCCS course (with $\geq 80\%$ post-test score) and attend the FFA course with successful completion of two core skill stations during the FFA course.
2. After completing one of these pathways, the instructor application is available on the [SCCM website](#).
3. With the instructor application, the instructor candidate must provide proof of the following:
 - Physicians
 - Critical care certification or activity, or board eligibility for certification
 - OR**
 - A $\geq 50\%$ ratio of critical care practice*, as supported by the letter from the medical or intensive care unit director**

- Nurses
 - Baccalaureate degree with critical care certification
OR
 - Graduate or higher degree with a ≥50% ratio of critical care practice*, as supported by a letter from the medical or intensive care unit director**

- Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners
 - Baccalaureate or higher degree with critical care certification
OR
 - A ≥50% ratio of critical care practice*, as supported by a letter from the medical or intensive care unit director**

- Respiratory Therapists
 - Baccalaureate or higher degree with a ≥50% ratio of critical care practice*, as supported by a letter from the medical or intensive care unit director**

- Pharmacists
 - Baccalaureate or specialty degree in critical care
OR
 - A ≥50% ratio of critical care practice*, as supported by a letter from the medical or intensive care unit director**

**Critical care practice* refers to a didactic or education-based role focused on the critically ill or injured patient. The practice requirement ensures (as much as possible) that the instructor will be comfortable with the majority of lecture components and skill stations, and that he/she can answer participant questions with credibility.

**Please use the [Practice Ratio letter](#).

4. Instructor candidates are also required to teach at least two FCCS course components (didactic presentations and/or skill stations) within two years of instructor candidate application submission. The course date(s) and topics for these two components should be included on the application or emailed to [product support specialist](#).

What Is Required to Maintain the FCCS Instructor Designation?

After the application is submitted and approved, FCCS instructors are required to continue **BOTH** of the following:

- Maintain certification, special/added qualifications or practice ratio in critical care
- Teach in at least one approved FCCS course every two years

What Is the Associate Instructor Designation?

Those who do not meet the criteria for becoming an FCCS instructor but have significant experience in critical care may qualify for the FCCS associate instructor designation. The criteria for associate instructors are:

- Successful completion of an FCCS provider course
- Successful completion of the instructor curriculum component
- Submission of associate instructor application
- Significant clinical activity in critical care

FCCS Course Director

What Are the Responsibilities of an FCCS Course Director?

The Course Director, with the assistance of the Course Coordinator, has the responsibility for planning, organizing, and conducting the FCCS course. These responsibilities include applying to hold courses, selecting faculty, organizing course logistics, securing appropriate equipment, establishing participant registration processes, requesting necessary course resources, and providing CE/CME credits (if desired). The Course Director should also provide mentorship and guidance to instructors and coordinators.

It is the Course Director's responsibility to ensure that the course runs smoothly and is consistent with the goals, objectives, and vision of the SCCM. The Course Director may also fulfill the Course Coordinator role and can be considered one of the two required FCCS Instructors or the primary instructor with two associate instructors.

How Does One Become an FCCS Course Director?

1. FCCS instructors in good standing may apply to become a Course Director. The Course Director application is available electronically on the [SCCM website](#).
2. Before an FCCS instructor submits the Course Director application, he/she must:
 - Teach in at least two FCCS courses in the previous two years
 - Act as Course Director of at least one FCCS course with the mentorship of an FCCS Consultant
 - Obtain a [Course Director Letter of Recommendation](#), completed and signed by the observing FCCS Consultant

What Is Required to Maintain the Course Director Designation?

After the application is submitted and approved, Course Directors are required to continue the following:

- Maintain the certification, special/added qualifications, or critical care practice ratio required as an FCCS instructor
- Direct or teach in at least one FCCS course every two years
- Complete the Course Director responsibilities included above
- Complete a Course Site Evaluation for each course

FCCS Course Consultant

What Are the Responsibilities of an FCCS Course Consultant?

The Course Consultant is considered an expert in both critical care practice and the FCCS program and has a duty to be very familiar with all aspects of the course and administration thereof. Responsibilities of the Course Consultant:

- Offer mentorship and guidance to first-time course directors and coordinators through weekly, biweekly, or monthly phone conferences
- Attend at least one day of a first-time FCCS course (upon invitation)
- Assess the abilities and skills of first-time Course Directors to determine if they should be permitted to manage further courses without Consultant supervision.
- Debrief with the Course Director and Course Coordinator after the first or second day of the course. This debriefing will serve to finalize the relationship, evaluate the course, and discuss issues, concerns, and problems.

The Consultant may participate as a lecturer and be counted as one of the two required instructors. However, the Consultant may not act as the sole Instructor (even with two Associate Instructors) and should not lead skills stations, as that will inhibit his/her ability to evaluate all aspects of the course.

How Does One Become an FCCS Course Consultant?

1. FCCS Course Directors in good standing may apply to become a Course Consultant. The Course Consultant application is available electronically on the [SCCM website](#).
2. Before an FCCS Course Director submits the Course Consultant application, he/she must:
 - Maintain SCCM membership
 - Teach or direct at least two FCCS courses in the previous two years
 - Obtain a [Consultant Letter of Recommendation](#), completed and signed by an active FCCS Consultant

What Is Required to Maintain the Course Consultant Designation?

After the application is submitted and approved, Course Consultants are required to continue the following:

- Maintain SCCM membership
- Maintain the certification, special/added qualifications, or critical care practice ratio required as an FCCS instructor
- Complete the Course Consultant responsibilities included above