

HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE BILL 54

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025

This document may incorporate amendments proposed by a committee, but not yet adopted, as well as amendments that have been adopted during the current legislative session. The document is a tool to show amendments in context and cannot be used for the purpose of adding amendments to legislation.

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; REQUIRING SCHOOLS TO DEVELOP  
CARDIAC EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS; REQUIRING EVERY ~~SEC~~**HIGH**~~SEC~~  
SCHOOL TO INSTALL AN AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**SECTION 1.** Section 22-33-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2014,  
Chapter 50, Section 1) is amended to read:

"22-33-1. SHORT TITLE.--~~[Sections 1 through 4 of this~~

.230039.4AIC March 12, 2025 (7:06pm)

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete  
Amendments: new = **→bold, blue, highlight←**  
**delete** = **→bold, red, highlight, strikethrough←**

~~act]~~ Chapter 22, Article 33 NMSA 1978 may be cited as the "Emergency Medication in Schools Act".

SECTION 2. Section 22-33-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2014, Chapter 50, Section 2) is amended to read:

"22-33-2. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Emergency Medication in Schools Act:

A. "albuterol" includes albuterol or another inhaled bronchodilator, as recommended by the department of health, for the treatment of respiratory distress;

B. "albuterol aerosol canister" means a portable drug delivery device packaged with multiple premeasured doses of albuterol;

C. "anaphylaxis" or "anaphylactic reaction" means a sudden, severe and potentially life-threatening whole-body allergic reaction;

D. "automated external defibrillator" means a medical device heart monitor and defibrillator that:

(1) has received approval of its premarket modification filed pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 360(k), from the United States food and drug administration;

(2) is capable of recognizing cardiac arrest that will respond to defibrillation, ventricular fibrillation or rapid ventricular tachycardia and is capable of determining whether defibrillation should be performed; and

(3) upon determining that defibrillation

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete  
Amendments: new = →bold, blue, highlight←  
delete = →bold, red, highlight, strikethrough←

should be performed, automatically charges and is capable of delivering an electrical impulse to an individual's heart;

~~[D.]~~ E. "emergency medication" means albuterol or epinephrine;

~~[E.]~~ F. "epinephrine" includes epinephrine or another medication, as recommended by the department of health, used to treat anaphylaxis until the immediate arrival of emergency medical system responders;

~~[F.]~~ G. "epinephrine auto-injector" means a portable, disposable drug delivery device that contains a premeasured single dose of epinephrine;

~~[G.]~~ H. "governing body" includes a governing body of a private school;

~~[H.]~~ I. "health care practitioner" means a person authorized by the state to prescribe emergency medication;

~~[I.]~~ J. "respiratory distress" includes impaired oxygenation of the blood or impaired ventilation of the respiratory system;

~~[J.]~~ K. "school" means a public school, charter school or private school;

~~[K.]~~ L. "spacer" means a holding chamber that is used to optimize the delivery of albuterol to a person's lungs;

~~[L.]~~ M. "stock supply" means an appropriate quantity of emergency medication, as recommended by the department of health; and

.230039.4AIC March 12, 2025 (7:06pm)

[M-] N. "trained personnel" means a school employee, agent or volunteer who has completed epinephrine administration training documented by the school nurse, school principal or school leader and approved by the department of health and who has been designated by the school principal or school leader to administer epinephrine on a voluntary basis outside of the scope of employment."

SECTION 3. A new section of the Emergency Medication in Schools Act is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] CARDIAC EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN--AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR.--

A. Each school shall develop and implement a cardiac emergency response plan that addresses the appropriate use of school personnel who are to respond to incidents involving a person experiencing a sudden cardiac arrest or a similar life-threatening emergency while on school grounds. Each cardiac emergency response plan shall:

(1) be developed and implemented using ~~SEC~~ ~~evidence-based guidelines~~ ~~SEC~~ ~~SEC~~ ~~core elements that are nationally recognized and evidence-based~~ ~~SEC~~ ;

(2) identify specific school personnel who will take action when a person experiences a sudden cardiac arrest or a similar life-threatening emergency;

(3) establish protocols for school personnel identified by the cardiac emergency response plan to follow

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete  
Amendments: new = bold, blue, highlight  
delete = bold, red, highlight, strikethrough

when a person experiences a sudden cardiac arrest or a similar life-threatening emergency;

(4) determine an appropriate location for an automated external defibrillator to be installed;

(5) provide for routine maintenance of the automated external defibrillator; and

(6) be updated when necessary to be consistent with evidence-based guidelines.

B. SEC → ~~No later than the beginning of the 2026-2027 school year, every high~~ ← SEC SEC → **Every** ← SEC school in the state shall install an automated external defibrillator. Installed automated external defibrillators shall be maintained and tested according to the manufacturer's operational guidelines.

C. No later than January 1, 2026, the department shall adopt and promulgate rules for the training of SEC → **high** ← SEC school employees on the use of automated external defibrillators in a manner consistent with standards adopted by the American heart association.

D. The requirements of SEC → ~~Subsection A~~ ← SEC SEC → **Subsections A and B** ← SEC of this section shall SEC → **apply** ← SEC SEC → **be fulfilled by all** ← SEC :

(1) SEC → ~~to all~~ ← SEC public non-charter high schools SEC → ~~beginning in the 2025-2026~~ ← SEC SEC → **no later than the 2026-2027** ← SEC school year; and

(2) SEC → **all** ← SEC elementary schools, middle

underscored material = new  
 [bracketed material] = delete  
 Amendments: new = → bold, blue, highlight ←  
 delete = → bold, red, highlight, strikethrough ←

schools, charter schools and private schools SEC→beginning in  
the 2026-2027←SEC SEC→no later than the 2027-2028←SEC school  
year."

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete  
Amendments: new = →bold, blue, highlight←  
delete = →bold, red, highlight, strikethrough←