

Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

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Introduction

The goal of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) program is to increase the rate of survival of people who have sudden cardiac arrests. AED programs are designed to provide equipment and training as an important means for providing enhanced life safety response measures. AEDs make it possible for lay responders to administer defibrillation prior to the arrival of Emergency Medical Services (EMS).

Iowa State University is committed to the health and safety of its students, faculty, staff, and visitors. This policy establishes an AED program for the ISU campus that will:

- Implement enhanced life safety response measures,
- Meet regulatory compliance,
- Provide continuity and consistency across campus in AED installation, maintenance and use; and,
- Establish AED user training requirements. [top](#)

Policy Statement

44 University buildings, departments and other units that have an AED must comply with this policy and
45 are hereafter referred to as an AED owner.

46

47 **Scope**

48 This policy and related procedures set forth the standards and responsibilities for the installation,
49 modification, replacement, repair, inspection, maintenance, and non-medical response of AEDs on
50 the ISU campus. This policy does not pertain to the procedures required during a medical response
51 to a sudden cardiac arrest. [top](#)

52

53 **Definitions**

54 **AED program coordinator:** The Department of Environmental Health and Safety will provide
55 the overall coordination of the ISU AED program. Phone (515) 294-5359; Email
56 ehsinfo@iastate.edu.

57 **Automated external defibrillator (AED):** A computerized medical device that analyzes heart
58 rhythm to detect cardiac arrest and delivers an electric shock to the heart (defibrillation) if
59 necessary.

60 **Sudden cardiac arrest:** A significant life-threatening event when a person's heart stops or
61 fails to produce a pulse.

62

63 **Liability and Good Samaritan Laws**

64 Iowa law allows for the use of an AED during an emergency for the purpose of attempting to save
65 the life of another person who is, or who appears to be, in cardiac arrest. Accordingly, Iowa law also
66 expressly provides immunity from civil liability for those who obtain and maintain AEDs, and those
67 who use such devices to attempt to save a life. Iowa Code 613.17, the Iowa Good Samaritan Act,
68 provides that a person who in good faith renders emergency care and assistance, without
69 compensation, shall not be responsible for civil damages for any acts of omissions during the
70 provision of emergency care. The statute specifically indicates that "for purposes of this section, a
71 person rendering emergency care or assistance includes a person involved in a workplace rescue
72 arising out of an emergency or accident." This Good Samaritan Act provides protection to a rescuer,
73 even an untrained rescuer, who uses an AED on a cardiac arrest victim. [top](#)

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75 **Employee Liability**

76 Iowa State University employees who have within the scope of their employment the responsibility to
77 respond to emergencies are provided protection from personal liability under the Iowa Tort Claims
78 Act, Iowa Code Chapter 669. If the employee does not have the responsibility to respond to
79 emergencies in their job description and they do respond, they are protected from liability by the
80 Iowa Good Samaritan Law, Iowa Code Section 613.17 referenced above. This law specifically states
81 that a person rendering emergency aid in the workplace is covered.

82

83 **Responsibilities**

84 **AED Owner**

85 AED owners or potential owners must:

- 86 • Submit an AED Request Form for department funded purchases to the AED program
- 87 coordinator for approval prior to purchasing a unit. See Resources below for AED
- 88 procedures and submission instructions.
- 89 • Units should make a reasonable effort to train sufficient staff in order to have at least one
- 90 trained staff person on site during normal business hours.
- 91 • Perform inspections of AEDs not accessible to the public (e.g., police vehicles) at least
- 92 monthly to ensure proper operation.
- 93 • Notify the AED program coordinator within 24 hours of an incident. [top](#)

94 **Environmental Health and Safety**

95 A representative from Environmental Health and Safety will serve as the ISU AED program
96 coordinator. Environmental Health and Safety shall be responsible for maintaining devices to meet
97 regulatory compliance, the standards of the manufacturer, programmatic standards of the American
98 Heart Association or the American Red Cross, and this ISU policy. Environmental Health and Safety
99 will:

- 100 • Assist AED owners with program management.
- 101 • Review AED Request Forms submitted by departments or units and notify Procurement
- 102 Services of approved purchases.
- 103 • Coordinate AED equipment location with AED owner and building supervisor to promote
- 104 easy access.
- 105 • Perform inspections and maintenance are conducted in a timely manner and in accordance
- 106 with written user and service manuals provided by the manufacturer.
- 107 • Conduct monthly inspections of AEDs in public areas to ensure proper operation.
- 108 • Conduct semi-annual inspections to include cabinet battery replacement and operational
- 109 checks, replacement of pads and batteries, and ensure proper operation of AED units.
- 110 • Maintain AED inspection records.
- 111 • Purchase and replace batteries, pads and other supplies as needed.
- 112 • Maintain and provide an inventory of AED locations on campus (EH&S may delegate
- 113 responsibility for maintenance where it is impractical for EH&S to perform and the
- 114 department agrees.).
- 115 • Monitor updates to legislation and regulations.
- 116 • Act as liaison between AED owners, manufacturers and health agencies to assist in unit
- 117 maintenance and compliance issues.
- 118 • Conduct incident debriefing and complete follow-up report. [top](#)

119 **Medical Director**

120 The director of the ISU Occupational Medicine program will serve as the medical director for the
121 AED program and will:

- 122 • Provide medical direction and expertise on proper AED use.
- 123 • Review and approve guidelines for emergency procedures related to AED use.
- 124 • Assess post-event incident forms.

