



Legislative Changes

Automated External Defibrillators (AED)

Reminder – You have until 1st January 2026 to comply.

Overview

Automated External Defibrillators or AEDs are 'portable devices able to treat cardiac arrest by applying an electric shock to restore normal heart rhythm'.

A Private Members Bill was introduced into the South Australian Parliament on 4th March 2020 by The Honourable Frank Pangallo MLC. The legislation is called the *Automated External Defibrillators (Public Access) Act 2022*.

What it does is to make mandatory the installation, maintenance, signage, and registration of AEDs in certain types of buildings. It specifically applies to retirement villages, residential parks with more than twelve (12) residents and residential aged care facilities. It also applies to buildings which fall within various categories under the Building Code of Australia.

The Act applies to already constructed buildings as well as new ones.

The cost of an AED is around \$1800-\$3000 (and needs to be replaced about every eight years) and the cost of mandatory annual maintenance and compliance with the registration procedures need to be factored into the cost of operating these units.

Not for Profits will be able to apply for a grant. Further information can be found [Automated+external+defibrillators](#)

Complying with the new legislation

By 1st January 2026 if you look after a 'relevant designated building or facility or prescribed building'.

- Install at least one AED, and one AED for every 1200m² of floor area of the building or facility. Hire venues require AED regardless of m²
- Install signs near the AED and, if the AED is inside the building there must be a sign outside and near to the entrance to the building, indicating that an AED is 'nearby'.
- Register the AED (this includes an option to create a GoodSAM AED account to allow you to update your AED details in the future. http://goodsamapp.org/saas_aed).
- Ensure the AED is maintained as per manufacturers recommendations and tested every twelve (12) months (s9)

The term '*relevant designated building or facility or prescribed building*' which means (s 7(7))

(a) is on land used for commercial purposes; and

(b) has a floor area of more than 1200m²

The term 'prescribed building' means (s 5)

Any building 'used for commercial purposes' built or subject to major works after the commencement of the Act (1 January 2026) if the building has a floor space greater than 600m²

Should you require further assistance, please contact Catholic Safety & Injury Management enquiries@csaim.org.au or your Safety Business Partner.

17th April 2024