

## THE S.T.A.B.L.E. PROGRAM

### INSTRUCTOR CLASSIFICATIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS

National or Private Instructor Courses are designed to prepare **Lead Instructors** for local (their own facility) or regional (outreach) program implementation. Support instructors and those who fit into the definition for Administrative Support may attend the Instructor course but they must be affiliated with a Lead instructor to implement the program in their facility or region.

#### LEAD INSTRUCTOR

The Lead instructor is responsible for ensuring the integrity and quality of the Learner course and for submitting the on-line roster to recognize student involvement in Learner courses. The experienced Lead instructor may train Support instructors as outlined in the document: [Preparing Support Instructors](#) (found on the S.T.A.B.L.E. website under Educator's corner). **The Lead instructor must be an expert in neonatal nursing or medicine and have at least two years of recent -- within five years -- Level 2b or 3\* neonatal intensive care unit experience.** The Lead instructor understands the content found in all of the S.T.A.B.L.E. Program modules at an advanced level. This content includes:

Principles of hypoglycemia, safe use of umbilical catheters, thermoregulation and physiologic consequences of hypothermia, neonatal chest x-ray interpretation, blood gas interpretation, neonatal respiratory diseases, pulmonary hypertension and shunting, use of assisted ventilation, resuscitation, assessment and treatment of shock, presentation and treatment of infection, CBC (complete blood count) interpretation, and offering emotional support to families in the newborn ICU.

\*(For NICU Level designations: 2 a, b and Level 3 a, b, or c as defined by the American Academy of Pediatrics, see: **Levels of Neonatal Care, 2004, *Pediatrics*, 114; 1341-1347**).

**Instructor course required?** Yes. To become registered as a Lead instructor, instructor candidates must attend a course taught by National faculty.

**Testing requirement:** [Instructor candidates must pass the pre-test with a score of 70% or higher and must pass the post-test with a score of 85% or higher. If they do not pass either test with those minimum scores, they may earn a "Learner Course Completion Card" in lieu of an Instructor Registration card.](#)

**Teaching commitment:** The Lead instructor must participate in teaching the course a minimum of two times per two years. The Instructor's participation is tracked by the On-Line Roster Program.

#### SUPPORT INSTRUCTOR

**Instructor has at least one year of tertiary (level 2 or 3) neonatal intensive care unit experience.** The instructor is familiar with material in one or more of the S.T.A.B.L.E. program modules as outlined above under Lead Instructor. Support instructors may not teach a Learner course independent of a registered Lead instructor.

**Instructor course required?** Support instructors may either attend a Nationally-recognized course, or be oriented to the program by an experienced registered Lead instructor as outlined in the document: [Preparing Support Instructors](#) (found on the S.T.A.B.L.E. website under Educator's corner).

**Testing requirement:** [Instructor candidates must pass the pre-test with a score of 70% or higher and must pass the post-test with a score of 85% or higher. If they do not pass either test with those minimum scores, they may earn a "Learner Course Completion Card" in lieu of an Instructor Registration card.](#)

**Teaching commitment:** The Support instructor must participate in teaching the course a minimum of two times per two years. The Instructor's participation is tracked via the On-Line Roster Program.

**ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT**

Experience in neonatal intensive care is not required. Administrative Support personnel do not teach the course material, however they do assist with arranging and advertising courses and ordering program materials.

**Instructor course required?** No; however, program scope and implementation are discussed in the course so attendance may be helpful.