

Project Save a Life

What is a Public Access Defibrillation Program (PAD)?



A Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) program is designed to reduce the amount of deaths from sudden cardiac arrest in public places. This is done by placing an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) in public places, and having trained employees in CPR and the use of AEDs.

Do I need a Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) program?

How do I know if I need a PAD program? It is hard to say when and where someone will suffer from sudden cardiac arrest; there are some basic things we can look at to determine if your business should start a PAD program.

- Does the EMS response time to this location exceed five minutes for more than 10% of responses?
- Does this location have an at-risk population? (See "At-risk individuals.")
- Does your business have personnel willing and able to respond to individuals who suffer cardiac emergencies to provide CPR and defibrillation?
- Can a medical director be identified for this location? (See "Physician oversight.")
- Is your business considered a higher-risk location? (See "Higher-risk locations.")

If your answer to most of these questions is "yes", then your business should consider implementing a PAD program.

What Do I need to do to start a PAD program?

The American Heart Association recommends four basic elements in establishing a PAD program.

1. Training in CPR and use of AEDs for employees
2. Physician oversights for quality control, state law requires that you have a physician involved in your PAD program.
3. Integration with the EMS system, which is accomplished by making the required notifications to the EMS agency and your local fire department; and
4. Using and maintaining the AED according to manufacturer's instructions, this involves the required monthly and daily check of the AED. In addition to these you must do a post event report, which is completed by your medical director.



For more information on PAD programs, you can do a search on the Internet for PAD programs or visit www.americanheart.org

What will it cost?



The cost of AEDs and other related costs will vary depending on how many units are required. The following is an estimate of some of the fees associated with this program.

AED

The price for an AED has continued to drop over the past few years; today most can be purchased for \$1,250.00 - \$2,500.00. The City of Temecula has grant monies available to assist you in the initial purchase of equipment. Profit companies are eligible for up to 50% of costs of equipment and non-profit agencies can be reimbursed up to 100%. Just complete the application for this grant and send to Aaron Adams, City Manager's Office, City of Temecula. (Address on form.)



Training

Training costs \$25.00 per person, and certification is good for 2 years.

Physician Oversight

The City has a Physician on contract to provide this; the first year is covered in the initial start up cost and you will be billed \$150.00 a year for renewal.

Program Management

Your Company will manage the program. The cities AED coordinator will be available to assist you with this portion.

There are other grants available to assist you with funding of PAD programs; a search on the Internet for AED grants should provide you with some starting points. If your business is in Temecula, you can get information about the City's PAD Grant Program at www.cityoftemecula.org or hans.bolowich@fire.ca.gov

At-risk individuals

Sudden cardiac arrest is unexpected; it can happen to anyone, any time regardless of gender, age or race. However, some people are at greater risks than others. The following is a list of factors that increase individual risk:

- Diabetes
- Personal or family history of heart disease
- Men age 40 or older
- Sedentary lifestyle
- Post-menopause women
- High blood pressure



Physician Oversight

California Civil Code Section 1714.21, 1797.190 and 1797.196 requires that all PAD programs have a physician to provide medical oversight to the program. If you do not have a medical director or access to one, you may utilize Phillips Medical.



Higher-risk locations

It is impossible to detect where someone will suffer from sudden cardiac arrest, however studies have identified locations that seem to have a higher incidence of sudden cardiac arrest. They include:



- Airports
- Businesses
- Jails
- Dialysis centers
- Golf courses
- Large industrial centers
- Shopping malls
- Sports complexes
- Urgent care centers
- Nursing homes
- Homeless shelters
- Physician’s offices (cardiology, internal medicine, family medicine)
- Gyms

These are only some examples of places at risk, but keep in mind that they are not the only places sudden cardiac arrests occur.

Who can apply?



Any business in Temecula may apply by filling out the required application, should your business have a need for establishing a Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) program. Profit and non-profit companies can apply. Grants will be accepted on a continual basis providing funds are available.



Grant Review Process



The Temecula Citizen Corps AED Sub Committee will review all PAD grant applications. The Committee will be comprised of the Fire Department Paramedic Coordinator, Police Department representative, City Official, and Medical Director, if available. Notification of awards will be made when the review committee has finished reviewing all applications. ■