Fast action is important in a sudden cardiac event. When someone passes out, is not breathing, or appears to be having a heart attack, moments make the difference between life and death.

To aid in a quick life-saving response, High Point University maintains a large collection of AEDs (Automated External Defibrillators) which are placed strategically throughout campus in high-traffic vehicles as well as Security vehicles.

AEDs are user-friendly, and can be applied to anyone that appears to be in cardiac arrest or is not breathing. The devices have the capability to jump-start the heart by sending an electrical pulse to the person’s heart. AEDs are responsible for thousands of lives saved each year nationally.

Using an AED is straightforward and the device will talk you through the process step-by-step. The AEDs on campus will analyze the patient’s cardiac rhythm when you apply the pads, and will deliver a shock if advised. Once you place the pads on the patient, step back and let the machine do its job.

**HOW TO USE THE AED**

**If you come across someone who appears to be in cardiac arrest or is not breathing:**

- Check to make sure the scene is safe to approach
- Is the person breathing? Is there a pulse? If no, get the AED and have someone **CALL 911 or 336-841-9111**
- Make sure the patient is not in a wet area; move them to a dry area
- Expose the person’s chest and remove any necklaces/jewelry. You may need to remove an underwire bra on the patient
- Put the adhesive pads on the person’s chest (the AED diagrams where to place each pad)
- Press the analyze button on the AED and stand back from the person while the AED scans for vital signs
- If a shock is advised, **STAY CLEAR** of the patient and have others back away too
- Press the SHOCK button
- **Start or resume CPR and stay with the patient until EMS arrives**

**MOST OF THE AEDS ON CAMPUS AT HPU ARE FULLY AUTOMATIC UNITS THAT DO NOT HAVE A SHOCK BUTTON—THE AED WILL SCAN FOR A SHOCKABLE RHYTHM AND DELIVER A SHOCK IF ADVISED. FOLLOW THE VOICE PROMPTS.**

**AED LOCATIONS**

There are 30 AEDs across campus. [Click here for a full list including detailed locations.](#)