



# Policy Statement

## Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Requirements for Youth Sports Leagues

### Purpose

The purpose of this policy statement is to assist youth sports leagues in meeting the requirements of Section 3000-F of New York State Public Health Law.

### Scope

This policy applies to all youth sports leagues in New York State with at least five (5) teams participating in organized events such as games, tournaments, or matches. The law is intended to cover larger, more structured leagues and does not apply to smaller, informal activities, such as single games or practices involving ad-hoc teams formed without formal league organization.

### Definitions

“Automated External Defibrillator (AED)” shall mean a medical device, approved by the United States food and drug administration, that: 1) is capable of recognizing the presence or absence, in a patient, of ventricular fibrillation and rapid ventricular tachycardia; 2) is capable of determining, without intervention by an operator, whether defibrillation should be performed on the patient; 3) upon determining that defibrillation should be performed, automatically charges and requests delivery of an electrical impulse to the patient's heart; and 4) then, upon action by an operator, delivers an appropriate electrical impulse to the patient's heart to perform defibrillation.

“Department” shall mean the New York State Department of Health.

“Emergency Health Care Provider” shall mean a physician with knowledge and experience in the delivery of emergency cardiac care; a physician assistant or nurse practitioner with knowledge and experience in the delivery of emergency cardiac care, and who is acting within their scope of practice; or a hospital, licensed under Article 28 of the Public Health Law, that provides emergency cardiac care.

"Nationally recognized organization" means a national organization approved by the department for the purpose of training people in use of an automated external defibrillator.

"Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) Provider" means a person, firm, organization or other entity possessing or operating an automated external defibrillator pursuant to a collaborative agreement.

“Reasonable access” shall mean that the AED is located in a place where it is readily accessible to trained staff during all league activities and is clearly marked with signage visible from common areas.

### Policy

Each youth sports league is responsible for ensuring that at least one (1) AED is available during all games and practices. If the league does not own an AED, it must outline how reasonable access to an AED will be provided. Additionally, each league must have at least one (1) staff member trained in AED operation and usage and maintain a written AED implementation plan.

If a league relies on an AED provided by a facility, such as a school or park, it is essential to confirm access with the facility, understand any special procedures for AED use, and receive notification if the AED becomes unavailable.

Leagues that establish and implement their own AED plan must do so in accordance with Public Health Law § 3000-B. Leagues should consult their Emergency Health Care Provider as required by the New York State Department of Health Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems [Policy Statement 09-03](#).

For additional guidance on providing and maintaining an AED, leagues can refer to the American Heart Association's implementation guide, [Your On-site AED Program](#).

### **Training Requirements**

Each league must ensure that at least one (1) volunteer or paid staff member holds a valid certificate in AED operation and use. It is strongly recommended that multiple individuals, both volunteer and employed, receive certification to ensure full compliance with statutory requirements.

### **Approved Training Courses**

Training courses must be approved by a nationally recognized organization or the State Emergency Medical Services Council. Information about approved courses is available in Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems [Policy Statement 09-03](#) and [Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation \(CPR\) Certification Fact Sheet](#). Although the law allows for AED training certificates issued within the past twenty-four (24) months, it is recommended that certificates be renewed annually.

### **Implementation of Plan Requirements**

Each league must develop a written AED implementation plan that includes the location(s) and availability of AEDs and the protocols for AED use during cardiac emergencies, as directed by the league's Emergency Health Care Provider.

For leagues relying on an AED provided by a facility, the plan must detail the AED's location and any necessary procedures for accessing the device and alerting trained staff during an emergency.

Leagues establishing their own AED Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) Provider program must also include an equipment checklist covering AED maintenance, inspections, and testing as specified by the manufacturer. Any questions regarding maintenance or testing should be directed to the AED manufacturer. Leagues relying on facility-provided AEDs are not required to maintain an equipment checklist.

### **Submission of Implementation Plan**

Public Health Law § 3000-F does not require leagues to submit their AED implementation plan to the Department for review or approval. However, leagues must maintain a written plan that is readily accessible for inspection if needed.

### **Compliance with PHL § 3000-B**

Leagues that establish and implement their own AED plan must comply with Public Health Law § 3000-B. For further guidance on complying with this section and establishing a Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) Provider program, refer to Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems [Policy Statement 09-03](#) or contact your Regional Emergency Medical Services Council. A list of Regional Emergency Medical Services Councils and contact information is available at [here](#).

**References:**

Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems Policy Statement 09-03  
<https://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/ems/pdf/09-03.pdf>

American Heart Association Cardiac Emergency Response Plan (CERP)  
<https://cpr.heart.org/en/training-programs/cardiac-emergency-response-plan-cerp>

Regional Emergency Medical Services Council Contacts  
<https://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/ems/regional.htm>

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Fact Sheet  
<https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/outdoors/camps/docs/cpr.pdf>

American Heart Association's Implementation Guide - Your On-site AED Program  
<https://cpr.heart.org/-/media/CPR-Files/Training-Programs/AED-Implementation/2023-updates/KJ1683-AED-Guide.pdf>