

SENATE BILL No. 500

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 20-34-8.

Synopsis: Cardiac arrest action plans. Requires a school corporation, charter school, and nonpublic school with at least one employee to develop a venue specific emergency action plan for sudden cardiac arrest, in consultation with an emergency medical services provider, for athletic activities or other extracurricular activities. (Current law provides that a school corporation, charter school, or state accredited nonpublic school may develop a venue specific emergency action plan.) Requires the department of education (department) to disseminate guidelines, information sheets, and forms to each nonpublic school with at least one employee, charter school, and school corporation for distribution to schools to inform and educate coaches, marching band leaders, officials designated by the applicable student's school entity, applicable students, and parents of applicable students of the nature and risk of sudden cardiac arrest to applicable students. (Current law requires the department to disseminate guidelines, information sheets, and forms to each state accredited nonpublic school, charter school, and each school corporation for distribution to schools to inform and educate coaches, marching band leaders, officials designated by the applicable student's school entity, applicable students, and parents of applicable students of the nature and risk of sudden cardiac arrest to applicable students.) Moves existing law that authorizes a school corporation, a charter school, a state accredited nonpublic school, or an accredited nonpublic school to apply for an Indiana secured school matching grant to purchase an automated external defibrillator to a new section. Makes various stylistic and conforming amendments. Repeals a definition of "school".

Effective: July 1, 2025.

Ford J.D.

January 14, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Education and Career Development.



First Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2025)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2024 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 500



A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 20-34-8-3 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
2 2025]. ~~Sec. 3: As used in this chapter, "school" refers to a public school~~
3 ~~and a state accredited nonpublic school.~~

4 SECTION 2. IC 20-34-8-3.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.187-2023,
5 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
6 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 3.5. As used in this chapter, "venue specific
7 emergency action plan for sudden cardiac arrest" means a plan
8 developed by a school corporation, charter school, or ~~state accredited~~
9 nonpublic school **that has at least one (1) employee** that:

10 (1) includes detailed instructions regarding how to respond to
11 sudden cardiac arrest; and

12 (2) indicates the location of the nearest automated external
13 defibrillator (AED) at the venue, **if applicable.**

14 SECTION 3. IC 20-34-8-3.7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
15 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
16 1, 2025]: **Sec. 3.7. A school corporation, charter school, and**
17 **nonpublic school with at least one (1) employee shall do the**



- 1 following:
- 2 (1) Develop a venue specific emergency action plan for sudden
- 3 cardiac arrest, in consultation with an emergency medical
- 4 services provider, for athletic activities that:
- 5 (A) establishes a goal of responding within three (3)
- 6 minutes to a sudden cardiac arrest occurring within the
- 7 venue; and
- 8 (B) requires the performance of periodic drills at times and
- 9 locations determined by the governing body.
- 10 (2) Distribute the plan described in subdivision (1) to the
- 11 governing body, or its equivalent.
- 12 (3) Share the plan described in subdivision (1) with a:
- 13 (A) head coach or assistant coach who coaches an athletic
- 14 activity;
- 15 (B) marching band leader;
- 16 (C) drama or musical leader;
- 17 (D) leader of an extracurricular activity in which students
- 18 have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest as
- 19 determined by the department in consultation with an
- 20 organization that specializes in the prevention of sudden
- 21 cardiac arrest; or
- 22 (E) school resource officer.
- 23 (4) Post the plan described in subdivision (1) in a conspicuous
- 24 place so that it is visible by any participants of an athletic
- 25 activity at the venue.
- 26 (5) Before the beginning of the season of each event in which
- 27 students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest,
- 28 share the plan described in subdivision (1) with all applicable
- 29 students.

30 SECTION 4. IC 20-34-8-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2021,
 31 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 32 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 5. (a) The department shall disseminate
 33 guidelines, information sheets, and forms to each ~~state accredited~~
 34 nonpublic school **with at least one (1) employee**, charter school, and
 35 ~~each~~ school corporation for distribution to schools to inform and
 36 educate coaches, marching band leaders, applicable students, and
 37 parents of applicable students of the nature and risk of sudden cardiac
 38 arrest to applicable students. The guidelines and information sheets
 39 must include the following information:

- 40 (1) The nature and warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest,
 41 including the risks associated with continuing to play or practice
 42 after experiencing one (1) or more symptoms of sudden cardiac



