
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 529 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY FARNESE, FONTANA, BLAKE, COSTA, TARTAGLIONE,
ALLOWAY AND WARD, FEBRUARY 20, 2015

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 20, 2015

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An
2 act relating to the public school system, including certain
3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial
4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the
5 laws relating thereto," in certification of teachers and in
6 school health services, repealing provisions relating to CPR
7 instruction and to cardiopulmonary resuscitation; providing
8 for medical emergency instruction and procedures and for
9 required instruction for CPR and first aid.

10 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
11 hereby enacts as follows:

12 Section 1. Section 1205.4 of the act of March 10, 1949
13 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, added
14 November 22, 2000 (P.L.672, No.91), is repealed:

15 [Section 1205.4. CPR Instruction.--(a) School entities
16 shall be required to offer a cardiopulmonary resuscitation
17 training (CPR) class on school premises at least once every
18 three years. The course shall be offered as an option to all
19 employes of the school entity.

20 (b) Completion of training, including testing of skills and
21 knowledge, shall be documented by the signature and title of a

1 representative of the training entity and shall include the date
2 training was completed. Documentation shall be retained in the
3 facility in that employe's file. Training shall be conducted by:

- 4 (1) the American Red Cross;
- 5 (2) the American Heart Association;
- 6 (3) an individual certified to conduct CPR training by the
7 American Red Cross, American Heart Association or other
8 certifying agency approved by the Department of Health; or
9 (4) other certifying agency approved by the Department of
10 Health.

11 (c) School districts may include this training in the
12 continuing education plan submitted by the district to the
13 Department of Education under section 1205.1.

14 (d) For purposes of this section, a school entity shall be
15 defined as a local school district, intermediate unit or area
16 vocational-technical school.]

17 Section 2. Section 1424 of the act, added June 30, 2012
18 (P.L.684, No.82), is repealed:

19 [Section 1424. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.--(a) A school
20 entity shall have at each school, or in the case of a cyber
21 charter school at each location, under its jurisdiction, except
22 in extenuating circumstances, one person certified in the use of
23 cardiopulmonary resuscitation during regular school hours when
24 school is in session and students are present.

25 (b) The provisions of 42 Pa.C.S. §§ 8332 (relating to
26 nonmedical good Samaritan civil immunity) and 8337.1 (relating
27 to civil immunity of school officers or employees relating to
28 emergency care, first aid and rescue) shall apply to a person
29 who renders cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

30 (c) As used in this section, "school entity" means an area

1 vocational-technical school, a charter school, a cyber charter
2 school, an intermediate unit, a nonpublic school or a school
3 district.]

4 Section 3. The act is amended by adding an article to read:

5 ARTICLE XIV-A

6 MEDICAL EMERGENCY INSTRUCTION AND PROCEDURES

7 Section 1401-A. Definitions.

8 The following words and phrases when used in this article
9 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
10 context clearly indicates otherwise:

11 "Automated External Defibrillator" or "AED." A portable
12 device that uses electric shock to restore a stable heart rhythm
13 to an individual in cardiac arrest.

14 "CPR." Cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

15 "Department." The Department of Education of the
16 Commonwealth.

17 "Professional employee." As defined under section 1101(1).

18 "School entity." An area vocational-technical school, a
19 charter school, a cyber charter school, an intermediate unit, a
20 nonpublic school or a school district.

21 Section 1402-A. CPR and first aid instruction.

22 (a) Instruction.--All of the following shall apply:

23 (1) A school entity shall provide instruction in the
24 principles and techniques of CPR and first aid on the school
25 premises as necessary to ensure continuous certification of
26 all of the following:

27 (i) The professional employees of the school entity.

28 (ii) The athletic and cheerleading coaches of the
29 school entity.

30 (2) A school entity shall offer the instruction as an

1 option to volunteers of the school entity no less than once
2 every three years.

3 (b) Documentation of training.--Completion of training,
4 including testing of skills and knowledge, shall be documented
5 by the signature and title of a representative of the training
6 entity and shall include the date training was completed.
7 Documentation shall be retained by the school entity in that
8 employee's or volunteer's file. Training shall be conducted by
9 any of the following:

10 (1) The American Red Cross.

