



**MEMBER ALERT**  
**AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED)**  
**OPTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS**  
**(Updated January 2020)**

This alert is updated for recent changes in the law and supersedes all prior versions of our AED alerts.

AB 1595 went into effect 1/1/20 and clarified that a school district or charter school offering an interscholastic athletic program is only required to acquire at least one AED for each school that participates in the program within the jurisdiction of the school district or the charter school. This change has been incorporated into the alert below.

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### Requirement to provide AEDs

Members have no general obligation to purchase and/or maintain Automated External Defibrillators (“AEDs”) for their school or business locations. However, if a Member sponsors student athletes in interscholastic athletic programs (meaning **any** athletic activity or contest between two or more public or private schools - not just CIF sports), **or** if a Member simply chooses to have such devices available on its campuses or business locations, Education Code 35179.6 and Health and Safety Code Section 1797.196 (see also standard BP/AR 5141), when read together as required, make it mandatory for Members to:

- 1. Acquire/Maintain/Designate/Disclose Location of AED.** There must be at least one AED at each location where students “participate in the program” (including tryouts, practices and games). The AED must be accessible to trainers/coaches/authorized persons during the event (i.e., not locked in an office that cannot be readily accessed by the responder), generally in a location within 3-5 minutes from the area(s) where students and spectators will be gathered for the event(s). The AED’s existence, type, and location must annually be disclosed in advance to local emergency response agencies and to school site personnel, with large-type printed instructions for use located with the AED.
- 2. Ensure** that each AED is maintained, inspected and regularly tested (tested at least twice a year; generally inspected every 90 days, with proper records kept evidencing these reviews) according to the operation and maintenance guidelines of its manufacturer, the American Heart Association/American Red Cross, and applicable rules and regulations adopted by the Member or required by state or federal law.
- 3. Ensure** that the Member has adopted and properly posted a written emergency action plan describing the location and procedures to be followed in the event of sudden cardiac arrest and medical emergencies related to the athletic program’s activities or events, and annually provide general on-site information and training regarding the AED to school administrators and staff. A concise emergency action plan from CIF is available [here](#)<sup>i</sup>. A [detailed plan](#)<sup>ii</sup> is published by the American Heart Association.

Members are urged to work with their general counsel in adopting the most appropriate emergency response plan, and the most appropriate annual letter to school site employees. Upon request, NBSIA will also assist a Member in developing its emergency action plan or annual notification letter to employees.

If these standards are met, unless an employee or recognized volunteer acts with “gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct” in using an AED, or maliciously fails to use an AED, the Members and the involved individuals are all shielded from civil liability for damages.

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<sup>i</sup> [https://cifstate.org/sports-medicine/emergency\\_action\\_plan/athletic\\_department\\_emergency\\_action\\_plan.doc](https://cifstate.org/sports-medicine/emergency_action_plan/athletic_department_emergency_action_plan.doc)

<sup>ii</sup> <https://cpr.heart.org/-/media/cpr-files/training-programs/nation-of-heartsavers/cerp/developing-cer-team.docx?la=en&hash=4831C4F2966FAB379659AC52559263CE52B82A40>