

AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR POLICY**(AED)**

Bristol Virginia City Schools are not required to provide automatic external defibrillators (AED's). They are a recommended piece of equipment for the purpose of aiding the response to an emergency situation for a victim in cardiac arrest. AED's are portable devices used to induce electrical stimulation to the heart muscle in the event of a potential cardiac arrest. Early access defibrillation has been recognized as a significant factor in survival from incidents of sudden cardiac arrest. Adequate preparation for responding to a life-threatening emergency can save lives.

Employee training will be consistent with CPR/First Aid training certifications provided by the American Heart Association, Red Cross or other authorized agencies. All school nurses employed or subcontracted by Bristol Virginia City Schools will be CPR certified and AED trained annually. Other school employees will be encouraged to obtain CPR certification and AED training annually. This training will be offered as part of Bristol Virginia City Schools' staff development each year in accordance to American Red Cross Standards. Employees should also be aware that they are not liable for rendering such emergency care, as stated in the Code of Virginia.

Any person having attended and successfully completed a course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, which has been approved by the State Board of Health, who, in good faith and without compensation, renders or administers cardiopulmonary resuscitation, cardiac defibrillator, or other life-sustaining or resuscitative treatments or technologies which have been approved by the State Board of Health regulations to any sick or injured person shall be deemed qualified to administer such emergency treatments and procedures; and such individual shall not be liable for acts or omissions resulting from the rendering of such emergency resuscitative treatments or procedures. (Code of Virginia) §8.01-225 (A) (6)

AED response protocol shall be posted in assigned areas for use of the AED.

AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) RESPONSE PROTOCOL

The following AED Response Protocol has been developed as a guideline for Bristol City Schools. The protocol should be reviewed on an annual basis and updated as needed.

1. Conduct an initial assessment of the patient and environment.
 - Assess the scene for safety.
 - Use standard (universal) precautions.
 - Assess patient for unresponsiveness.
 - If unresponsive, activate EMS and in-house emergency plan per school protocol or policy.
 - Call for an AED.

2. Assess breathing.
 - Open the airway.
 - Look, listen, and feel for breathing.
 - If breathing is absent but there is a pulse, deliver two rescue breaths, continue with breaths at recommended rate.

3. Assess circulation
 - If signs of circulation are absent, provide CPR if trained. Continue CPR until the AED arrives. Continue CPR with the AED unless you become too exhausted to continue, signs of circulation return or EMS arrives and takes over.

4. Begin treatment with the AED.
 - As soon as the AED is available, turn on the AED and follow prompts.
 - Remove all clothing from the chest area. Dry the chest if it is wet.
 - Apply defibrillation pads. Look at the symbols on the AED pads and place pads as shown on the illustrations. Ensure pads are making good contact with the patient's chest. Do not place pad over the nipple, medication patches or visible implant devices.
 - Make sure the patient area is clear, and then deliver a shock to the patient when advised by the AED.
 - When advised by the AED, initiate/resume CPR starting with compressions.
 - Continue to perform CPR until otherwise prompted by the AED or EMS personnel.

5. Actions to take when the EMS arrives.

Responders working on the victim should document and communicate important information to the EMS provider, such as:

 - Victim's name and age.
 - Known medical problems, allergies or medical history
 - Time the victim was found, condition and vital signs if obtained

- Type and time of intervention(s) provided, to include the number of shocks delivered and length of time the defibrillator was used
- Patient response to intervention(s) and information from the AED screen

Post-incident Procedure:

1. An employee should notify the building administrator of School Nurse Coordinator as soon as possible.
2. A designated employee should check the AED, restock the supplies immediately after the event and perform the after-patient-use maintenance on the AED.
3. The School Nurse Coordinator or a designated employee should conduct an employee incident debriefing and document as indicated by school policy.

Periodic Maintenance – scheduled and after use:

1. Inspect the exterior and connector for dirt or contamination.
2. Check supplies, accessories and spares for expiration dates and damage.
3. Check operation of the AED by removing and reinstalling the battery and running a battery insertion test.

Adopted: by Bristol Virginia Central Office on August 29, 2016

Revised: Board approved on December 6, 2018.