

OVERVIEW OF FACT SHEET

The purpose of this fact sheet is to inform the campus community about the importance and availability of public access AEDs.



Why are AEDs important?

According to the American Heart Association, immediate cardiopulmonary resuscitations (CPR) and automated external defibrillator (AED), can more than double a victim's chance of survival. For every minute that passes without CPR and defibrillation, however, the chances of survival decrease by 7-10%. Therefore the availability of AEDs in public places is highly valued.

If you have any questions, please contact the [Environmental Health and Safety Office](#) at 704-687-1111. We are available to assist you.

Public Access Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

How do AEDs work?

An internal computer checks the victim's heart rhythm via the use of adhesive electrodes. The built in computer then calculates whether defibrillation is warranted. If defibrillation is warranted, a recorded voice prompts the rescuer to press the shock button on the AED. The shock given to the victim momentarily stuns the heart and stops all activity. It then gives the heart a chance to resume beating effectively. Instructions guide the rescuer / user through the operation process. Note: A shock will only be advised for ventricular fibrillation or another life-threatening condition where the victim is pulseless.

Who is authorized to use a Public Access AED?

Any person who provides medical care in an emergency situation, whether or not the person is trained in the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) or other medical device, or has training in health care, so long as the person receives no compensation for the person's services. All emergency responder and health care employees have departmental access AEDs.

Is it safe for me to use a Public Access AED?

AEDs are safe to use by anyone provided that you have been trained to operate them. The AED will not administer a shock to someone that is not in cardiac arrest.

Where are Public Access AEDs located?

Public Access AEDs are located throughout the UNC Charlotte campus, please click on the link below to locate AEDs.

http://safety.uncc.edu/sites/safety.uncc.edu/files/media/docs/AED_spreadsheet_for_website.pdf

Where can I get trained on how to use an AED?

The American Heart Association, American Red Cross, and the Charlotte Safety and Health Council offer CPR and AED training.