

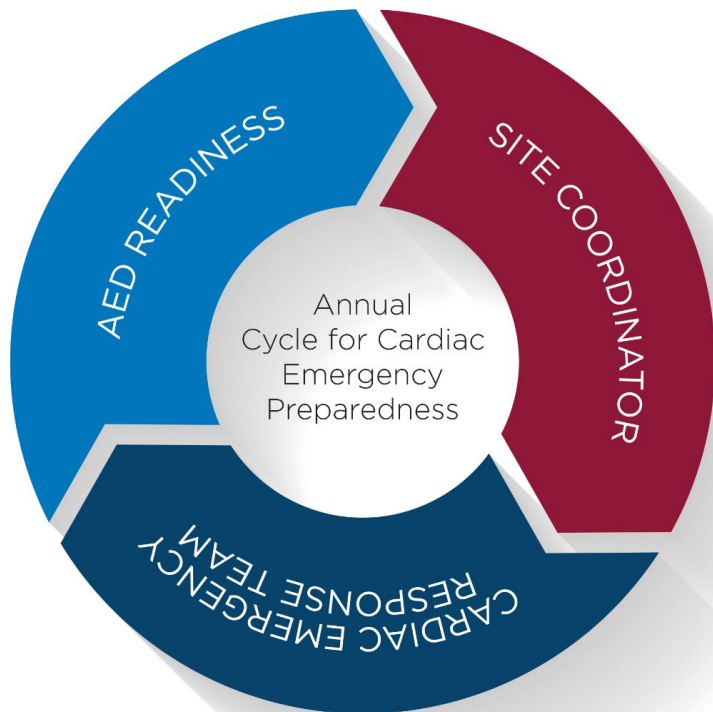
Medical Emergency Response Team (MERT)

*Becoming Heart Safe at Jefferson County
School District*



JEFFERSON
COUNTY SCHOOLS

HEART SAFE SCHOOL DESIGNATION



SITE COORDINATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

AED READINESS

- Maintenance every month or per manufacturer directions



CARDIAC EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

- Maintain Staff CPR/AED Training
 - Biannual CPR/AED Certification/Annual Hands Only CPR training
 - *Strongly Recommended for All Team Members*
- At least 1 Annual SCA Drill and Completion of Drill Checklist
- Interchange Roles during Drills



SITE COORDINATOR

- Budget for ongoing and future CPR/AED program expenses
- Perform at least 1 Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) Drill
- Debrief post drills and evaluate for areas of improvement
- Review Cardiac Emergency Response Plan and adjust for your school
- Consider community needs and usage of building
 - Share Cardiac Emergency Response Plan with any groups who may use building after school hours
- All Staff Annual Awareness Training on Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness
- Use the Project ADAM resources available at: <https://www.projectadam.com/>
- Check in with your Project ADAM Program Coordinator for questions that arise



Current Procedure for Medical Emergency

1. Nurse is called to the scene
2. Nurse takes Red Emergency "GO" bags for Health-rooms and AED
3. [EAP card with BLS edited 2.4.2021 b.pdf](#)
4. Nurse assesses situation and responds
5. EMS is activated if necessary
6. Nurse is the site coordinator for AEDs on campus.
 - a. Conducts and documents Monthly AED checks

Place your school district's current procedure on this page.

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) – A Public Health Issue

- More than 350,000 out-of-hospital Sudden Cardiac Arrests (SCA) occur in the United States each year and approximately 10 percent survive.
- Studies show that prompt bystander Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) use could double or even triple survival rates.
- In a study of more than 2,000 schools over a two year time frame, the SCA survival rate in schools with AED programs increased to 71 percent.
- On any given day, as much as 20 percent of the entire United States population is in a school.

Background on Project ADAMs Work

- Project ADAM began in 1999 after the death of Adam Lemel, a 17-year-old Whitefish Bay, WI, high school student who collapsed and died while playing basketball.
- Adam suffered a Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) in which ventricular fibrillation occurred, a condition in which the ventricles cannot pump blood into the body. Defibrillation, or an AED, could have saved his life.
- Since 1999, Project ADAM has advocated for AED placement in schools and communities. The Heart Safe School program ensures equipment is maintained and there is a team of trained staff ready to respond to emergencies in schools across the country.

Justifying Staff Time for CPR/AED Training and Drilling

- Project ADAM recommends a designated emergency response team comprised of **at least 10% of school staff trained in CPR/AED** in the event there is a sudden collapse or medical emergency.
- An AED drill can be conducted in less time than a fire drill. **Plan for 5-10 minutes**, including a debrief with the team afterward.
- Some schools choose to conduct **medical emergency drills** which cover a multitude of possible medical emergencies that could occur, not solely cardiac. At **(place your district name)**, we will use **MERT** as the designation for the response team. We recommend the AED is brought to the scene each time.

