



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Office of Discovery, Education and Affiliate Networks



A Place Where Technology Improves Skills and Outcomes of Care for Veterans



To learn more about SimLEARN, visit www.simlearn.va.gov.

A comprehensive list of courses available through SimLEARN is available [here](#).

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recently completed the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Simulation Learning, Education and Research Network (SimLEARN) National Simulation Center. This is a high-technology, immersive environment for train-the-trainer activities and the operational hub for coordination for national VHA clinical simulation activities to meet the local simulation-based training needs of VA medical centers across the country.

Construction of the 51,000-square-foot high-technology advance training center began with a groundbreaking on Sept. 4, 2014 as part of the Orlando VA Medical Center campus in the Lake Nona-Medical Center complex. The facility officially opened Sept. 16, 2016 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Flip over this sheet to learn more about the VHA Simulation Training

VHA SimLEARN National Simulation Center

Clinicians Actively Learning Through Simulation to Train Others

The facility provides a high-fidelity training environment by replicating actual patient treatment areas including an outpatient clinic setting, as well as an inpatient/hospital setting. Video recording of training takes place for classroom debriefing and review, and multipurpose classrooms have reconfigurable walls to provide a number of room settings. At least 10 classrooms will accommodate up to 160 students. In addition, the facility includes: six outpatient clinic rooms; three specialty procedure rooms; two operating rooms/cardiac catheterization lab; one emergency room and ambulance; one mental health room; three intensive care unit/community living center/medical surgery rooms; five debriefing rooms; one procedural trainer room; one computer room; one broadcast and video suite; four multipurpose rooms; and one innovation room.

The Lake Nona development site includes other large clinical, education and research facilities. A variety of Federal simulation research and acquisition offices are in close proximity at the Central Florida Research Park. This strategic placement facilitates enhanced opportunities for leveraging synergies in use and delivery of new simulation technologies and methods.

National Simulation Center Activities

- Development and delivery of national simulation-based training curricula
- Creation of national policies, procedures and standards for conduct of simulation-based training across a network of VHA medical facilities
- Coordination and support of Veterans Integrated Service Network and medical center simulation-based training programs and feedback on local curricula
- Train-the-trainer programs*
- Train-the-provider programs*
- Simulation technology innovation, evaluation and development
- Simulation technology technical support
- Human factors evaluation and systems testing
- Interprofessional Advanced Fellowships in Clinical Simulation
- Advanced Fellowships for Health Professions Education, Evaluation and Research (HPEER)
- Management of VHA's Resuscitation Education Initiative, or REDi, a national simulation-based program for internal training of Basic Life Support and Advanced Cardiac Life Support certifications
- National acquisition of simulation equipment
- Educational research
- Tele-Simulation training

*The center's train-the-trainer and train-the provider approach uses the most suitable modalities of simulation to include mannequin-based simulation, standardized patients and hands-on task trainers.





National Simulation Center Offers A Variety of Training Operations

Fundamental Critical Care Support (FCCS) Training

This face-to-face simulation training is in association with the Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM) and provides a framework for the management of critically ill or injured patients. This course teaches participants to manage critically ill and injured patients for the first 24 hours until transfer or appropriate critical care consultation can be secured utilizing simulation equipment.

Introduction to Clinical Simulation (ICS) Instructor Training

This course provides a foundation for simulation-based training by combining didactic, small group and hands-on simulation activities. Participants can develop the skills necessary to design, develop, implement and debrief simulation-based health care training scenarios in their work centers.

Musculoskeletal Clinician (MSK) Training

This training enhances Primary Care and Specialty Care Providers' knowledge, skills and confidence to manage common musculoskeletal (MSK) problems. In addition, training emphasizes appropriate resource utilization and access to specialty care.

Musculoskeletal Master Educator (MSK-ME) Training

The purpose of this training is to train educational leaders who want to develop local programs to strengthen musculoskeletal (MSK) skills in practicing clinicians and trainees.

Out of Operating Room Airway Management (OORAM) Simulation Instructor Training

This course combines didactic and hands-on simulation activities so participants can develop the skills necessary to design, develop, implement and debrief simulation-based OORAM training in their work centers.

Peripherally-Inserted Central Catheter (PICC) Training

This course provides an application-based foundation for providers to get certified at their respective facilities. Participants will develop the skills necessary to insert, maintain and remove a PICC. This course does not provide facility certification to conduct a PICC.

Point of Care Ultra Sound (POCUS) Training

This program teaches VA providers basic diagnostic and procedural application of POCUS. The training curriculum consists of three components: didactics, hands-on simulation scenarios with task trainers, and hands-on scenarios with standardized patients.

Simulation for Clinical Excellence in Nursing Services (SCENS)

This training provides common scenarios in a fully immersive nursing simulation within realistic health care settings to enhance nursing knowledge. Learners will experience synergistic collective learning in a facilitated and safe conversation to identify errors and mark successes.

SimLEARN Faculty Instructor Course (SFIC)

This course provides an application-based foundation for providing instruction within traditional modalities, as well as simulation-based training by combining lecture, discussion, practical exercises and hand-on simulation activities. Participants will develop the skills necessary to provide traditional instruction geared toward adult learners, conduct simulation-based health care training scenarios, and be able to thoroughly debrief such events in their work centers.

Trauma Nursing Core Course (TNCC)

This course will help nurses develop a rapid and accurate patient assessment process when caring for the ill or injured patient. This training consist of lectures, hands-on psychomotor skill stations and interactive online learning.