



## Frequently asked questions about laser & IPL training courses

### Do I need to do a laser/IPL safety training course?

The following people should be trained in proper operating procedures, including handling and care of equipment, set-up, intra-procedural monitoring, use of the controls and delivery systems and proper use of all accessory equipment: laser safety personnel, laser users (doctors, nurses, podiatrists and other health professionals) and students (*Australian/New Zealand Standard Guide to the safe use of lasers in health care AS/NZS 4173: 2004*).

Note that qualifications are not mandated in states/territories other than WA, Qld and Tasmania (we are approved in all three, see below) only because there are currently no regulatory requirements for the use of lasers and/or IPL in Victoria, NSW, ACT, SA or the NT. This will change with ARPANSA releasing new guidelines in 2017.

### Who are the courses for?

Doctors, nurses, beauty therapists and dermal clinicians and podiatrists who are wanting to increase their clinical and professional skills. The courses are relevant whether you are new to using lasers or intense pulsed light systems or would like to do some continuing professional development.

### How does the cost of your courses compare?

- We're very cost competitive compared to some of the RTOs who offer laser safety training.
- We are truly an enriched, online, e-learning experience with lectures, activities and resources presented in a meaningful Australian clinical context. You won't get emailed a pdf document to print and a quiz to post back like some other 'online' courses.
- There is no need to pay for travel to attend, salary or to backfill because the courses are online and are so flexible that these costs are actually eliminated.
- We give you personalised support to help you succeed.
- We are totally independent of any laser or IPL equipment sales company sponsorship.

### Are they accredited?

We are the only laser safety training provider in Australia with course endorsement at this high standard they are endorsed and recognised by the Government of Western Australia Radiological Council; Queensland Government Radiation Health, Health Protection; Tasmanian Government Radiation Protection Unit; Australian College of Nursing and the Australasian College of Cosmetic Surgery.

### Are there any prerequisites?

For some of the courses you must have a recognised laser safety certification such as ours or one recognised by one of the Radiation Health Departments (WA, Qld, or Tas). You will be contacted to provide evidence of this prior to your enrolment being accepted.



### Who has been on the Program Advisory Committees?

Our Program Advisory Committee are health professionals with extensive, current clinical experience and understand the work that you do. They are seconded at the appropriate stages of content development to give advice on the curriculum in areas that they have knowledge and expertise in. Participating members of the committee have included a representative Fellow of the Australasian College of Cosmetic Surgery, Ms Elissa O'Keefe RN NP FFACNP, MACN, Ms Connie McLachlan RN CNC, Ms Suzie Hoitink RN MACN, Ms Sophie Ashworth RN and Mr Josh Locker.

### How do I apply for a license in Qld, WA and Tasmania?

This is a state-based requirement and application information can be found on the Qld, WA and Tasmanian Radiation Health websites. Your laser & IPL safety certificate is used as evidence for application.

### What best practice frameworks are the courses bench marked against?

All course are developed using the AS/NZS 4173:2004 *Guide to the safe use of lasers in health care* and the the ACCS Professional Practice Standards and Scope of Practice for Aesthetic Nursing Practice in Australia (2015). The courses have been developed and reviewed by clinicians with extensive experience in the relevant industry.

### Are they recognised as continuing professional development with the National Boards of AHPRA?

Yes, if this is your context of practice they meet the requirements set out by AHPRA.

### How long is my certificate valid for?

In line with good clinical practice a qualification like this should be renewed every 3-5 years (that's why we developed the Refresher courses) but there is no regulation for re-certification at the moment.

### Do I need any particular computer technology?

No, but you will need internet access.

### How can I get practical experience?

Laser and IPL equipment availability is diverse across Australia and there is no one place to be able to practice on all of the equipment available. Laser Safety Australia recommends that after you have completed your online theory courses that you work within your scope of practice, identify a more experienced clinical mentor to assist you to develop your skills, ensure that you have standard operating policy and procedures in place, liaise with the manufacturer of the specific machinery that you will be using and begin to record practical experience in a clear log book.

### I have a qualification/Units of Competency from the VET sector, do I need to do your course?

Our courses will benefit you if you haven't completed units specifically addressing 'Applying intense pulsed light' and/or 'Laser safety protocols'.