



Auto External *defibrillators* Grant Program

AED's: helping to protect the public

Owners of major sport and recreational facilities will be eligible to receive up to one third of the total cost of the purchase of an Auto External Defibrillator or replacement batteries for previously acquired AED's purchased through the program.

More than 35,000 Canadian lives are lost each year due to cardiac arrest. Defibrillation improves survival rates by up to 30 percent if delivered in the first few minutes. With each passing minute, the probability of survival declines by 7 to 10 percent. Making defibrillators easily accessible in major sport and recreation facilities could save the lives of dozens of people across Nova Scotia in the coming years.

The automated external defibrillator (AED) is a computerized medical device. An AED can check a person's heart rhythm. It can recognize a rhythm that requires a shock and it can advise the rescuer when a shock is needed. The AED uses voice prompts, lights and text messages to tell the rescuer the steps to take.

Sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) occurs when the lower chambers of the heart (the ventricles) suddenly stop beating normally and develop what is called ventricular fibrillation (VF). VF is a chaotic heart rhythm that is similar where the heart muscle begins quivering which prevents the heart from effectively pumping blood. If this condition is not corrected immediately death will follow within 10 minutes. A defibrillator is the only known device/technique that stops the chaotic electrical heart activity and allows the heart to re-pace itself to a normal rhythm.

With the placement of AED's throughout the Nova Scotia's community sport and recreation facilities, valuable time will be saved in the event of an SCA emergency.



**Recreation Facility
Association
of Nova Scotia**

Supporting you – from the ground up

RFA NS

The Recreation Facility Association of Nova Scotia is a provincial non-profit association serving the recreation facility industry in Atlantic Canada. RFA NS has become recognized and respected both provincially and nationally for establishing industry guidelines and for the development of information resources and professional development opportunities for recreation facility personnel. The leadership provided by RFA NS assists recreation facilities in Nova Scotia to be developed and operated more efficiently, effectively and safely.



RFA NS AED Grant Program

Improving access to early defibrillation is key to improving the chances for recovery from sudden cardiac arrest.

Requirements

The following requirements must be met before sport and recreational facilities will be able access funds from the AED Program Fund:

- Must show proof of purchase of an approved AED
- Must have demonstrated ongoing commitment to professional development and quality management (e.g. be a member in good standing with the Recreation Facility Association of Nova Scotia or other provincial recreation association)
- Must provide annual training of staff in use of equipment, with initial training to take place within 3 months of receiving the AED unit. Aim to train all staff, and require at least one AED-trained staff person to be present at all times when the facility is opened.
- Inform local Emergency Health Services that the AED has been purchased
- Must maintain unit according to manufacturer specifications and document maintenance schedule for RFA NS.

Description

Through this grant program owners of major sport and recreational facilities will be eligible to receive up to one third of the total cost of the purchase of an Auto External Defibrillators or a replacement battery for previously acquired AED's purchased through the program (taxes included) to a maximum of \$1500.00.

Scope

Major sport and recreational facilities throughout Nova Scotia will be eligible to participate in the Auto External Defibrillators Program.

Support for the RFA NS AED Program has come from the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage.



RFA NS AED Grant Application

Financial assistance provided by



I, _____, hereby wish to make application to the RFA NS AED Grant Program.

Position Title: _____ Name of Facility/Company/Organization: _____

Phone: () _____ Fax: () _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Email: _____ Website: _____

Required Documentation

Please include the following documentation with this application.

- Proof of Purchase of AED (please contact RFA NS for a list of approved AED units)
- Outline of Training

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Full details of the eligibility requirements to participate in the AED Grant Program are available from the RFA NS Office or the RFA NS website at www.rfans.com.

Please return complete form and supporting documentation to:
RFA NS, 5516 Spring Garden Road, 4th Floor, Halifax, NS B3J 1G6
Telephone: 902-425-5450 ext 330 Facsimile: 902-425-5606 Email: rfans@sportnovascotia.ca

