

Automated External Defibrillators

An Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is a small portable machine that shocks a human heart back into a normal rhythm. They are used for sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) events.

AEDs are more common in the public places around us. This Risk Wise provides resources and information to help agencies identify risks and concerns and provide a framework for making informed decisions about AEDs.

Laws

Oregon Laws regarding AEDs are occasionally updated by the Legislature. The laws governing AEDs are ORS 431A.450, 431A.455 and ORS 30.802.

These laws (most recently updated in 2017) require the placement of AEDs in certain public assembly areas.

“Public assembly areas” are defined as a single building 50,000 square feet or larger **AND** where:

- The public gathers in groups for deliberation, shopping, entertainment, amusement, transportation uses; **OR**
- Business activities are conducted during business hours **AND**
- At least 50 individuals gather on a normal business day.

Locations used for worship or education associated with worship are excluded. Although ORS 431A.455 requires higher education campuses to have at least one AED in gathering areas.

Click the links below to view the statutes.

ORS 431 Public Health and Safety – AED Requirements - [ORS 431A.455](#)

ORS 30.800 Good Samaritan Law and

30.802 Liability for use of an AED - [Chapter 30 — Actions and Suits in Particular Cases](#)

The US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) requires a prescription for AED purchase.

Check the FDA’s database to see if an AED requires a prescription. (See resources at the bottom of page 2.)

When looking to obtain an AED, the State Procurement Office has purchase agreements available. Contact your agency procurement staff for a list.

More information about the Code of Federal Regulations on AEDs can be found with the link below.

[CFR 870.5310](#) Title 21 Chapter 1, FDA Medical Devices CFR - Code of Federal Regulations Title 21.



Risks and Goals

- AED users may try to perform life-saving strategies outside their level of training and comfort.
- Agencies may have inconsistencies in how they manage their AED program.
- Agencies may not meet statutory requirements.

The goal of an effective agency AED program is to increase the rate of survival of people who suffer a SCA event by using the consistent application of policy, procedure, and training. Effective AED programs deliver a shock to a victim within 3 to 5 minutes of collapse.



RiskWise



A Guide to Controlling Risk

Automated External Defibrillators (AED)

- Laws
- Risks and Goals
- Program Recommendations
- Additional Resources, Links and Information

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Program Recommendations

We recommend your AED program include the following.

- Develop a plan that incorporates the best practices outlined in the “American Heart Association AED Implementation Guide.”
- Assign a dedicated agency program coordinator.
- Consider obtaining medical oversight from a licensed physician for your AED program.
- Notify local EMS of the location of the AED in the building.
- Notify local EMS immediately after each use of the AED.
- Debrief each use of the AED to determine if the process worked correctly. Make changes as necessary to incorporate best practices for your location.
- Maintain a schedule for the AED and supporting supplies.

Over 350,000 Americans die of sudden cardiac arrest every year. Up to 50,000 could be prevented by immediate AED use

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- Provide quality training for onsite responders.
- Use volunteers as responders to maintain immunities under the Good Samaritan Act, ORS 30.800 through 30.805.
- Follow the manufacturer guidelines for testing and maintenance of the AED.
- Ensure enough trained staff are available so at least one is present during regular business hours.
- Store the AED in an accessible location during regular business hours.
- Clearly indicate the presence and location of each AED on your site.
- Establish a policy to activate EMS and 9-1-1 as soon as the need for the use of the AED is recognized.



Additional Resources, Links and Information

US-FDA Pre-market Searchable Database Link - [USFDA 510\(k\) Pre-market Database](#) . Type “AED” into the “Search For” window for a list of approved devices.

OSHA Guidance and Information on [AED in the workplace](#)

[OR-OSHA Overview of CPR](#) training and other related topics such as First Aid.

American Heart Association AED Implementation Guide and other useful resources - [AED Implementation Guide](#)

Learn about Automated External Defibrillators — [American Red Cross About Automated External Defibrillators](#)

CDC — [Public Access Defibrillation](#)

[Pulse Point AED](#) Mobile Application, helps located AEDs in your area.

[FDA-Cleared AED](#) Manufacturers—below
[Cardiac Science](#)
[Defibtech](#)
[HeartSine Technologies](#)
[Philips Healthcare](#)
[Physio-Control](#)
[ZOLL Medical Corporation](#)



DAS RISK MANAGEMENT
www.oregon.gov/das/Risk/Pages/index.aspx

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We commit to be KNOWLEDGEABLE, RESPECTFUL AND RESPONSIVE in business and interactions.

[<https://www.oregon.gov/das/Risk/Pages/PubsToolsRes.aspx>]