



## Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) within University of Galway

<https://www.universityofgalway.ie/health-safety/emergencyinformation/>

### What is an AED?

It is a small, portable computerised device which reliably analyses heart rhythm and guides the operator through a series of visual and verbal prompts to deliver a shock if one is required. This electric shock can allow the heart to restart beating with a normal rhythm. Ideally the AED should be used within 3-5 minutes of the person collapsing. There are over 21 AEDs on Campus (see map link/overleaf). AEDs are also in place in on the Part & Ride buses; Áras Shorcha Ní Ghuairim, Carna, Áras Uí Chadhain, An Cheathru Rua and Shannon College of Hotel Management.

Role of the First Aid Responder (FAR):-	Role of the Bystander:-
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scene safety – ensure no personal risk</li><li>• Check response</li><li>• Shout for help - send for AED, another OFA, help from Bystander(s), Security ext. 3333</li><li>• Check breathing</li><li>• If required, start CPR (compressions first)</li><li>• Use AED as soon as it arrives – ensure safety of yourself and bystanders if giving shock (collapse not witnessed – 2 minutes CPR)</li><li>• After treatment – PHECC Form</li></ul> <p><b><i>Following training specifics as set out in the PHECC Clinical Practice Guidelines</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scene safety – ensure no personal risk</li><li>• Ring for cardiac ambulance (Red Card)</li><li>• Ring First Aid Responder(s) – ideally two</li><li>• Ring security ext. 3333</li><li>• Get the AED (On opening cabinet door, audible alarm will sound). <b><u>Familiarise yourself with all the AED locations now.</u></b></li><li>• Direct cardiac ambulance to location of casualty</li><li>• Manage other bystanders</li></ul>

**Head of Unit Role:** to ensure that there are personnel (both First Aid Responders and others) in place who are prepared to respond promptly to a cardiac or other emergency, and to co-ordinate this response i.e. that all staff know what to do!

### Is there a risk using an AED?

- Potentially the First Aid Responder
- Potentially any bystanders

**IF** they touch the casualty for the short period while the shock is being administered.

- No risk to the victim – AED will only allow shock where appropriate (only used on an **unconscious casualty who is not breathing**).

### So to avoid this risk:-

- Only trained personnel to use the equipment
- Signs (and sticker on cabinet) at equipment reinforcing this
- Shout and confirm “CLEAR” before shock given.