

AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS

Background:

The importance of taking appropriate action whenever an emergency threatens the safety, health or welfare of a student or staff member at school or during school-sponsored activities is recognized, therefore the installation of automated external defibrillators (AED) within Division facilities is supported. An AED is used to help those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest. It's an easy-to-use, medical device that can analyze the heart's rhythm and, if necessary, deliver an electrical shock, or defibrillation, to help the heart re-establish an effective rhythm.

Procedures:

1. Any Division facility installing an AED must ensure:
 - 1.1. The AED meets Health Canada's Medical Device Regulations.
 - 1.2. The AED is approved by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA).
 - 1.3. The AED is registered with Alberta Health Services.
 - 1.4. Establishment of procedures for the monitoring and maintenance of the AED.
2. Occupational Health and Safety registers each facility AED with the [AHS Heart-Safe.ca](https://www.ahsheart-safe.ca) database and assigns a site AED co-ordinator.
3. Site AED co-ordinators are responsible for conducting monthly AED inspections and for replacement of expired batteries and pads. Monthly inspections are recorded on the [AHS Heart-Safe.ca](https://www.ahsheart-safe.ca) website.
4. Schools are responsible for the replacement costs for batteries and pads.
5. In a medical emergency, when an AED is used, the doctrine of "in loco parentis" applies as outlined in the *Emergency Medical Aid Act*.

Reference:

Section 11, 33, 52, 53, 196, 197, 222 *Education Act*
Emergency Medical Aid Act