




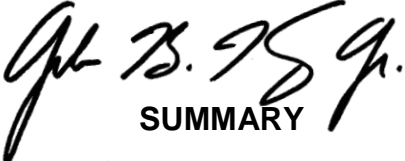
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

TO: P-12 Education Committee

FROM: Ken Wagner 

SUBJECT: Instruction in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and in the Use of Automated External Defibrillators

DATE: December 8, 2014

AUTHORIZATION(S): 
SUMMARY

Issue for Discussion

According to Chapter 417 of the Laws of 2014, which amended Section 305 of New York State Education Law, the Commissioner of Education must make a recommendation to the Board of Regents regarding a potential new mandate for required instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and in the use of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in senior high schools.

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by statute.

Background Information

During the 2014 legislative session, the Legislature passed and the Governor signed into law Chapter 417, which amended Section 305 of the Education Law to require the Commissioner of Education to make a recommendation to the Board of Regents regarding a potential new mandate for required instruction in CPR and the use of AEDs in senior high schools.

The statute, which took effect on October 21, 2014, requires that, prior to making this recommendation to the Board, the Commissioner must seek the recommendations of teachers, school administrators, teacher educators, others with educational expertise in such curriculum, as well as comments from parents, students, and other interested parties.

In addition, the Department must consider the fiscal impact of this mandate on the State and school districts, the amount of instructional time such curriculum would require and whether such time would detract from other mandated courses of study, and any additional factors the Commissioner deems relevant.

Since 1999, Education Law §804-c has authorized school districts to provide CPR instruction as part of the health curriculum. In addition to the requirement that all teachers of health education be certified to teach health, persons providing CPR instruction must possess valid certification in the performance and teaching of CPR. School districts that choose to offer CPR instruction under §804-c are required to provide the necessary facilities, time, learning aids, and curricular resource materials to support such course of study.

In addition, Education Law §804-d requires that senior high schools in which CPR instruction is provided pursuant to Education Law §804-c must include instruction regarding the correct use of AEDs. Individuals providing instruction in the correct use of AEDs must possess valid certification by a nationally recognized organization or the State emergency medical services council offering certification in the operation of an AED and in its instruction.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Regents direct Department staff to seek feedback on this potential mandate from teachers, school administrators, teacher educators, others with educational expertise in such curriculum, parents, students, and other interested parties prior to making a recommendation to the Board consistent with the legislative requirement.