11 (2) The American Heart Association.

12 (3) Any other certifying agency approved by the
13 Department of Health.

14 (4) An individual certified to conduct CPR and first aid
15 training by the American Red Cross, American Heart
16 Association or any other certifying agency approved by the
17 Department of Health.

18 (c) Continuing education.--A school entity shall include
19 this training in the continuing education plan submitted by the
20 school entity to the department under section 1205.1.

21 Section 1403-A. Cardiac arrest procedures.

22 A school entity shall develop safety procedures to follow in
23 responding to a medical emergency involving cardiac arrest,
24 including the appropriate response time in administering CPR,
25 using an AED or calling a local emergency medical services
26 provider, provided that no school entity shall be required to
27 establish new procedures under this section if procedures
28 currently exist and reasonably fulfill the requirements of this
29 section.

30 Section 1404-A. AED instruction.

1 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1423(c)(1), a
2 school entity that has an AED located in one or more school
3 buildings or locations shall assure that no fewer than four
4 individuals assigned to each school building or location with an
5 AED are trained in the use of an AED.

6 Section 1405-A. Donations for CPR and first aid instruction.

7 (a) Donations to the department.--The department may review
8 and provide coordination strategies for public and private
9 sector efforts to raise and appropriate funds and may enter into
10 an agreement with a State agency, private sector organization or
11 person as it deems necessary to implement the purposes of this
12 article. The department may establish accounts and accept and
13 administer gifts, donations or other funds received by the
14 department to achieve the purposes of this article.

15 (b) Disbursement.--The department shall develop procedures
16 for disbursing gifts, donations or other funds to school
17 entities. The department may use no more than 1% of the gifts,
18 donations or other funds received to implement the procedures.

19 (c) Donations to school entities.--A school entity may
20 accept donations, gifts or other funds from the department, a
21 State agency or private sector organization to achieve the
22 purposes of this article.

23 Section 1406-A. Immunity.

24 The provisions of 42 Pa.C.S. §§ 8332 (relating to emergency
25 response provider and bystander good samaritan civil immunity)
26 and 8337.1 (relating to civil immunity of school officers or
27 employees relating to emergency care, first aid and rescue)
28 shall apply to an individual who renders CPR or first aid.

29 Section 1407-A. Regulations.

30 The department may adopt regulations necessary to effectuate

1 this article.

2 Section 4. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

3 Section 1511.2. Required Instruction for CPR and First
4 Aid.--(a) Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year and each
5 school year thereafter, in every secondary public and private
6 school, established and maintained in this Commonwealth,
7 completion of training and certification in CPR and first aid
8 shall be required for student graduation from high school.

9 (b) Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year and each school
10 year thereafter, each school entity shall provide secondary
11 students with training and testing on the principles and
12 techniques of CPR and first aid in accordance with subsection
13 (c).

14 (c) A training entity shall train and test secondary
15 students' knowledge of CPR and first aid. Completion of the
16 training shall be documented by the signature and title of the
17 representative of the training entity and shall include the date
18 when the training was completed. A copy of the documentation
19 shall be submitted to the school entity and shall be maintained
20 in the student's records.

21 (d) The Department of Education may adopt regulations
22 necessary to effectuate this section.

23 (e) The following words and phrases when used in this
24 section shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection
25 unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

26 "CPR." Cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

27 "School entity." An area vocational-technical school, a
28 charter school, a cyber charter school, an intermediate unit, a
29 nonpublic school or a school district.

30 "Training entity." Any of the following:

- 1 (1) The American Red Cross.
2 (2) The American Heart Association.
3 (3) Any other certifying agency approved by the Department
4 of Health.
5 (4) An individual certified to conduct CPR and first aid
6 training by the American Red Cross, the American Heart
7 Association or any other certifying agency approved by the
8 Department of Health.

9 Section 5. This act shall take effect as follows:

- 10 (1) The addition of section 1403-A of the act shall take
11 effect in 180 days.
12 (2) The addition of sections 1406-A and 1511.2(d) of the
13 act shall take effect in 30 days.
14 (3) This section shall take effect immediately.
15 (4) The remainder of this act shall take effect in one
16 year.