**Site Assessment**: AEDs shall be strategically located where they are readily accessible and immediately available to trained lay responders and the general public in the event of a cardiac emergency. **The goal is to have an AED available to deliver a shock within three minutes of a sudden cardiac arrest victim’s collapse.**

Other factors to consider when determining the location for an AED:

* For schools with one AED, where the most traffic occurs (e.g. gym, auditorium, MPR)
* For schools with multiple AEDs, one in each building
* Highly visible location – consider adjacent to fire extinguisher
* Always accessible – never locked away in a cabinet or office

**Automated External Defibrillator Readiness:** AEDs shall be maintained in operable condition and shall be kept in their designated places at all times when they are not being used. Schools or school districts should enroll AED in maintenance program and/or designate onsite coordinate to conduct monthly checks (battery, pads, general upkeep).

**Installation Means:** AEDs shall be installed using any of the following means:

1. Cabinet shall be approved for such purpose and be surface mount or wall recessed. Cabinets housing AEDs shall not be locked.
2. On Bracket/Wall rack supplied by AED manufacturer and/or approved for such purpose

Regardless of which mount is chosen, AEDs shall be placed so that the AED’s readiness indicator faces outward. During installation, it is important to make sure that screws, bolts and wall anchors will not penetrate electrical wires or pipes inside wall.

**ADA Installation Guidelines:** Placed at an unobstructed height of 48 inches from the floor (it may be lower) to provide optimum accessibility; and in a wall cabinet that shall not protrude more than 4 inches from the wall into walks, corridors, passageways, or aisles, for compliance with American Disabilities Act.

**Signage:** Universal AED sign(s) shall be used to indicate AED location(s). These should be visible from the normal path of travel. A projecting (three-dimensional) universal AED sign shall be installed above cabinet or bracket/wall rack clearly marking the location of AED(s).

**AED Registration:** Registering your AED with manufacturer, a third-party AED maintenance program and your local EMS Medical Director will facilitate preparedness to save a life:

* Facilitates monthly AED inspection
* Alerts for battery and pads expiration dates
* Recall and warranty alerts for documented device serial numbers
* Resourses for onsite coordinator to alert school community of AED location and cardiac emergency response plan
* AED location will be available to 911 dispatchers

**Registration requirements may vary by county and state.**

**Section 504/IEP AED Requirement**

If a child has been diagnosed by a physician or cardiologist to have a heart condition, they are entitled to have access to an AED as part of a 504 Plan or Individual Education Plan (IEP). The school district is responsible for purchasing the AED, maintaining it, making it publicly accessible and having staff trained to use it. Visit [www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/504faq.html](http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/504faq.html).