

Students

First Aid / Emergency Medical Care

Illness

Use of Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs)

In order to assist individuals who may experience cardiac arrest on school property, the Stafford Board of Education has acquired external defibrillators (AEDs) for use in each school building. The AED and trained personnel shall be available during the school's normal operational hours, school-sponsored athletic events and practices on school grounds, and school-sponsored events not taking place during normal school operational hours. Each school shall have school staff trained in the use of AEDs and in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). Such training shall be in accordance with the standards set forth by the American Red Cross or the American Heart Association. Only individuals who have completed the required initial training and recurrent training as specified by State law and regulations and as advised by the District's Medical Advisor shall be considered trained personnel.

The AED will be stored in an accessible location in each school. These defibrillators shall be maintained and tested in accordance with the operational guidelines of the manufacturer and monitored by the school nurse, using a maintenance log. According to PA 09-59, a person or entity that provides or maintains an AED shall not be liable for the acts or omissions of the person or entity in providing or maintaining the AED, which many constitute ordinary negligence. The immunity provided by this law does not apply to acts or omissions constituting gross, willful or wanton negligence.

Moreover, the AEDs on school grounds are Stafford Board of Education property. Any individual who inappropriately accesses and / or uses an AED will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion from school and / or termination of employment. Civil and/or criminal liability may also be imposed.

Emergency Action Response Plans

Each school shall develop an emergency action response plan addressing the appropriate use of school personnel to respond to incidents involving an individual experiencing sudden cardiac arrest or a similar life-threatening emergency while on school grounds. Each school with an organized athletic program shall develop an emergency action response plan addressing appropriate school personnel response to the same circumstances while attending or participating in an athletic event or practice on school grounds.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall be responsible for developing administrative regulations in furtherance of the AED policy, in conformity with the provisions of applicable statutes and regulations.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-221](#) Boards of education to prescribe rules.

[52-557b](#) "Good Samaritan law." Immunity from liability for emergency medical assistance, first aid or medication by injection. School personnel not required to administer or render (as amended by P.A. 09-59)

P.A. 09-59 An Act Concerning Automatic External Defibrillators

P.A. 09-94 An Act Concerning the Availability of Automatic External Defibrillators in Schools

Policy adopted: September 13, 2010

5141.27

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The Board of Education may accept gifts, grants and donations designated for an AED purchase and the cost of inspecting and maintaining the device and training staff in its use.

I. Definitions:

Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) - means a device that: (A) is used to administer an electric shock through the chest wall to the heart; (B) contains internal decision-making electronics, microcomputers or special software that allows it to interpret physiological signals, make medical diagnosis, and, if necessary, apply therapy; (C) guides the user through the process of using the device by audible or visual prompts; and (D) does not require the user to employ any discretion or judgment in its use.

Predetermined AED Provider - that person who is CPR and AED certified and has a copy of his/her certification on record with the Stafford Public Schools.

II. Defibrillator Location

1. The Stafford Public Schools will have defibrillators in each school building.
2. Each AED will be strategically placed and readily accessible to school staff trained in its use and in cardiopulmonary resuscitation to maximize rapid utilization.

III. Requirements for Predetermined AED Providers

1. Predetermined trained AED Providers shall be held accountable for the retrieval, use, and return of the AED when it is used.
2. On an annual basis, each school staff member trained in AED use and CPR shall certify in writing that he/she has read the Stafford Public Schools AED policy and administrative regulations (Appendix III), and provide a copy of his/her AED and CPR certification to the Superintendent of Schools or designee. The Superintendent of Schools or designee will provide a list of the predetermined and properly certified AED providers to the Director of Pupil Services.

IV. Responsibility for Operation, Maintenance and Record-Keeping

1. The school nurse at each building in which an AED is installed will check the defibrillator in the building on a regular basis, at least monthly. It will be that nurse's responsibility to verify that the unit is in the proper location, that it has all the appropriate equipment (e.g. battery, mask, case, emergency pack), that it is ready for use, and that it has performed its self-diagnostic evaluation. If the nurse notes any problems, or the AED's self-diagnostic test has identified any problems, the

nurse must contact the Director of Pupil Services or designee immediately.

2. After performing an AED check, the nurse shall make note on an AED service log (Appendix IV) indicating that the unit has been inspected and that it was found to be “In-Service” or “Out-of-Service.”
3. The Director of Pupil Services or designee shall be responsible for monitoring the following:
 - a) AED monthly service checks.
 - b) The replacement of equipment and supplies for the AED.
 - c) The repair and service of the AED.
 - d) All recordkeeping for the equipment during the contracted school year.
 - e) Maintaining a list of predetermined and properly certified AED providers approved by the Superintendent of Schools and/or the AED school Medical Advisor.
 - f) Incident record keeping.
 - g) Providing/scheduling opportunities for CPR and AED training recertification for all Stafford Board of Education school nurses.
 - h) Assisting the school district with proper in-house training for other individuals designated by the district.
 - i) Reporting the need for revising the policy and administrative regulations to the Superintendent of Schools.
 - j) Assisting Predetermined AED Providers in other appropriate ways as determined by the administration.
 - k) Registering the AEDs in accordance with state law.

V. Procedures for Use

1. A list of all predetermined AED providers will be available at each school.
2. Predetermined AED Providers trained in AED use and CPR accessing the AEDs shall maintain control of such equipment at all times.
3. Prior to returning an AED to its location, the Predetermined AED Provider shall ensure that the AED is functional. Any problems with the AED shall be immediately reported to the school nurse.
4. The Predetermined AED Provider must sign his/her name (as soon as practicable under the circumstances) and determine its service status upon removing it from its designated location and upon returning it. (Appendix I)
5. Predetermined AED Providers may only use AEDs in medically appropriate circumstances, in accordance with their training.
6. In the event of use, the Predetermined AED Provider shall, if possible, immediately notify the school nurse and the Superintendent of Schools. The Superintendent of Schools will notify other necessary personnel.

7. Each time an AED is used, the AED Provider should complete a copy of the AED incident report (Appendix II). The report should be forwarded to the Superintendent of Schools, no later than 48 hours after the incident. The Superintendent of Schools will forward a copy to the District's Medical Advisor.

VI. Emergency Action Response Plans

1. Each school within the District shall develop an emergency action response plan.
2. Whenever a school District facility is used for a school-sponsored or school-approved curricular or extracurricular event and whenever a school-sponsored athletic contest is held at any location, the Principal or designee responsible for such school facility or athletic contest shall ensure that AED equipment is provided on-site and that there is present during such event, activity, or contest at least one staff person who is trained in accordance with applicable Connecticut statutes in the use of an AED. School-sponsored or school-approved curricular or extracurricular events or activities mean events or activities of the District that are, respectively, associated with its instructional curriculum or otherwise offered to its students. A school-sponsored athletic contest means an interscholastic or intramural activity of instruction, practice, or competition.

Regulation approved: September 13, 2010