

HB 4160: Emergency Medical Planning Requirement Updates

[House Bill 4160](#) is an update to ORS 339.405 and 339.345 that establishes new cardiac emergency response planning requirements for Oregon schools. The new requirements are related to Automated External Defibrillator (AED) placement, maintenance, coordination with Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and staff training on Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and AED use. HB 4160 passed in the 2026 legislative session and requires that these changes be included in school emergency medical planning that takes effect for the 2027-28 school year. Below are the highlights of the requirements and changes, as well as a list of frequently asked questions.

Requirements and Changes

Effective for the 2027-28 school year, every kindergarten through grade 12 public or private school must have a cardiac emergency response plan that:

- To the greatest extent practicable, aligns with core elements established by a national organization focused on emergency cardiovascular care.
- Includes at least one Automated External Defibrillator (AED) at the school.
- Provides for the placement of AEDs in locations that are clearly identified, unlocked, and accessible when students are at school or participating in athletic practices or competitions at the school.
- Establishes a procedure for sharing the locations of automated external defibrillators at the school with local emergency medical services providers.
- Requires the maintenance and testing of automated external defibrillators at the school.
- Requires every coach, as defined in ORS 336.485, and other appropriate staff as determined by the school, to be trained in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and the use of AEDs.
- Includes an annual review of the plan.

Frequently Asked Questions

The following are frequently asked questions. This information is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Use of this document is not required and nothing included in this document constitutes the imposition of additional requirements on education agencies. Education agencies are encouraged to consult their legal counsel to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations.

Q1: When do schools have to be in compliance with these new requirements?

A: HB 4160 takes effect July 1, 2027, and schools must be in compliance with the updated requirements from HB 4160 by the 2027-28 school year.

Q2: Which schools are required to comply?

A: Every Oregon kindergarten through grade 12 public and private school is required to have a cardiac emergency response plan included in their emergency medical response plan.

Q3: How many AEDs do we need to have for our school?

A: The minimum requirement is at least one AED per school. The number of additional AEDs and the placement of AEDs should align, to the greatest extent practical, with core elements established by a national organization focused on emergency cardiovascular care. Schools should consider factors such as building size and layout, response times, athletic facilities, outdoor areas and other locations where students and school-sponsored activities occur when evaluating AED placement. The [American Heart Association](#) and [Project Adam](#) have resources available that schools can use to inform plans for this requirement.

Q4: Does HB 4160 require that schools purchase additional AEDs?

A: The changes that HB 4160 makes to ORS 339.345 maintains the current requirement of at least one AED per school. HB 4160 adds the requirement that cardiac emergency response plans must consider AED placement that is consistent, to the greatest extent practicable, with national emergency cardiovascular care guidelines. The statute does not specify a particular number of additional AEDs that every school must purchase. Schools should consider factors such as building size and layout, response times, athletic facilities, outdoor areas and other locations where students and school-sponsored activities occur when evaluating AED placement. The [American Heart Association](#) and [Project Adam](#) have resources available that schools can use to inform plans for this requirement.

Q5: Where must AEDs be located?

A: AEDs must be in locations that are clearly identified, unlocked, and accessible when students are at school and when students are participating in athletic practices or competitions at the school. Schools should consider factors such as building size and layout, response times, athletic facilities, outdoor areas and other locations where students and school-sponsored activities occur when evaluating AED placement. The [American Heart Association](#) and [Project Adam](#) have resources available that schools can use to inform plans for this requirement.

Q6: Does HB 4160 require schools to provide an AED at an off-campus athletic practice or competition?

A: HB 4160 specifically addresses AED accessibility when students are at school and when students are participating in athletic practices or competitions **at the school**. The statute does not expressly establish an AED requirement for athletic practices or competitions occurring at a separate off-campus location. Schools and districts should consider AED access at off-campus athletic activities as part of their overall emergency planning and based on the circumstances of the activity and applicable emergency cardiovascular care guidance.

Q7: What if our school hosts a competition involving visiting schools?

A: If the competition occurs at your school, the AED requirements apply. The AED must be clearly identified, unlocked, and accessible during the competition

Q8: Who needs to be notified about AED locations?

A: Schools must establish a process for sharing the locations of AEDs at the school with local emergency medical services (EMS) providers. This process should be addressed in the school's cardiac emergency response plan.

Q9: Who needs to receive CPR and AED training?

A: Coaches specifically, but also other staff determined by the school, must receive training on CPR and AED use. Schools can determine what additional staff may require training when developing their cardiac emergency response plans by consulting guidelines established by national emergency cardiac care organizations. The [American Heart Association](#) and [Project Adam](#) have resources available that schools can use to inform plans for this requirement. The [National Federation of State High School Associations](#) (NFHS) and the American Red Cross offer CPR and AED training.

Q10: Who is considered a “coach”?

A: For purposes of this requirement, “coach” includes a person who instructs or trains members of a school athletic team, including a school district employee, a person who volunteers for a school district, or a person providing services on behalf of a school district under a contract, as defined in OAR 581-022-2215.

Q11: What are the existing first aid, CPR, and AED staffing requirements?

A: OAR 581-022-2220 requires each school to have, at a minimum, at least one staff member with a current first aid/CPR/AED card for every 60 students enrolled. The rule also requires schools to plan for the presence of at least one staff member with a current first aid/CPR/AED card for every 60 students at school-sponsored activities where students are present.

Q12: How often must the cardiac emergency response plan be reviewed?

A: The plan must provide for an annual review, including a review of whether the school is in compliance with the plan.

Q13: Does the cardiac emergency response plan have to be a separate document?

A: The cardiac emergency response plan should supplement your plan for responding to medical emergencies that is included in your comprehensive safety plan, commonly referred to as the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).

Contact Information and Resources:

ODE School Safety and Emergency Management (SSEM)

ODE's School Safety and Emergency Management program provides resources and support for developing and implementing school emergency operations plans, including emergency planning, drills, and coordination with community partners. Questions may be directed to ODE.SSEM@ode.oregon.gov. See below for additional resources.

House Bill 4160:

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2026R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/HB4160/Enrolled>

Oregon Revised Statute 336.485 (Concussions; training of coaches; participation by athletes...): https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/ors/ors336.html

Oregon Revised Statute 339.345 (Requirement to have automated external defibrillator), .405 (Comprehensive safety program) & .408 (Emergency safeguards; required drills and instruction; school building security):
https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/ors/ors339.html

Oregon Revised Statute 342.664 (Required ratio of pupils to staff holders of first aid cards): https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/ors/ors342.html

Oregon Administrative Rule 581-022-2215 (Safety of School Sports – Concussions):
<https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewSingleRule.action?ruleVrsnRsn=323049>

OAR 581-022-2220 (Health Services
<https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewSingleRule.action?ruleVrsnRsn=302768>

OAR 581-022-2225 (Emergency Plans and Safety Programs):
<https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewSingleRule.action?ruleVrsnRsn=336142>

American Heart Association CERP DIY Resources:
<https://brandfolder.com/s/99w4x6thnr437g8759c4f5w>

Project Adam Heart Safe Schools Resources: <https://www.projectadam.com/Heart-safe-schools>

National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) CPR/AED Training:
<https://nfhslearn.com/courses/cpr-aed>

American Red Cross CPR, First Aid and AED training:
<https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class>