



# Sudden Cardiac Arrest Response Policy

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### Introduction

In alignment with Assembly Bill 2887 and Education Code Section 32281, this policy establishes procedures to respond to incidents involving Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) or similar life-threatening medical emergencies that may occur during in-person physical fitness testing or other physical activity-based events conducted by the school.

The goal is to safeguard the health and safety of all students, staff, and participants by ensuring preparedness, rapid response, and effective management of medical emergencies.

The school recognizes that while in-person physical fitness testing is generally low-risk, any form of physical exertion can potentially trigger medical emergencies, including Sudden Cardiac Arrest. Sudden Cardiac Arrest is an abrupt and unexpected loss of heart function, which, if not treated within minutes, can result in death. Immediate action is essential, as survival rates decrease by 7% to 10% for every minute without intervention.

### Scope

This policy applies to any in-person physical activity-based event hosted or sponsored by the school, regardless of location, including but not limited to:

- State-mandated Physical Fitness Test (PFT).
- Field days or similar physical activity-based events.

### Emergency Recognition and Response

Before the event, the staff supervising physical activity-based events must be made aware of the signs and symptoms of SCA, which may include:

- Sudden collapse or fainting.
- Unresponsiveness when spoken to or gently shaken.
- Irregular, gasping, or absent breathing.
- No detectable pulse or heartbeat.

Quick recognition of these signs is critical to prompting emergency action.

To ensure a coordinated emergency response, the following roles will be assigned in advance and confirmed via staff email prior to each event:

- Emergency Response Point Person: Responsible for calling 911 and directing emergency personnel to the exact location of the incident.
- CPR Designee: Responsible for administering CPR or hands-only CPR until emergency responders arrive. This individual should be CPR-trained if possible.
- Site Lead: Ensures the area remains clear and safe for emergency responders and helps manage bystanders.

### Training and Equipment Considerations

While CPR certification is not legally required for all staff, the school will make an effort to have at least one adult trained in CPR present at any in-person physical activity-based event.



As a virtual charter school that does not own or operate an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), the school acknowledges that while not required to maintain an AED on-site, it remains committed to promoting the safety and well-being of all students during any in-person physical activity-based events.

To ensure staff are prepared to respond to Sudden Cardiac Arrest or other life-threatening emergencies, the school provides pre-event training (Sudden Cardiac Arrest Response Staff Training) for all personnel involved in supervising in-person physical activity-based events. This training includes recognition of SCA symptoms, immediate response procedures, and role-specific guidance for staff serving as the CPR Designee and Emergency Response Point Person.

### **Communication with Families**

Parents/guardians will be notified in advance of any in-person physical activity-based events and encouraged to inform the school of any relevant medical conditions or health concerns that may affect their child's safety during physical activity by emailing [testing@caliva.org](mailto:testing@caliva.org).

### **Policy Review and Compliance**

This policy fulfills the requirements of AB 2887 by ensuring that clear procedures are in place for responding to incidents involving SCA and other life-threatening medical emergencies during in-person physical activity-based events. The policy will be reviewed annually and after any real-life emergency to update procedures, reinforce training, and ensure compliance with the most current legal and medical guidance. Staff attendance at SCA briefings and notes from post-event debriefings will be documented and retained as part of event records to support future training and policy updates.

***Board Approved  
September 2025***