



## AED FACT SHEET

### What is an Automated External Defibrillator?

An Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is a lightweight, electronic portable device that can check for an abnormal heart rhythm and, if needed, deliver an electric shock through the chest to the heart. The shock can potentially stop an irregular heartbeat (arrhythmia) and allow a normal rhythm to resume following Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA).

### Why is an AED important?

According to the American Heart Association, AEDs increase the chance of surviving SCA by 50%. There are studies that show if an AED is placed on a student under the age of 18 within 3 minutes of an SCA event starting, there is an 89% chance of SCA survival.

### Where should AEDs be located?

Almost anywhere people gather, an AED should be within 2 minutes. All first-response vehicles should have an AED. This includes ambulances, fire engines, and law enforcement vehicles. AEDs should also be placed in all fitness centers, public swimming pools, buildings with any occupancy, recreation parks, all athletic program facilities, and especially in our schools.

### Who can use an AED?

Anyone trained in CPR can use an AED. Formal training is not required; however, the American Heart Association recommends an individual be trained in both.

### Are AEDs easy to use?

An AED is designed to be simple and used by people with little to no training. Upon turning on an AED, it will begin coaching the user through the event using audible prompts and visual cues, such as lights on physical diagrams, or even a video screen on some AEDs like the ZOLL AED 3 model found in the WWPF store.

### How to get an AED?

There are 3 ways WWPF can help you get an AED for a location in your community that needs one:

1. **Buy an AED.** If you are a business owner and do not have an AED in your offices, this could be an easy way for you to show care for your employees and customers. Having this life-saving equipment on hand if there is ever an incident could be the difference between life and death. WWPF has AEDs for sale in our store.
2. **Donate an AED.** Purchase an AED for a location in your community near to your heart. These donations will be tax write-offs and will allow you to have peace of mind for those you love in your community.
3. **Advocate for an AED.** Find the right people in the location you're wanting to get an AED to help you advocate to make it happen. Talk to those in charge, raise support and awareness, and make a difference. Our team can help you advocate in your community.