DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING EMERGENCY RESPONSE EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING AT ARKANSAS INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION
Effective: December 1, 2024

1.00 PURPOSE

1.01 The purpose of these rules is to establish the requirements and procedures for governing emergency response equipment and training at Arkansas institutions of higher education, including:

1.01.1 Automated external defibrillator (AED) devices;

1.01.2 Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) programs; and

1.01.3 Opioid overdose rescue kits.

2.00 REGULATORY AUTHORITY

2.01 This rule is promulgated pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-60-121 and 6-60-122.

3.00 DEFINITIONS

3.01 "Automated external defibrillator (AED)" means a device that:

3.01.1 Is used to administer an electric shock through the chest wall to the heart;

3.01.2 Has built-in computers within the device to assess the patient's heart rhythm and judge whether defibrillation is needed;

3.01.3 Has audible or visual prompts, or both, to guide the user through the process;

3.01.4 Has received approval from the United States Food and Drug Administration of its pre-market modification, filed pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 360(k);

3.01.5 Is capable of recognizing the presence or absence of ventricular fibrillation and rapid ventricular tachycardia and is capable of determining without intervention by an operator whether defibrillation should be performed; and

3.01.6 Upon determining if the defibrillation should be performed, the AED either automatically charges and delivers an electrical impulse to an individual's heart or charges and delivers an electrical impulse at the command of the operator.

3.02 “Cardiac arrest” means a condition, often sudden, that is due to abnormal heart rhythms called arrhythmias. It is generally the result of some underlying form of heart disease.

3.03 “Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)” means a combination of rescue breathing, chest compressions, and external cardiac massage used to sustain a person’s life until advanced assistance arrives.

3.04 “CPR provider” or “AED provider” means a member or employee of an institutional campus who has completed training in CPR in addition to knowledge and understanding of an AED’s operation and use under the requirements set forth in this rule.

3.05 “Defibrillation” means administration of an electrical impulse to an individual’s heart in order to stop ventricular fibrillation or rapid ventricular tachycardia.

3.06 “Emergency Medical Services (EMS)” means the transportation and medical care provided the ill or injured prior to arrival at a medical facility by a licensed emergency medical technician or other health care provider and continuation of the initial emergency care within a medical facility subject to the approval of the medical staff and governing board of that facility.

3.07 “Extra-curricular event” means any institution sponsored program or voluntary activity sponsored by the institution, or an organization sanctioned by the institution where students are competing for the purpose of receiving an award, rating, recognition, or criticism, or qualification for additional competition or including preparation for and involvement in public performances, contests, athletic competitions, demonstrations, displays and club activities.

3.08 “FDA” means the Food and Drug Administration

3.09 “Institution of higher education” or “institution” means a state-supported two-year or four-year college or university;

3.10 “Institutional campus” means any institution’s building or cluster of buildings, including grounds, that is used for any purpose, including, without limitation:

3.10.1 Extracurricular activities; or

3.10.2 Campus administration.

3.11 “Institutional personnel” means any employee of the institution, or independent contractor working under contract with an institution, that is required to follow campus policy and procedures.

3.12 “Program coordinator” means an individual, appointed by the institution, who is responsible for administration of the Automated External Defibrillation program for their respective campus.

3.13 “Protocol” means currently approved and accepted procedures describing specific steps a provider must follow in assessing and treating a patient.

3.14 “Renewal” means training and demonstration of competence in the application and use of automated defibrillation equipment.

3.15 “School-sponsored event” means any event or activity sponsored by the institution which includes but is not limited to:

3.15.1 Athletic events;

3.15.2 Student organization events; or

3.15.3 Any activity designed to enhance the student experience whether or not it is organized on an institutional campus.

3.16 “Sudden cardiac arrest (SCA)” means a sudden or unexpected cessation of heart function, most often caused by a sudden arrhythmia, such as ventricular fibrillation (VF).

3.17 “Ventricular Fibrillation (VF)” means the most common arrhythmia that causes cardiac arrest.

3.17.1 When this condition occurs, the heart’s electrical impulses suddenly become chaotic, often without warning, causing the heart’s pumping action to stop abruptly.

4.00 REQUIREMENTS

4.01 Each institution must have an AED, and appropriate institutional personnel must be adequately trained in the use of the AED on an ongoing basis as outlined in Section 9.0 of these rules.

5.00 AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR MODEL

5.01 AEDs used by institutions of higher education must be:

5.01.1 Approved for use by the FDA;

5.01.2 Automated and require AED provider intervention to initiate a defibrillation shock; and

5.01.3 Capable of automatically collecting data.

5.02 No modifications shall be made to defibrillation equipment which results in:

5.02.1 Deviation from the original manufacturer's specifications; or

5.02.2 Deviation from AED protocols which include:

5.02.2.1 Early access – calling 911;

5.02.2.2 Early CPR – starting CPR immediately;

5.02.2.3 Early Defibrillation – utilizing the onsite AED within three to five (3-5) minutes of onset; and

5.02.2.4 Early Advanced Care – trained health care providers arriving to provide advanced care.

6.00 DEFIBRILLATOR PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

6.01 Each institution shall designate appropriate personnel to be responsible for the maintenance of the AED(s).

6.02 All components of the AED and integrated data recording system shall be inspected by a qualified service technician at least one (1) time per calendar year or as recommended by the manufacturer to ensure that:

6.02.1 The equipment meets original manufacturer's specifications; and

6.02.2 The equipment maintains the currently approved treatment protocols based on the current American Heart Association scientific guidelines, standards, and recommendations for the use of the AED.

