



## AED Site Survey

Site Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Units Needed: \_\_\_\_\_

Goal: To find the number of AED units needed at this site, and to determine the best placement(s).  
Answer the questions below, **referencing the recommendations and further explanations on page 2.**

1) For this site, where is a cardiac event most likely to occur?

*Consider: Population density, workout areas, demographics, etc. If the site seems more or less uniformly at risk then centrally locate the unit relative to the density of people.*

2) From this area of greatest risk, is it within a 2 minute brisk walking round trip distance to all areas that it will service?

**YES      NO**

If you answered "YES" to #2 above then continue to #3 to dial in a specific placement area.

If you answered "NO" to #2 above then consider a second unit placement.

3) Is there a specific area within the area of highest risk that people would remember intuitively?

*Consider: Security desk, First Aid kit, reception desk, entryway, near stairwell or elevator.*

**YES      NO**

4) Can the AED unit or handle of the cabinet be mounted within 48 inches of the ground, in plain view, and be secure?

**YES      NO**

5) Is this mounting site free from restrictions to access? Consider locked doors, stairways, security areas, elevators, etc.

**YES      NO**

If you answered "NO" to any question from #3-5 above then consider other options until all 3 can be answered with a YES.

Describe the AED's final placement:

Further Explanations, reasoning, and recommendations for each question listed above

- 1) The goal is to have the AED as close to a victim as possible before it is even needed. The areas of greater population density will have a higher likelihood of an event. There could be other considerations as well. For instance if there is a fitness facility on the floor, this may prove a better location due to the physically strenuous activity, or 2 units may be more appropriate, one in the fitness facility, and another more centrally located. Higher age demographics may also become part of your placement strategy.
- 2) The American Heart Association recommends 3-5 minutes from "drop to shock". For every minute that passes there is approximately a 10% drop in the survival rate. It will take up to 1 minute to recognize the situation, assess the patient, and determine if an AED unit is needed. It takes another minute to get the AED unit out of the cabinet, and once at the patient's side, open the AED, apply the pads and deliver a shock. This leaves a 2 minute roundtrip window to actually retrieve the unit in order to achieve a "drop to shock" time of 4 minutes. Hence a 1 minute recommended one-way brisk walking max distance from any proposed AED location to the furthest location that unit will service (An able adult can briskly walk approx. 300 feet per minute). It may be helpful to determine this by walking your site briskly with a stopwatch, or send us a floorplan and we can assist in determining the appropriate spacing.
- 3) Some sites may have an area that intuitively just "seems right" to someone looking for an AED in an emergency. Of course ideally everyone would be made aware of the AED's location, but optimally the actual placement will align with where it should be intuitively. These areas may typically be by the first aid kit, by a security or reception desk, or in an elevator lobby. If one of these intuitive areas is within the one minute max distance then that location is a primary candidate for placement.
- 4) The height to reach the handle of an automated external defibrillator (AED) in a public gathering place should be no more than 48 inches high in order to satisfy the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) Guidelines. These guidelines specify maximum reach ranges for health equipment such as automated external defibrillators and other life safety devices. For safety equipment with an unobstructed approach, the maximum forward reach to the equipment is 48 inches above the floor. The maximum side reach for an unobstructed approach to an AED is 54 inches. We also recommend always using an AED cabinet.
- 5) Does everyone have access to the AED unit? No special access should be required, and the unit should never be locked in a cabinet or out of sight. For sites that have multiple floors, placing an AED on every other floor is usually sufficient for most buildings. For example, you may have AED's placed on floors 1, 3, and 5 but placing them only on floors 1 and 5 may be inadequate.