

**Summers County Board of Education**

**Scope:** This policy is enacted by the county board to enhance school safety by improving access to early defibrillation and to authorize an automated external defibrillator program.

**Authority:** W.Va. Code §§16-4D-2, 16-4D-3 and 18-2-25.

**Adopted:** March 28, 2023.

**Amended:**

**Reviewed:** February 28, 2023.

**AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED)**

Beginning July 1, 2021, an automated external defibrillator device (AED), as well as a post emergency action plan, is required on the school or event grounds during the duration of all athletic events and practices under the control, supervision, and regulation of the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission (“WVSSAC”). Appropriate school sports personnel are required to be trained in the use of the AED device and an emergency action plan must be posted at these locations during these same events.

The Superintendent is authorized, but not required, to develop an early defibrillation program.

**Early defibrillation program** means a coordinated program that meets the requirements of W.Va. Code §16-4D-3 and one that provides early public access to defibrillation for individuals experiencing sudden cardiac arrest through the use of an automated external defibrillator.

**Anticipated operator** means any person trained in accordance with W.Va. Code §16-4D-3 who utilizes an automated external defibrillator which was placed through an early defibrillation program.

**Automated external defibrillator** (“AED”) means a medical device heart monitor and defibrillator that:

- Has undergone the premarket approval process pursuant to the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. §360, as amended;
- is capable of recognizing the presence or absence of ventricular fibrillation;
- is capable of determining, without intervention by the operator, whether defibrillation should be performed; and
- upon determining that defibrillation should be performed, automatically charges and requests delivery of an electrical impulse to an individual's heart.

**Emergency medical services** (“EMS”) means all services established by the Emergency Medical Services Act of 1973 in W.Va. Code §16-4D-4(c), including, but not limited to, the emergency medical services plan of the Department of Health and Human Resources providing a response to the medical needs of an individual to prevent the loss of life or aggravation of illness or injury

**Medical director** means a duly licensed physician who serves as the designated medical coordinator for an entity's early defibrillation program.

**Unanticipated operator** means any person rendering emergency medical care involving the use of an AED.

In the event the Superintendent develops an early defibrillation program for the Board, the following requirements shall be met:

- Register the program with the Office of Emergency Medical Services, pursuant to W.Va. Code §16-4D-4(c), identifying the placement of AEDs, training of anticipated operators, preplanned EMS system coordination, designation of a medical director, maintenance of AED equipment and reports of AED utilization;
- Require the anticipated operator of an AED to receive appropriate training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, referred to as "CPR", in the operation of an AED and in the determination of advance directives from the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, any other nationally recognized course in CPR and AED or an AED and CPR training program approved by the Office of Emergency Medical Services;
- Maintain and test the AED in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines and keep written records of this maintenance and testing;
- Designate a medical director for the coordination of the program, which shall include, but not be limited to, training, coordinating with EMS, creating AED deployment strategies and reviewing each operation of an AED;
- Notify the local EMS system and public safety answering point or other appropriate emergency dispatch center of the existence of an entity's early defibrillation program, the location of the program and the program's plan for coordination with the EMS system;
- Provide that an operator of an AED who renders emergency care or treatment on a person experiencing cardiac arrest shall activate the EMS system as soon as possible and shall report the use of an AED to the program medical director; and
- Comply with the guidelines of the West Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services regarding data collection and reporting.

No individual, school, county board of education, or other entity shall be held liable for civil damages when such individual, school, county board of education, or other entity in good faith attempted to comply with the AED requirements of this law and any related rules promulgated pursuant thereto by the WVSSAC.