

CPR and AED Curriculum

Statutory Requirements

House Bill 113 has updated the first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) curriculum requirement under Ohio law to include specific training and curriculum guides. You will find the additions in [Ohio Revised Code 3313.6021](#).

These updates include:

- Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, each public school that offers grades 9-12 must provide instruction in CPR and the use of an automated external defibrillator(AED) to all students;
- The training for both CPR and AED must use “psychomotor skills”;
- Instruction must reflect the most current national, evidence-based emergency CPR and AED guidelines and/or an instructional program of the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross; and
- The instructor does not have to be a certified trainer.

Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

1. When must this curriculum be implemented and what graduation class does this effect?

Law requires that this curriculum be implemented starting in the 2017-2018 school year. Because this is a curriculum requirement and it does not fall under the graduation requirements, there is not a specific graduation year. A student who has completed the course or designated placement of the curriculum before the 2017-2018 school year does not have to receive this instruction. However, all students in the class of 2021 will receive instruction, since they will be freshmen in the 2017-2018 school year.

2. What are “psychomotor skills”?

Psychomotor skills mean using hands-on practice to support cognitive learning. This means each student must actually perform the procedure at some point during both the CPR and AED instruction.

3. Does the instructor providing the training have to be a certified trainer?

No. The instructor may arrange, provide or oversee the training without being certified.

4. Do students receive certification in CPR/AED?

The law does not require students to be certified. A student can receive certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator only if he or she receives training from a certified instructor.

5. Are there any exemptions for schools?

Some community schools are exempt from the curriculum requirement. Ohio strongly encourages, but *does not require*, e-schools and community schools in which a majority of the students are children with disabilities to provide the CPR and AED instruction to their students.

6. Are there any exemptions for students?

If a student’s parent has submitted a written request to have the student excused from the instruction, the student does not have to receive the instruction. A student with a disability also does not have to receive instruction if his or her individualized education program (IEP) team has determined that the nature of the child’s disability makes him or her unable to perform CPR and use an AED.

7. Does this training have to be provided within a course, such as health?

No. It is up to the local district or school to determine where this training fits best and how to provide it. Examples of implementation may include a course, a school nurse or instructor training the students throughout the year, or a freshman orientation station.

8. Can schools provide this curriculum to students in eighth grade if they are identified as advanced and taking an “advanced health” course for high school credit?

No. The law requires schools to provide the curriculum sometime between grades 9 and 12.

9. Where can I find resources, supports and equipment?

Local fire departments, police stations, hospitals and county health services can be helpful in many of these areas. For more resources see: <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/Grades-9-12-High-School-CPR-and-AED-Requirements>