125 **Procurement Services**

126 Prior to the purchase of any AED equipment, Procurement Services must receive notification from
127 Environmental Health and Safety that a department or unit has an approved AED Request Form.
128 The university has designated specific defibrillator equipment that can be installed on campus. As a
129 result, acquisition of all AED equipment must be made through Procurement Services. Individual
130 purchases of consumable materials related to AED maintenance by EH&S are exempt from the
131 requirement to report to Procurement Services so long as they are purchased in a manner
132 approved by Procurement Services. [top](#)

133 **Responder**

134 Anyone may, at their discretion, provide voluntary assistance to victims of medical emergencies to
135 the extent appropriate to their training and experience.

136 **AED Policy Committee**

137 The AED Policy Committee shall consist of the AED program coordinator, director of Occupational
138 Medicine, and representatives from Athletics, Office of Risk Management, Public Safety,
139 Procurement Services, Residence, and at least one additional AED owner. The AED program
140 coordinator will serve as chair of the committee and determine frequency of meetings. The
141 Committee is responsible for:

- 142 • Monitoring the implementation of this policy.
- 143 • Advising the university on the needs and strategic campus locations that would most benefit
144 from the installation of an AED, in the event that such resources become available.
- 145 • Reviewing all special circumstances. All requests for variations from the AED policy and
146 procedures must be submitted to the AED program coordinator for review and approval by
147 the committee.
- 148 • Approving policy changes. [top](#)

149 **Required Records**

150 The following records must be maintained by EH&S and made available upon request::

- 151 • Guidelines for use.
- 152 • Manufacturer's instructions.
- 153 • Records of maintenance and inspections for the usable life of the device.
- 154 • Training records, including a description of the training program.
- 155 • AED Incident Reports.

156 **Training**

157 Iowa State University recommends that all staff identified for AED training successfully complete an
158 American Heart Association CPR/AED course or a national acceptable equivalent and complete
159 refresher training as needed. EH&S will make accredited training available for purchase through an
160 approved vendor. [top](#)

161 **Incident Notification and Documentation**

162 Departments or units must notify AED program coordinator within 24 hours of an incident. The AED
163 program coordinator will conduct an incident debriefing and complete an AED Incident Report. Call
164 (515) 294-5359 or email ehsinfo@iastate.edu.

165 **Medical Response Documentation**

166 The AED program coordinator will provide the medical director with a copy of the AED Incident
167 Report along with any other requested information or data.

168 Office of Risk Management

169 The Office of Risk Management is responsible for administering all claims involving Iowa State
170 University. Claims must be reported to the Office of Risk Management. [top](#)

171

172 Regulations and Legislation

- 173 • **Cardiac Arrest Survival Act of 2000.** U.S. Public Law 106-505 (11-13-2000). This law
174 encourages the placement of AEDs in federal buildings (42 U.S.C. 238p) and provides
175 nationwide Good Samaritan protection (42 U.S.C. 238q) that exempts from liability anyone
176 who renders emergency treatment with a defibrillator to save someone's life.
- 177 • **Community Access to Emergency Devices Act.** (Community AED Act) U.S. Public Law
178 107-188 (6-12-2002). This act authorizes federal grant funds for the purchase and placement
179 of AEDs in public places, training First Responders on AEDs and encouraging private
180 companies to purchase and train employees on use of AEDs (42 U.S.C. 244 and 245).
- 181 • **Federal Food and Drug Administration Regulations.** A good summary of these
182 regulations is contained in the URMIA White Paper available from the Office of Risk
183 Management. The most important requirement is that any AED program must have medical
184 oversight by a physician familiar with sudden cardiac arrest and the operation of AEDs.
- 185 • **Guidelines for Public Access Defibrillation Programs in Federal Facilities.** 41 CFR 102-
186 79.115 (November 8, 2005) This publication provides a general framework for initiating a
187 design process for an AED program in federal facilities and discusses the essential elements
188 of such a program.
- 189 • **Iowa Administrative Code – Automated External Defibrillator Maintenance** (641 IAC
190 143). Establishes State of Iowa rules for AED Maintenance.
- 191 • **Iowa Good Samaritan Act.** Iowa Code §613.17. This act provides that a person who is in
192 good faith renders emergency care and assistance, without compensation, shall not be
193 responsible for civil damages for any acts of omissions during the provision of emergency
194 care. The statute specifically indicates that “for purposes of this section, a person rendering
195 emergency care or assistance includes a person involved in a workplace rescue arising out
196 of an emergency or accident.” This Good Samaritan Act provides protection to a rescuer,
197 even an untrained rescuer, who uses an AED on a cardiac arrest victim [top](#)

198 Resources

199 Links

- 200 • [EH&S AED Program](#)
- 201 • [AED Coordinator \[email\]](#)
- 202 • [AED Procedures \[PDF\]](#)
- 203 • [AED Request Form \[PDF\]](#)
- 204 • [EH&S Occupational Medicine Program](#)
- 205 • [Office of Risk Management](#)
- 206 • [Procurement Services](#)

207 Files

- 208 • [Automated External Defibrillator \(AED\) \[Policy in PDF\]](#)