

NBSIA Member Services Safety Bulletin

February 2019

AED REGULATION UPDATES

AED Requirements for Athletic Programs

As of July 1, 2019, following passage of AB 2009, school districts that offer interscholastic athletic programs must acquire at least one automated external defibrillator (AED) for each district school and charter school, and place the devices where they can be available for all school athletic events in three to five minutes.

Additionally, each district and charter school must ensure that there's a written emergency action plan in place. The plan must describe the location of the medical emergency and the procedures to be followed in the event of sudden cardiac arrest or other medical incident related to athletic program activities. The new regulation is now part of Sections 35179.4 and 35179.6 of the California Education Code.

All current requirements for AEDs under the Health and Safety Code, Section 1797.196, are still applicable. District immunity to civil liability is provided when all of the requirements pertaining to AED use, including maintenance, testing and procedures, are followed.

Accessibility for Wall-Mounted AEDs

Looking for AED units to meet the new AB 2009 law requirements? If so, there are a few accessibility considerations to keep in mind before you buy.

AEDs are typically either stored in portable carrying cases or in enclosed wall-mounted storage boxes. The law does not specify how or where the units are to be stored, only that they be available to all athletic events. Districts can choose the method best suited for their athletic programs and specific situations, which may include some combination of the two different types.

It's important to remember, though, that while portable AED carrying cases do not have any accessibility requirements, permanently installed wall-mounted AED storage boxes must comply with

the 2016 California Building Code (CBC) Chapter 11B and 2010 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) building standards.

An important first step is to purchase a wall-mounted storage box that can conform to these standards. **There are three types of wall-mounted boxes: surface mount, semi-recessed and recessed.** Surface-mount boxes are not recommended because they extend more than four inches from the wall at a height about 27 inches and below 80 inches within a circulation path. This non-compliant condition called a protruding object is a safety hazard for those who are blind or have visual impairments.

It is recommended to purchase semi-recessed or recessed boxes that are inset between the wall studs and designed to protrude less than four inches from the wall surface within the restricted height range.

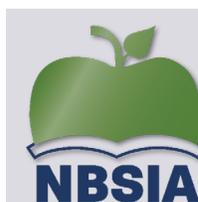
Other important accessibility considerations for wall cabinet units include: 1) cabinet hardware, 2) unit installation height, and 3) unit location with appropriate clear floor space.

These articles are courtesy of Schools Insurance Authority. For more information and AED resources, contact NBSIA Member Services.

Sources

Konarski, L. (2019, Winter). AED Requirements for Athletic Program. *Risk Review, Schools Insurance Authority, XXIX, No. 2, 2.*

Moffitt, B. (2019, Winter). Accessibility Considerations for Wall-Mounted AEDs. *Risk Review, Schools Insurance Authority, XXIX, No. 2, 2.*



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