

HB 232 -- CARDIAC EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS

SPONSOR: Gallick

Beginning with the 2026-27 school year, and all subsequent school years, this bill requires every public school to develop and implement a cardiac emergency response plan that addresses the appropriate use of school personnel to respond to incidents involving an individual experiencing sudden cardiac arrest or a similar life-threatening emergency while on a school campus. A public school with an athletic department or organized athletic program must develop and implement a plan specific to life-threatening emergencies that may occur at an extracurricular event or school-sponsored event on campus.

Members of each public school's administration will coordinate with local emergency services providers to integrate the public school's cardiac emergency response plan into the local emergency services providers' protocols. A cardiac emergency response plan must integrate evidence-based core elements, such as those recommended by the American Heart Association guidelines, Project ADAM, or another set of nationally recognized, evidence-based standard or core elements.

The bill specifies certain guidelines that a cardiac emergency response plan must integrate, including the establishment of a cardiac emergency response team and the placement of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) throughout the school campus. Appropriate AED placement will be dictated by the cardiac emergency response plan and in accordance with guidelines set by the American Heart Association or another set of nationally recognized guidelines.

Appropriate school personnel will be trained in first aid, CPR, and AED use following evidence-based guidelines set forth by the American Heart Association or nationally recognized guidelines. The school personnel required to be trained will be determined by the cardiac emergency response plan and include, but not be limited to, athletics coaches, school nurses, and athletic trainers.

This bill is similar to HB 1991 and SB 1032 (2024).