

McV ALERT
Installation of Automated External Defibrillators
in Private and Public Establishments
July 14, 2009

On July 1, 2009, the State Department approved the Regulation from the Health Department for the Installation of Automated External Defibrillators in Private and Public Establishments, Regulation No. 7715. The effective date of this Regulation is 180 days from its approval.

Given the importance of receiving prompt attention once a person suffers arrhythmia or cardiac arrest, this Regulation establishes the guidelines for the installation of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in certain private places, as required by Act 141 of August 1, 2008.

The establishments where the defibrillators must be installed are the following:

1. All public agencies, corporations or instrumentalities with 200 persons or more at the same time.
2. All transportation terminals with the capacity to serve or host 1,000 persons or more at the same time.
3. All sport centers and stadiums with the capacity to receive or host 500 persons or more at the same time.
4. All entertainment centers and theaters with the capacity to receive or host 500 persons or more at the same time.
5. All conference and exposition centers with the capacity to receive or host 500 persons or more at the same time.
6. All schools and universities with the capacity to receive or host 500 persons or more at the same time.
7. All industries, manufacturing plants, hotels and inns (“paradores”) with the capacity to receive or host 250 persons or more at the same time.
8. All shopping centers with the capacity to receive or host 250 persons or more at the same time. The stores, offices or businesses established within a shopping center are **not** required to have an additional AED.
9. Any other facility not listed above with the capacity to receive or host 500 persons or more at the same time.

If you are required to install an AED in your establishment, it must provide printed instructions in English **and** in Spanish; audio instructions in English **or** Spanish; and a mechanism which automatically advises the operator if the defibrillation is necessary.

You must also establish an action plan to implement the requirements of Regulation 7715. In said plan, you must consider or include:

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1. The size and age of the persons that work or visit your establishment.
2. The architectural layout of the establishment to determine if any barriers or structural problems exist that could limit access to the individuals trained to use the AED.
3. The detailed measures to be followed to guarantee that in case of an emergency requiring the use of the AED, there is a prompt response after the emergency has been identified.
4. The number of AEDs and the places where they will be located.
5. A drawing/map with the places where the AEDs are located.
6. The instructions manual for the use of the AEDs.
7. Printed materials produced to show the location of the AEDs and the operation of the equipment.
8. The trainings to 3 or more employees by the Agency for Medical Emergencies, the American Heart Association, or the Red Cross, among others.
9. The procedures for the maintenance and replacement of the AEDs, as required by the manufacturer.

Any person who is found to be in breach of the requirements of Regulation 7715 will be subject to an administrative penalty of no more than \$5,000 for the first violation and no more than \$10,000 for the second or more violations.

For additional details about the requirements of Regulation 7715, you may contact any of the attorneys listed below, all members of our Retail and Hospitality Industry Practice Teams.

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