

**Our company is working on a plan to bring AEDs (Automatic External Defibrillators) into our plant. We have volunteers who will be trained to use these devices.**

**If you have an AED program in your plant, can you share what methods you have used to inform the rest of your employees about your program?**

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I am not sure of the size of this company, but we do CPR, First Aid, Blood Bourne Pathogens and AED Every two years with two sets of employees. So one set is being trained every year. This is a part of our safety program so the training is advertised and during practice evacuation drills the employees closest to the AED and first responder bags are trained to grab them as the exit the building. Safety for us is common knowledge.

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We encourage employees to become certified at the local Community College or through the American Heart Association courses. 20% of our employees are currently certified. We pay for their certifications.

They are instructed to call 911 first and then provide aid. We have maps in different areas that are used to determine which door the ambulance should come to and HR has records of the emergency contacts for each employee. Our fire station is less than a mile away so they arrive within 4-5 minutes at the maximum.

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We review a video on it once per year at one of our all-employee quarterly meetings. Everyone needs to be capable of using the AED. Once the unit is activated, the voice prompts walk the user through the process.

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We asked for volunteers in each shift to be trained in CPR and AED use. Have about 2-3 individuals trained per shift. A couple others had already been trained on CPR / AED use on their own through community programs.

Then installed AED in prominent locations and notified all employees via a Safety Minute Newsletter.

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I would suggest using the American Heart Association or American Red Cross for CPR training. The AED is effective without CPR and is part of CPR training. We have volunteers from each shift that want to be trained and want to be trained in CPR and the emergency response protocol.

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We don't currently have one, but would be interested if anyone knows of a program/grant to bring them in at a discount...

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If anyone in the Chicago area is looking for reputable CPR, First Aid, or AED training, one of my longtime friends runs a business that comes onsite to teach and certify.

More information can be found at [www.IllinoisSafety.com](http://www.IllinoisSafety.com)

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No such program is in place. Good idea (since we're all getting up there) and we will look forward to the feedback. Thanks GLGA!

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Employees are trained to respond with CPR/AED on a voluntary basis. Each year before the refresher, notices are posted informing all employees that there will be a 2-part training course for anyone interested in attending as a refresher course or a first-time attendee. Part one is basic first aid, part 2 is the CPR/AED session. Interested employees must be trained and follow the approved training criteria based on Red Cross recommendations administered by a contracted, certified instructor. To receive AED training, one must have adult CPR, which is renewed every two years along with the AED training. Both training topics must be renewed appropriately for one to participate in AED response.

(Name of company) offers training on a regular basis to meet the requirements of both the AED unit and CPR. The company publishes and posts a list of all personnel who are trained, and keeps that information current. Each trained person receives a certification card that is valid for 2 years.

Employees are also reminded in various annual and semi-annual training courses that there are employees trained in the use of the AED, and that responding to an emergency is strictly voluntary.

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*Editor's note: GLGA member ITU AbsorbTech offers an AED program:*  
<https://www.ituabsorbtech.com/programs/aed/> .

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