AED RESOURCE GUIDE

From Purchase to Preparedness—
Your AED Roadmap Starts Here

Provided by: RescueStat MME Master Medical Equipment

WHAT IS AN AED?

An Automated External Defibrillator, or AED, is a portable device used to treat someone experiencing sudden cardiac arrest (SCA), a condition where the heart unexpectedly stops beating. AEDs are designed to be simple to use by non-medical bystanders to deliver immediate life-saving care.

Each year, more than 360,000 cardiac arrests occur outside of hospitals in the United States. They can happen anytime, anywhere, and to people of all ages. In many cases, immediate access to an AED can significantly improve the chances of survival.

According to the American Heart Association, the average survival rate for sudden cardiac arrest is only 10%. However, with immediate defibrillation and bystander CPR, survival rates jump to over 50%.

For every minute that defibrillation is delayed, the victim's chance of survival decreases by 10%. If defibrillation occurs within the first five minutes of collapse, survival rates can be as high as 70%.

COMMON AED FEATURES

- → Simple Operation
- → Audio and Visual Prompts
- → Heart Rhythm Analysis
- → Shock Delivery
- → Self-Testing
- → Battery Powered
- → Portability

ADDITIONAL AED FEATURES

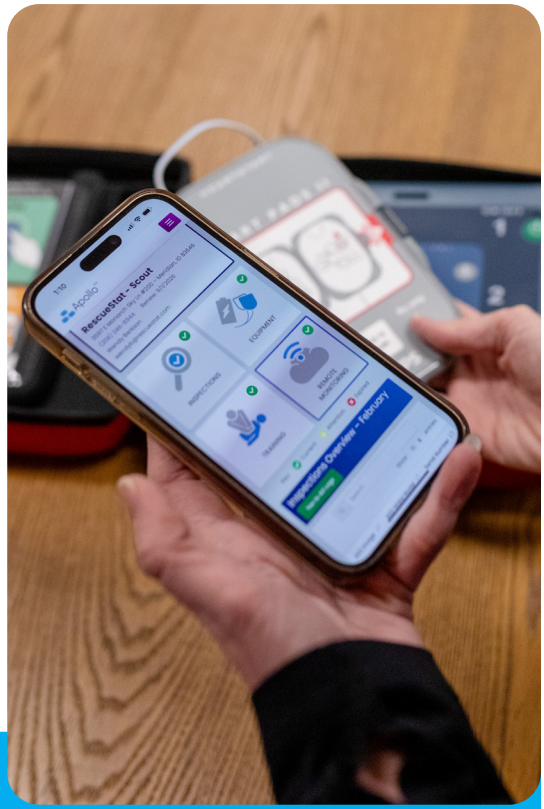
- → CPR Feedback
- → Pediatric Capability
- → Pre-Connected Pads
- → Detailed Screen Displays
- → Event Recording and Wireless Connectivity
- → Multiple Languages
- → Rugged Designs

OWNING AN AED

Whether you're purchasing a single AED or a fleet of AEDs for multiple facilities, a life-saving Automated External Defibrillator represents an investment. In order to make the most of your investment and reduce your long-term cost of ownership, here are some tips for keeping a rescue-ready AED:

RECORD KEEPING

Keep a log of maintenance activities, training, component expiration dates, and any time you use the AED. Using a program management system like Apollo^{PM} helps to keep these records organized as a single resource to manage and maintain visibility over your entire program— which is especially helpful for large fleets of AEDs deployed over multiple locations. It mitigates risk by documenting your program and ensuring compliance. Every time your AED is used, Apollo^{PM} provides post-event review with our nationally certified physician, giving you peace of mind that the emergency situation was properly handled.



BATTERY AND PAD REPLACEMENT

Replace the battery and electrode pads according to the manufacturer's recommended schedule, (typically every two to five years) or if used during an emergency. Apollo^{PM} provides space for documentation of these components, alerting you when it's time to order more.

Apollo^{PM} by RescueStat

Apollo^{PM} simplifies AED program management by centralizing compliance, readiness tracking, and maintenance into one easy-to-use platform. Made for AED Lifecycle Management, it reduces administrative burden and provides peace of mind that your AEDs are always ready and your program is fully compliant.

REGULAR CHECKS

AED manufacturers generally recommend checking your AED once a month to ensure the device and components appear in good condition and that the self-test indicator is displaying a green light or check mark. Technology like Scout[RMS] reports AED self-tests daily, without any human interaction—reducing the risk of any AED downtime, saving teams hours of manual labor, and alerting if an AED has gone missing.

STORAGE

Store the AEDs in central, accessible, and well-marked locations. Avoid storing AEDs in places with extreme temperature changes or moisture. If necessary, such as a situation of an AED at a remote job site, Scout[RMS] (available in a mobile version) provides an extra level of protection, monitoring the AEDs daily to ensure they stay ready in dynamic work environments.

TRAINING

Regularly train your team on AED locations, basic AED operation, CPR, and other first-aid emergency response. While AEDs are easy enough for anyone to use, studies have shown that individuals who had CPR and AED training were more 3-5 times more likely to act in an emergency. Convenient virtual training options now exist that take half the time as in-person trainings, but still teach the same hands-on skills and include a two-year certification.

Scout[RMS] by RescueStat

Scout[RMS] remotely monitors your AEDs and sends alerts if a device needs attention—reducing the need for manual inspections. With daily status check-ins, it drastically reduces AED downtime by catching issues faster, often within minutes instead of weeks. Cellular connectivity enables monitoring anywhere, even on mobile job sites, ensuring your AEDs are always ready when and where they're needed.

AED FAQ

Who can use an AED?

AEDs are designed to be used by anyone. They provide clear, step-by-step voice instructions to guide even untrained users through the process.

What maintenance does an AED need?

AED maintenance includes regular checks of the AED self-test light, checking battery life and pad expiration, and annual preventative maintenance to ensure device functionality. Tools like Apollo^{PM} and Scout^{RMS} simplify and automate this process.

Are there legal requirements for owning an AED?

Some states require schools, doctors offices, gyms, and other public spaces to keep and maintain an AED, as well as CPR training. Apollo^{PM} includes access to the AED Law Center, to ensure compliance across states.

What training is required to use an AED?

No formal training is required to use an AED, but studies have shown that individuals who had CPR and AED training were more 3-5 times more likely to act in an emergency.

Where should AEDs be placed or installed?

AEDs should be installed in easily accessible and visible locations such as near elevators, main reception areas, or central gathering points.

Can an AED be used on children?

Many AEDs come with pediatric pads or a pediatric key, which reduces the shock to a level safe for children and infants. Check if your AED has pediatric capability before using it on children.

What are the risks of using an AED?

AEDs are designed to be safe and easy to use. The greatest risks come not from using the device, but from user error—such as ignoring voice prompts, poor placement that makes the AED hard to access or find, or failure to maintain the device properly.

How do I choose the right AED for my needs?

Consider factors such as ease of use, cost, maintenance, other features like CPR feedback or pediatric support, and whether the model is suited to the likely environment of use.

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