



MEMORANDUM

TO: Indiana School Administrators, Health Educators, School Nurses, and School Counselors
FROM: Office of College and Career Readiness
SUBJECT: HEA 1290: CPR and AED Instruction
DATE: May 9, 2014

During the 2014 legislative session, the General Assembly passed [HEA 1290](#), and the Governor signed P.L. 139-2014 into law. This law establishes new requirements for CPR and AED instruction at the high school level. Below is an overview of these requirements.

Requirements for school corporations 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.
7. If a school is unable to comply with the psychomotor skill component, the governing body may submit a request to the state superintendent to waive the psychomotor skill component. Action shall be taken on the waiver request within 30 days of receipt. The waiver request must:
 - a. be in writing;
 - b. include the reason or reasons that necessitated the waiver request;
 - c. indicate the extent to which the school attempted to comply with the requirements; and
 - d. be submitted each school year for which the waiver is requested

*An online waiver form is available [here](#). Schools should submit waiver requests by August 1, 2014.

Indiana Department of Education

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Additional Guidance:

Q: When must schools incorporate this instruction in the health curriculum?

A: This law is effective July 1, 2014, therefore schools shall include this instruction in the high school health curriculum beginning with the 2014-15 school year.

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 starting as of 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 starting as of the 2014-15 school year.

Q: If CPR and AED instruction were a part of the student's health curriculum in middle school (7th or 8th 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.

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 a waiver for the 2014-15 school year. Many community partners are attempting to provide the resources that are required to implement this law and these resources will be posted on the [IDOE health and physical education webpage](#) as they become available.

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

A: If a school is unable to comply with the psychomotor skill component, the governing body may submit a waiver request to the Indiana Department of Education. The waiver must be in writing; include the reason(s) that necessitated the request; the extent to which the school attempted to comply; and be submitted each year by August 1, for the school year of which the waiver is requested. Action shall be taken on the waiver request within 30 days of receipt. The waiver is available online at [CPR/AED Wavier](#).

Resources:

[American Heart Association](#)

[American Red Cross](#)

[IDOE Health and Physical Education](#)

[IDOE School Health](#)

Contacts:

Please contact the consultant from your content area with questions.

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