

# An AED Can Save a Life

An automated external defibrillator (AED) plays a **critical role**

in saving lives during cardiac arrest, especially when paired with quality CPR. AEDs are safe and easy to use.



More than  
**436,000**

Americans die from cardiac arrest annually.



## How does an AED work?

A shock from an AED momentarily stops the heart giving it a chance to restart normal electrical activity and resume beating effectively.

If defibrillation is delayed by

**more than 10 minutes,**

the chance of survival in adults is unlikely.

## EVERY MINUTE COUNTS



For every minute that defibrillation with an AED is delayed, survival decreases by about 10%.

Effective bystander CPR and defibrillation with an AED immediately after sudden cardiac arrest can

**more than double**

a victim's chance of survival.

**AEDs are safe**

and will not shock the heart unless shocks are needed to restore a

**healthy heartbeat.**

## Good Samaritan

laws in every state are intended to encourage people to help others in an emergency without having to worry about being sued.



**ANYONE can use an AED.**

AEDs can be used effectively by anyone who can follow visual and voice prompts.

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# Considerations for Buying an AED



## State Requirements

Depending on your location, you may be required by law to have at least one AED. HSI's AED Law Center helps you stay informed with current state and regional statutes and regulations.



## User-Friendly Features

AED devices have different rescuer-support, self-testing and environmental, and defibrillation features to consider. HSI has a user-friendly features matrix to help you understand what you need before you buy.



## Durability and Environment

Your business environment determines the type of AED you'll need. For example, an open-air worksite needs an AED that can handle the elements. In this situation, a cabinet or durable case for your AED will increase its longevity. By contrast, a climate-controlled office building usually doesn't require sturdy casings for its AEDs.



## Placement and Number of AED Units

As a general guideline, AEDs should be placed so the response time to get one during an emergency is three-minutes or less. All AEDs need to be positioned in an accessible and visible location for easy retrieval.



## Cost and Maintenance

AEDs may seem like a large investment, but it's an investment in your business compliance and employee or customer well-being. HSI helps you understand the lifetime cost of your AED, including the initial purchase, ongoing required maintenance, and warranty coverage.



## Training and Education

Proper training in how to use an AED helps instill confidence in your employees, giving them the tools to react quickly when an emergency occurs.

