

# Public Access Defibrillation



*Unfortunately, 90 - 95 percent of Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) victims die because they didn't have quick access to this easy-to-administer lifesaving treatment. By making more people aware of SCA and by improving access to Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs), we can increase the survival rate for citizens of Fairfax County.*

## FAQs about PAD Programs:



### Who is eligible for an AED or where should AEDs be placed?

Any public gathering place is a candidate for an AED. Examples include churches, fitness centers, retirement homes, golf courses, large warehouses, high-rises, etc.



### How much does an AED cost and what is required to purchase an AED?

AEDs cost anywhere from \$1500 to over \$3000 (depending on model). The Food and Drug Administration requires a prescription from a physician in order to purchase an AED.



### What about liability?

There have been no known lawsuits against lay rescuers providing CPR as Good Samaritans nor any against AED users. The Cardiac Arrest Survival Act (CASA) was part of the Public Health Improvement Act signed into law in November 2000. The law provides nationwide protection that exempts from liability anyone who renders emergency treatment with a defibrillator to save someone's life.



### What other steps are required to implement an AED program?

The Fire & Rescue Academy can assist in the development of the program which includes a site inspection, choosing the vendor, design policies and procedures, and train a response team.



### How can field personnel help?

During routine pre-planning of target hazards and/or at the end of emergency incidents, promote the program and identify occupancies that may benefit from an AED program. Refer management personnel to the Fire & Rescue Academy for more information.



For more information about AEDs and the PAD program, go to the Departments website: [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/academy](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/academy) or call the Fire & Rescue Academy at 703-803-3860

