



AUTOMATED ELECTRONIC DEFIBRILLATORS (AED)

Responsibility:	Superintendent, Human Resource Services Senior Manager, Human Resource Services
Legal References:	<i>Education Act</i> ; Chase McEachern Act (<i>Heart Defibrillator Civil Liability</i>), 2007. S.O. 2007
Related References:	<i>IS-09-AED1 – AED Emergency Treatment Form</i> ; <i>IS-09-AED2 – Direction: Use of an Automated Electronic Defibrillator</i>
Revisions:	
Reviewed:	January 2016

1. Preamble

The procedures that follow discuss the deployment, training, and maintenance of Automated Electronic Defibrillators (AED). These devices are to be considered a component of the emergency response plans of a school or work site.

2. General

An AED is a portable electronic device that can audibly prompt and deliver an electric shock that will disrupt or stop the heart's dysrhythmic electrical activity. The shock can cause the heart to revert to a more effective rhythm during some life threatening situations. However, the AED is not a stand-alone treatment. It is only one step in a chain of medical care involving cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, defibrillation, advanced life support with drugs and airway control, and cardiac intensive care in a hospital.

3. Chase McEachern Act (Heart Defibrillator Civil Liability), 2007

- 3.1 Chase McEachern was a boy from Barrie, Ontario, who campaigned to have it mandatory that heart defibrillators be made available at schools and hockey arenas. Unfortunately, on February 9th, 2006, he collapsed at school of cardiac arrest before his vision could be implemented, and on February 15th, 2006 he died.
- 3.2 In 2006, the Ontario government introduced the Chase McEachern Act (Heart Defibrillator Civil Liability Act, 2006). This Act protects people from liability if they use a defibrillator to assist someone at an emergency, as long as the defibrillators were made available in good faith.
- 3.3 Protection from civil liability, user of defibrillator Section 2. (1) reads:
 - 3.3.1 Despite the rules of common law, a person described in subsection (2) who, in good faith, voluntarily and without reasonable expectation of compensation or reward uses a defibrillator on a person experiencing an emergency is not liable for damages that result from the person's negligence in acting or failing to act while using the defibrillator, unless it is established that the damages were caused by the gross negligence of the person. 2007, c. 10, Schedule. N, s. 2 (1).

4. Deployment of AED

- 4.1 The standard deployment of AED will be one AED device for each secondary school. It is recognized that additional devices may be added to some locations due to the geography of the building.
- 4.2 AED devices will be deployed in a prominent location in the building. AED devices will be deployed in view of an existing video camera. Effort will be made to standardize the location of defibrillators.

5. Training

In buildings where an AED exists, two levels of training will occur:

- 5.1 Awareness Training
 - 5.1.1 The Principal will ensure that each staff member has the opportunity to watch a video outlining the use of the AED
 - 5.1.2 The awareness training will occur during the first month of the school year
 - 5.1.3 Staff will be made aware of the location of the AED
 - 5.1.4 The Principal will ensure that the location of the AED is included in the school staff handbook.
 - 5.1.5 Teaching staff will ensure that information is left for occasional teachers relating to the location of the AED
- 5.2 Training of Emergency Response Team
 - 5.2.1 Each school is required to have an appropriate number of staff members trained in First Aid/CPR. This training is provided by the Board (Health, Safety, and Security department), through a certified provider. Participants in this training become certified in First Aid/CPR.
 - 5.2.2 The First Aid/CPR certification training shall include a module on the use of AED's.
 - 5.2.3 School personnel should be made aware of which school staff have First Aid/CPR training.
 - 5.2.4 Principals, along with members of the Emergency Response Team, will work together to ensure that school based procedures are in place to manage emergencies requiring the use of AED's. When possible, it is ideal that the Emergency Response Team be the first responders to a medical emergency.

6. Maintenance of AED Devices

- 6.1 To ensure that all AED devices are maintained in proper working order, regular inspections must occur.
- 6.2 Each AED device will be examined on an annual basis by an appropriate biomedical service provider to ensure that the device is in proper working order.
- 6.3 Each AED device will be inspected on a daily basis by custodial staff. If it is determined that the device, or its casing, has been tampered with, a report will be made to the Principal.
- 6.4 If during a visual inspection, the AED is noted to have a red "X" in the viewing window, administration should contact the on-duty EMS Supervisor at 519-588-2260 for immediate replacement and servicing.
- 6.5 Should the AED be used in an emergency, administration should contact the on-duty Supervisor at 519-588-2260 for immediate replacement.

7. Students Requiring Access to AED's (medical prescription)

- 7.1 It is recognized that some students may require ongoing access to an AED, as prescribed by a medical doctor. For the purpose of section #7 of this procedure, a

medical prescription is used to describe a prescription from a member of The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario.

- 7.2 In situations where the standard AED located in the school will not meet the needs outlined in the medical prescription, it is the parent/guardian's responsibility to provide an additional AED.
- 7.2.1 Elementary school students would be encouraged to have their AED stored in a central location (i.e. office), similar to the process used for epi-pens.
- 7.2.2 Secondary school students would be encouraged to keep their AED on their person at all times as they transition from class to class.
- 7.3 When a student has a medical prescription for an AED, the following roles/responsibilities will occur (in addition to the roles and responsibilities listed in Section #5 & #6 of this procedure):
- 7.3.1 Parent/Guardian:
- Provide documentation from a member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons diagnosing the child and demonstrating the requirement of an AED
 - Provide and maintain in good working order an AED for the exclusive use of the student (in situations where the standard AED does not adequately meet the needs outlined in the medical prescription).
 - Complete appropriate forms (IS-09-AE1D – AED Emergency Treatment Form; IS-09-AED2 – Direction: Use of an Automated Electronic Defibrillator)
 - Maintain an ongoing and cooperative relationship with school staff
 - Ensure during class trips off of the school property that the AED accompanies the child
- 7.3.2 Principal:
- Ensure that the Emergency Medical forms are completed and signed by Parents/Guardians
 - Ensure that the Emergency Medical forms are provided to all teachers who teach the students
 - These Emergency Medical forms should be displayed with other medical information
 - In situations where the student is required to bring an AED to school, develop, in cooperation with the parent/guardian, a protocol for the student bringing the AED to school, its storage during the day, and its transport home at night
 - Ensure members of the entire school staff are made aware of the medical condition and the appropriate treatment
- 7.3.3 Classroom Teacher:
- Meet with the student and parent to gain insight into the specific information about the medical condition and proper treatment. This should include discussions about modifications to the student's activities at school
 - Leave information, including a photo, regarding the student in an organized, prominent and accessible format for occasional teachers