6.03 The battery of the AED shall be maintained and replaced in accordance with manufacturer's specifications.

6.04 All maintenance and repairs shall be performed by a qualified service technician recognized by the manufacturer.

6.05 Written records shall be maintained for all maintenance, repairs, and inspections performed on all components for mandated annual state reporting purposes.

7.00 AVAILABILITY OF AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR

7.01 Each institution shall designate appropriate personnel to be responsible for ensuring the availability of the AED.

7.02 The location of AEDs shall be based on the following:

7.02.1 Size and physical layout of the buildings;

7.02.2 Number and ages of individuals in the building;

7.02.3 Types and locations of curricular, extracurricular, and school- sponsored events; and

7.02.4 Design features that might be unique to the building.

7.03 Each institution shall report, in a format approved by the division, maintenance records and any use of an AED.

7.04 During instructional hours, the AED will be placed at designated locations.

7.05 These locations shall be specific to each campus but should allow the device to be easily seen and accessed by staff.

7.06 The locations should allow staff members to retrieve the device outside of normal instructional hours.

7.07 AEDs shall not be located or stored in a locked office or room.

8.00 INSTITUTIONAL APPOINTED PROGRAM COORDINATOR

8.01 The institutional appointed program coordinator shall:

8.01.1 Maintain current provider status in CPR/AED;

8.01.2 Assure that the CPR/AED providers on campus receive appropriate training in the use and maintenance of the school's AED(s);

8.01.3 Oversee training operations for the campus and maintain organizational training reports;

8.01.4 Ensure AED equipment is maintained according to manufacturer and treatment protocol specifications based on the current American Heart Association scientific guidelines, standards, and recommendations for the use of the AED;

8.01.4.1 This includes, but is not limited to, ensuring that AED pads and batteries have not expired.

8.01.5 Provide professional development opportunities annually for AED providers and all institutional employees, if applicable;

8.01.6 Verify credentials of personnel functioning as an AED provider within the institution; and

8.01.7 Review each use of the AED.

8.02 If the Program Coordinator is not a healthcare provider, a healthcare provider must oversee these activities.

9.00 QUALITY TRAINING

9.01 Appropriate training of anticipated rescuers in the use of the AED and in CPR will incorporate at least the following:

9.01.1 Testing of psychomotor skills based on the American Heart Association scientific guidelines, standards, and recommendations for the use of the AED, as they existed on January 1, 2021;

9.01.2 Providing CPR as published by the American Heart Association, or the American Red Cross, or equivalent course materials, as they existed on January 1, 2021;

9.01.3 Coordination with the emergency medical services system; and

9.01.4 An ongoing quality improvement program to monitor training and evaluate response with each use of an AED.

10.00 OPIOID OVERDOSE RESCUE KITS

10.01 The Division of Higher Education shall consult and collaborate with the Arkansas Drug Director within the Department of Human Services to implement requirements related to ensuring that each institutional campus has an opioid overdose rescue kit in a clearly visible location that is labeled with the words "Opioid Overdose Rescue Kit — Naloxone Nasal Spray."

10.02 An opioid overdose rescue kit required under this section shall:

10.02.1 Be visually free of advertisements;

10.02.2 Be located where it is readily available for public use; and

10.02.3 Include without limitation:

10.02.3.1 Narcan;

10.02.3.2 Naloxone; or

10.02.3.3 Another medication approved by the Department of Health and the United States Food and Drug Administration that, when administered, negates or neutralizes, in whole or in part, the pharmacological effects of an opioid in the human body.

10.03 The location of each opioid overdose rescue kit required under this section shall be registered with the campus police of the institution higher education.

10.04 An opioid overdose rescue kit required under this section shall be located within the storage locations that contain automated external defibrillators in each of the following on each campus of each institution without limitation:

10.04.1 An educational building;

10.04.2 A dormitory;

10.04.3 A student union;

10.04.4 A sporting venue;

10.04.5 An on-campus, freestanding, institution-owned sorority or fraternity house;

10.04.6 A campus health center; and

10.04.7 Other locations as necessary.

10.05 In the event that an automated external defibrillator is not available in a location required under this section, an opioid overdose rescue kit shall be on an affixed wall mount that is clearly visible and located by the nearest fire extinguisher.

10.06 Each institution shall:

10.06.1 Perform inspections during the first month of each academic semester to determine if an opioid overdose rescue kit required under this section is in the required location; and

10.06.2 Replace used or expired opioid overdose rescue kits located on the institutional campus of the as necessary.

10.07 A list of locations of each opioid overdose rescue kit required under this section shall be available through each institution's campus health center and the Department of Public Safety.

10.08 The administering institution official or other appropriate individual as designated shall report the use of an opioid overdose rescue kit required under this section to the Arkansas Drug Director within the Department of Human Services.

10.08.1 Reporting for purposes of complying with this section may be made via:

10.08.1.1 A quick response code visible on a Naloxone box or an affixed wall mount on which an opioid overdose rescue kit is; or

10.08.1.2 The NARCANsas App made available by the Department of Human Services.

10.09 Each institution shall provide training regarding the use and location of each opioid overdose rescue kit required under this section during a freshman student orientation program sponsored by the institution.

10.09.1 Training regarding the use and location of each opioid overdose rescue kit required under this section for students other than those students attending a freshman student orientation program may be made available through the following offered by the Department of Human Services:

10.09.1.1 The NARCANsas App; or

10.09.1.2 An in-person Collegiate NARCAN Campaign (SOR II).