



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Dr. Jennifer McCormick  
Superintendent of Public Instruction

*Working Together for Student Success*

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Indiana School Administrators, Health Educator, School Nurses, and School Counselor

**From:** Office of College and Career Readiness

**Date:** July 20, 2017

**Re:** CPR and AED Instruction

During the 2014 legislative session, the Governor signed P.L. 139-2014 ([IC 20-30-5-20](#)) into law. This law established new requirements for CPR and AED instruction at the high school level. Below is an overview of these requirements.

### **Requirements for school corporations, charter schools, and accredited nonpublic schools (effective July 1, 2014):**

1. Include in the high school health education curriculum, instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and use of an automated external defibrillator (AED).
2. Instruction must incorporate the psychomotor skills (compressions) necessary to perform CPR and use of an AED and must include either of the following:
  - a. an instructional program developed by the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross
  - b. an instructional program that is nationally recognized and is based on the most current national evidence based emergency CPR and the use of an AED
3. Instruction may be offered by the School Corporation or accredited nonpublic school or by available community based providers.
4. Instruction is not required to be provided by a teacher. If provided by a teacher, the teacher is not required to be a certified trainer of CPR.
5. Students are not required to be *certified* in CPR and the use of an AED, however, if offering a course that results in certification, the course must be taught by an instructor authorized to provide the instruction by the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, or a similar nationally recognized association.
6. CPR and AED instruction may be waived by the school administrator if the student has a disability or is physically unable to perform the psychomotor skill component of the instruction required.

### **Additional Guidance:**

***Q: Is CPR and AED instruction required for graduation?***

**A:** No. Nevertheless, schools are required to include CPR and AED instruction in their high school health curriculum (started during the 2014-15 school year).

***Q: Are schools required to include CPR and AED instruction in a specific course?***

**A:** While you are not required to include this instruction in a specific course, the recommendation would be to include this instruction in the Health and Wellness Education course (code 3506) as this is typically used to meet the Health and Wellness requirement.

***Q: If students took their health and wellness credit prior to the 2014-15 school year, must schools go back and provide this instruction to these students?***

**A:** No - this is not a graduation requirement but rather the instruction has to be included in the health curriculum (started during the 2014-15 school year).

***Q: If CPR and AED instruction were a part of the student's health curriculum in middle school (7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade), will that meet the requirement?***

**A:** The requirement is that CPR and AED instruction be included in the high school health education curriculum. If a high school-level health course is offered at the middle school level to meet the required health and wellness credit, it should include this CPR and AED instruction and would thus meet the requirement. If the student taking the course offered at the middle school level does not receive a high school health credit for the course, then the course would not meet the "high school health curriculum" requirement of the new law.

***Q: Does teaching "Hands-Only CPR" meet the requirement of the new law?***

**A:** Yes, it is up to the local school corporation to determine if they would like to offer the conventional CPR course or the Hands-Only CPR course. No matter which course is chosen, the psychomotor component must be included unless a waiver has been requested for the student due to a disability or physical impairment.

***Q: Where might schools find resources to meet this requirement?***

**A:** The intent of this legislation is to educate students on this life-saving training at no additional cost to schools. Many schools already have a method in place to provide CPR and AED training to students. If schools do not have the resources to provide the psychomotor training (manikins or trainers), schools may request to borrow resources from a local provider. Each of the education service centers has a handful of manikins that may be borrowed to meet this requirement. Contact your local [education service center](#) for

more information. Many community partners are also able to provide the resources that are required to implement this law. Additional resources are available on the IDOE [CPR](#) page.

***Q: If schools are unable to purchase resources (manikins) for the psychomotor skill component, what are the options?***

**A:** Schools are encouraged to contact local [education service centers](#) as each center has purchased some manikins for use by schools.

**Resources:**

[American Heart Association](#)

[American Red Cross](#)

[IDOE Health and Wellness](#)

[IDOE School Health](#)

**Contacts:**

*Please contact specialist from your content area with questions.*

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