Action Steps

1. Site coordinator - typically the school nurse
2. Identify 5-10 staff members for the MERT
 - Guideline is 10% of school staff to be CPR certified*
3. Develop a written emergency response plan (reviewed annually)
4. Identify an emergency communication code to notify MERT that an incident is occurring (e.g. "Code MERT") or specific code for your district.
5. Conduct at least one annual emergency response drill (AED drill) to test the emergency response plan.

Written Emergency Response Sample

Other samples can be found on the
Project ADAM website

Medical Emergency Response Team and Roles

(Nurse) place name here *	Team Coordinator/Brings First Aid Kit/ Starts or continues CPR if needed
(Principal)place name here *	Calls EMS/Calls parents/Directs EMS if SRO is off campus
Deputy (SRO)place name here *	Directs EMS to scene; crowd control
(Registrar or other identified staff) place name here *	Covers the front to retrieve parent numbers and get additional needed information
(Bookkeeper or other identified staff) place name here *	Med Assistant-cover clinic for students with scheduled meds & brings meds to the scene if needed; Retrieves AED/EpiPen if staff below is off campus
(Reading Coach or other identified staff) place name here *	Retrieves AED/EpiPen/ Assists with CPR
(Math Coach or other identified staff) place name here *	Documents timelines/events
(Custodians or other identified staff) place name here * (CNP Manager or other identified staff) place name here *	Get ice if needed; crowd control-relocate students/keep scene clear; document if staff above is off campus

Goals:

- To have the MERTeam with materials to the scene within 2 minutes
- To determine the need for EMS and care for the victim upon arrival at the scene
- To keep the scene safe, clear, and provide first aid to the victim until EMS arrives

MERT Procedure:

- Activated by teacher or other staff by calling the front desk and describing the emergency situation (ex. Seizure, injury) and get student's name
- Front office will call on PA and radio (channel 1) " MERT team to (location)"
- Once MERT is at the scene, radios will go to channel 2
- If an emergency is in a classroom, the students will be moved to the hall; If in the gym/cafeteria, students will be moved out or as far away as possible.
- All members will arrive with supplies (if applicable to roles), and the nurse and administrator will determine if CPR needs to begin and/or EMS is to be notified.

Timeline for Implementation in JEFCEOED

- Principal and school nurse identify members of the MERT team by (enter date)
- Adapt the template emergency response plan for your school by (enter date)
- Complete drill by (enter date)

Drill time– what is expected ?

1. Set date for drill
2. Children's of Alabama staff or (identify district team leader) will attend
3. Obtain Trainer AED
4. Call "Code MERT"
5. Run Thru Scenario
6. COA staff or (identify district team leader) will use checklist [Heart safe checklist .pdf](#)
7. Drill time should take approximately 10 minutes

End Goal

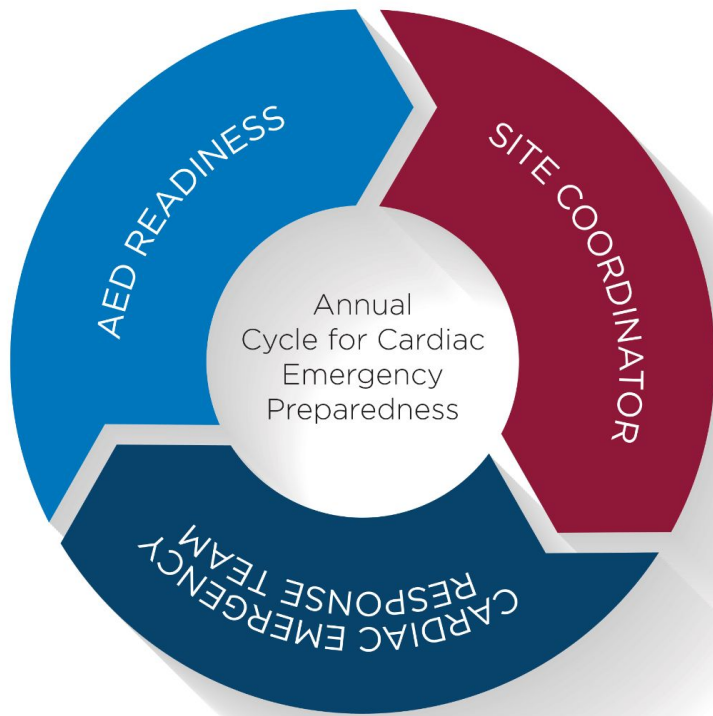
Forming and maintaining a medical emergency response team (MERT) ensures **each** school will have:

- **Well maintained AED equipment**
- **CPR/AED trained staff**
- **A practiced plan to respond to sudden medical emergencies**

Giving our students, staff, and visitors the BEST possible chance to survive!



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Contact for JEFCOED

Place contact information
for your school district