

ADVISORY 277

Note: This material is written by NMSBA for informational purposes only, and not as legal advice. You may wish to consult with your attorney for further explanation and advice as to the content of this advisory.

CARDIAC EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN — AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS

Installation of Automated External Defibrillators in Schools

Each school in the District shall install at least one (1) automated external defibrillator (AED) as defined in the Emergency Medication in Schools Act. All installed AEDs shall be maintained and tested according to the manufacturer's operational guidelines. High schools shall install at least one (1) AED no later than the start of the 2026-2027 school year. Each elementary school and middle school shall install at least one (1) AED no later than the start of the 2027-2028 school year. An AED shall be clearly marked and easily accessible during each school athletic activity.

As used in this policy, "school athletic activity" means a sport or activity organized by a school or the District that involves a physical game or competition against another team, club or entity or practice or preparation for the physical game or competition.

Cardiac Emergency Response Plan

Each school shall develop and implement a cardiac emergency response plan that addresses the appropriate use of school personnel who are to respond to incidents involving a person experiencing a sudden cardiac arrest or a similar life-threatening emergency while on school grounds and during a school athletic activity. Each cardiac emergency response plan shall:

- Be developed and implemented using core elements that are nationally recognized and evidence-based;
- Identify specific school personnel who will take action when a person experiences a sudden cardiac arrest or similar life-threatening injury. Each school shall have at least five (5) people or ten percent (10%) of staff (whichever is greater) identified as cardiac emergency health personnel;
- Establish protocols for school personnel identified by the cardiac emergency response plan to follow when a person experiences a sudden cardiac arrest or a similar life-threatening emergency;
- Determine ~~an~~ appropriate locations ~~for an~~ automated external defibrillators to be installed or made available;
- Provide for routine maintenance of the automated external defibrillator; and
- Be updated when necessary to be consistent with evidence-based guidelines.

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High schools shall comply with the requirements of this section by no later than the start of the 2026-2027 school year. Elementary and middle schools shall comply with the requirements of this section by no later than the start of the 2027-2028 school year.

Required Training

All employees, school volunteers, contractors, or contractor's employees identified as cardiac emergency response personnel ~~tasked, in a school's cardiac emergency response plan; shall complete training on response to~~ ~~with responding to incidents involving~~ a sudden cardiac arrest or a similar life-threatening emergency ~~while on school grounds shall receive training on~~ and the use of AEDs in a manner consistent with the standards adopted by the American Heart Association, and rules adopted by the Public Education Department within one (1) month of being identified as such, or provide evidence that they have already completed the required training. Such training shall be completed by cardiac emergency response personnel every two (2) years.

Such training shall be completed for high schools no later than the 2026-2027 school year and, for elementary and middle schools, no later than the 2027-2028 school year.

Athletic Coaches

All licensed coaches employed by the District and all staff identified as cardiac emergency responses personnel shall have current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation including training regarding the use of AEDs from a nationally recognized organization.

Adopted: date of manual adoption

LEGAL REF.:

22-13-31.2 (Certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation for coaches)

22-33-1 NMSA *et seq.* (Emergency Medication in Schools Act)

6.60.11.10 NMAC

CROSS REF.:

EBC-RC - Emergencies (First Aid)

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