



2025 ASSEMBLY BILL 362

July 17, 2025 - Introduced by Representatives SPIROS, PRONSCHINSKE, NOVAK, BEHNKE, FRANKLIN, GUSTAFSON, B. JACOBSON, JOERS, KAUFERT, KREIBICH, MAXEY, MELOTIK, MURSAU, O'CONNOR, PIWOWARCZYK, PRADO, SINICKI, SNYDER and SUBECK, cosponsored by Senators JAMES and WANGGAARD. Referred to Committee on Education.

- 1 **AN ACT** *to create* 118.07 (6) of the statutes; **relating to:** requiring cardiac
2 emergency response plans for cardiac emergencies that occur on school
3 property or at school-sponsored athletic events.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Beginning in the 2026-27 school year, this bill requires each school board and operator of a charter school to have in effect a cardiac emergency response plan (CERP) for cardiac emergencies that occur on school property and a CERP for cardiac emergencies that occur at school-sponsored athletic practices and competitions. Under the bill, a CERP is a written document that contains specific steps to reduce death from cardiac arrest in a specific setting. The bill also defines the core elements of a CERP, which include 1) a cardiac emergency response team, 2) a plan for activating the team in the event of a cardiac arrest, 3) distribution of the plan, 4) the incorporation of local emergency medical services into the plan, and 5) annual requirements to practice, review, and evaluate the plan.

Under the bill, a CERP for a cardiac emergency that occurs on school property must address the use of school personnel to respond to a sudden cardiac arrest event that occurs on school property. This type of CERP must 1) include the core elements, 2) provide requirements for automated external defibrillator (AED) placement and maintenance, and 3) require training in first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and AED usage for certain school personnel.

Under the bill, a CERP for athletic events is required only if the school board

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or operator of a charter school operates the high school grades. A CERP for athletic events must address the use of coaches, athletic trainers, and other school personnel to respond to a sudden cardiac arrest event that occurs while an individual is attending or participating in a school-sponsored athletic practice or competition. This type of CERP must 1) include the core elements, 2) require that an AED is clearly marked and accessible in an unlocked location at each athletic venue during practices and competitions, and 3) require that each athletic coach employed by the school be certified in CPR and how to use an AED.

The bill also requires a school board or operator of a charter school, when developing a CERP, to consider recommendations by the American Heart Association, Project ADAM, or another nationally recognized organization focused on emergency cardiovascular care.

Finally, in the 2026-27 school year, the Office of School Safety in the Department of Justice may award grants for the purpose of assisting school boards and operators of charter schools to implement the CERPs required under the bill. The amount of a grant is based on the grade levels offered by the schools served by the CERPs. Under the bill, a school board or charter school is not required to comply with requirements in a CERP to place AEDs unless the OSS awards these grants.

For further information see the state and local fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 118.07 (6) of the statutes is created to read:

2 118.07 (6) (a) In this subsection:

3 1. “Cardiac emergency response plan” means a written document that
4 establishes specific steps to reduce death from cardiac arrest in a specific setting.

5 2. “Core elements” means all of the following:

6 a. A cardiac emergency response team.

7 b. A plan to activate the cardiac emergency response team in the event of a
8 cardiac arrest.

9 c. Distribution of the cardiac emergency response plan on school grounds.

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1 d. Information about automated external defibrillator placement and routine
2 maintenance of automated external defibrillators.

3 e. Incorporation of local emergency medical services.

4 f. Annual practice of the cardiac emergency response plan using drills.

5 g. Annual review and evaluation of the cardiac emergency response plan.

6 h. Following each activation of the cardiac emergency response plan, a review
7 of the cardiac emergency response plan and its implementation.

8 (b) Beginning in the 2026-27 school year, each school board and operator of a
9 charter school shall have in effect a cardiac emergency response plan for each school
10 under its control. A cardiac emergency response plan under this paragraph shall
11 address appropriate use of school personnel to respond to an individual
12 experiencing sudden cardiac arrest while on school property. A school board or
13 operator of a charter school shall include in a cardiac emergency response plan
14 under this paragraph at least all of the following:

15 1. The core elements.

16 2. Requirements for automated external defibrillator placement, including
17 that each automated external defibrillator is placed in accordance with guidelines
18 set by the American Heart Association or an organization focused on emergency
19 cardiovascular care.

20 3. Ongoing training for identified school personnel in first aid,
21 cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and automated external defibrillator use that
22 follows guidelines set by the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, or
23 another nationally recognized organization focused on emergency cardiovascular
24 care.

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1 (c) Beginning in the 2026-27 school year, each school board that operates the
2 high school grades and operator of a charter school that operates the high school
3 grades shall have in effect a cardiac emergency response plan that addresses the
4 appropriate use of coaches, athletic trainers, and other school personnel to respond
5 to an individual experiencing sudden cardiac arrest while attending or
6 participating in a school-sponsored athletic practice or competition. The school
7 board or operator of a charter school shall include in each cardiac emergency
8 response plan under this paragraph at least all of the following:

9 1. The core elements.

10 2. That an automated external defibrillator placement be clearly marked and
11 accessible in an unlocked location at each athletic venue during practices and
12 competitions.

13 3. That each athletic coach employed by the school obtain and maintain
14 certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and automated external defibrillator
15 use that follows guidelines set by the American Heart Association, American Red
16 Cross, or another nationally recognized organization focused on emergency
17 cardiovascular care.

18 (d) In developing a cardiac emergency response plan under par. (b) or (c), a
19 school board or operator of a charter school shall consider recommendations by the
20 American Heart Association, Project ADAM, or another nationally recognized
21 organization focused on emergency cardiovascular care.

22 (e) Notwithstanding pars. (b) 2. and (c) 2., no school board or operator of a
23 charter school is required to comply with a requirement in its cardiac emergency
24 response plan under par. (b) or (c) to place an automated external defibrillator in

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1 accordance with the cardiac emergency response plan unless the office of school
2 safety in the department of justice awards grants under 2025 Wisconsin Act ... (this
3 act), section 2 (1).

4 **SECTION 2. Nonstatutory provisions.**

5 (1) CARDIAC EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN; IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.

6 (a) In the 2026-27 school year, subject to par. (b), the office of school safety in
7 the department of justice may award grants to school boards and operators of
8 charter schools to comply with requirements under s. 118.07 (6). A recipient of a
9 grant under this paragraph may use the amount received for any of the following:

- 10 1. Automated external defibrillators.
11 2. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation training.
12 3. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation training supplies and materials.

13 (b) The office of school safety in the department of justice shall determine the
14 amount of a grant under par. (a) on the basis of the grade levels offered by the
15 schools that are covered by the cardiac emergency response plans established under
16 s. 118.07 (6). The office of school safety may not award a grant under par. (a) in an
17 amount that is greater than the following:

- 18 1. For a high school, \$8,000.
19 2. For a school that offers grades 6 to 8, \$4,000.
20 3. For a school that offers only grades kindergarten to 5, \$2,000.

21 **(END)**