

## Federal Occupational Health

# Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Program

AED programs save lives. More than 200,000 Americans die of sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) every year. Thousands of such deaths can be prevented if AEDs are available. Federal Occupational Health (FOH) partners with Federal agencies to implement comprehensive AED programs.

### What is an AED and how does it work?

An Automated External Defibrillator or AED is a small computerized device that analyzes heart rhythm and prompts a rescuer to deliver an electrical shock if needed. An AED makes it possible for non-medical professionals to save the life of someone in cardiac arrest.

### Why does my agency need an AED program?

In the event of a cardiac incident, rapid response is critical to survival. Emergency medical service response time can range from 8 to 25 minutes, and chances of survival decrease 7 to 10 percent every minute that passes without defibrillation. AEDs can increase survival rates from 50 to 80 percent, when used in conjunction with Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR).

### How can I ensure that employees are prepared to use the AED?

Our AED team helps identify employees to be trained as AED Responders; trains employees in the use of AEDs; designs AED Responder activation systems; and coordinates your AED Program with local EMS organizations.

### How do I know what program is best for my agency?

FOH designs your agency's AED program with site-specific protocol, determining the type, number, and locations of AEDs required for optimal response. FOH's team of medical experts and AED program specialists provides strong physician oversight to ensure that your agency's unique needs are met.

### What does FOH do following a cardiac incident at my Federal workplace?

A qualified physician reviews the cardiac event and prepares a report with recommendations. FOH provides follow-up analysis to determine improvements that can be made to future responses.

### What other support can FOH provide?

FOH provides immediate support for your employees. Critical Incident Stress Management Services (CISM) are available through FOH's Employee Assistance Program. CISM debriefings are available on a fee-for-service basis should your agency not participate in FOH's Employee Assistance Program.

## BENEFITS

- ▶ Industry proven experience with over ten years developing AED programs based on Federal guidelines
- ▶ Individualized, high quality programs designed to fit your agency's site-specific protocols
- ▶ Qualified physicians providing medical expertise, oversight, and quality assurance
- ▶ Simple and flexible service delivery method using the Interagency Agreement (IAA)



**I was 46 years old with no symptoms. The rapid response of an FOH nurse with the defibrillator saved my life.**

Senior Executive  
Office of Personnel Management (OPM)

## FAST FACTS

### Quality

The FOH AED Team was awarded the Corporate Health Achievement Exemplary Practice Citation by the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM).

### Reliability

FOH has installed and currently monitors over 4,000 AED units in Federal buildings nationally and abroad.

**Wellness within your reach.**  
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