- 1 arrest, including:
 2 (A) fainting;
 3 (B) difficulty breathing;
 4 (C) chest pains;
 5 (D) dizziness; and
 6 (E) abnormal racing heart rate.
- 7 (2) Information about electrocardiogram testing, including the
 8 potential risks, benefits, and evidentiary basis behind
 9 electrocardiogram testing.
- 10 (b) The department:
 11 (1) may consult with an association, medical professionals, and
 12 others with expertise in diagnosing and treating sudden cardiac
 13 arrest; and
 14 (2) may request the assistance of an association in disseminating
 15 the guidelines, information sheets, and forms required under
 16 subsection (a).
- 17 (c) The department may disseminate the guidelines, information
 18 sheets, and forms required under this section in an electronic format
 19 and must be made available on the department's ~~Internet web site~~
 20 **website.**
- 21 SECTION 5. IC 20-34-8-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2021,
 22 SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 23 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 6. **(a) This section applies to a:**
 24 **(1) school corporation;**
 25 **(2) charter school; and**
 26 **(3) state accredited nonpublic school.**
- 27 **(b)** Each year, before beginning practice for an athletic activity, an
 28 applicable student and the applicable student's parent:
 29 (1) must be given the information sheet and form described in
 30 section 5 of this chapter; and
 31 (2) shall sign and return the form acknowledging the receipt and
 32 review of the information sheet to the applicable student's coach,
 33 marching band leader, or other official designated by the
 34 applicable student's school entity.
- 35 The coach, marching band leader, or other official designated by the
 36 applicable student's school entity shall maintain a file of the completed
 37 forms.
- 38 SECTION 6. IC 20-34-8-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2021,
 39 SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 40 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 7. **(a) This section applies to a:**
 41 **(1) school corporation;**
 42 **(2) charter school; and**



1 **(3) state accredited nonpublic school.**

2 **(b)** If an applicable student is suspected, as determined by a game
3 official, coach from the applicable student's team, licensed athletic
4 trainer, physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse,
5 licensed physician, marching band leader, or other official designated
6 by the applicable student's school entity, of experiencing a symptom of
7 sudden cardiac arrest in a practice for an athletic activity or in an
8 athletic activity:

9 (1) the applicable student shall be removed from practice or play
10 at the time that the symptom is identified; and

11 (2) the parent of the applicable student shall be notified of the
12 applicable student's symptoms.

13 SECTION 7. IC 20-34-8-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2024,
14 SECTION 396, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
15 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 9. (a) This section applies to:

16 **(1) a:**

17 **(A) school corporation;**

18 **(B) charter school; and**

19 **(C) state accredited nonpublic school; and**

20 **(2) a:**

21 **(A) ~~(1)~~ a** head coach or assistant coach who coaches an
22 athletic activity;

23 **(B) ~~(2)~~ a** marching band leader;

24 **(C) ~~(3)~~ a** drama or musical leader; or

25 **(D) ~~(4)~~ a** leader of an extracurricular activity in which students
26 have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest activity as
27 determined by the department in consultation with an
28 organization that specializes in the prevention of sudden
29 cardiac arrest.

30 **(b)** An individual described in subsection ~~(a)~~ **(a)(2)** shall complete
31 the sudden cardiac arrest training course offered by a provider
32 approved by the department in a manner specified by the state board
33 under IC 20-28-5.5-1 or IC 20-28-5.5-1.5. The sudden cardiac arrest
34 training course described in this subsection must include training in the
35 use of an automated external defibrillator (AED). An individual
36 described in subsection ~~(a)~~ **(a)(2)** may not coach or lead the event in
37 which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest until the
38 individual completes the training course required under this subsection.
39 The provider shall provide the school with a certificate of completion
40 to the school corporation, charter school, or state accredited nonpublic
41 school for each individual who completes a course under this
42 subsection.



1 (c) Each school corporation, charter school, or state accredited
 2 nonpublic school shall maintain all certificates of completion awarded
 3 under subsection (b) for each individual described in subsection ~~(a)~~
 4 **(a)(2)**.

5 (d) An individual described in subsection ~~(a)~~ **(a)(2)** who complies
 6 with this section and provides coaching or leadership services in good
 7 faith is not personally liable for damages in a civil action as a result of
 8 a sudden cardiac arrest incurred by an applicable student participating
 9 in an event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac
 10 arrest for which the head coach, assistant coach, marching band leader,
 11 drama or musical leader, or other applicable leader provided coaching
 12 or leadership services, except for an act or omission by the individual
 13 described in subsection ~~(a)~~ **(a)(2)** that constitutes gross negligence or
 14 willful or wanton misconduct.

15 (e) An individual described in subsection ~~(a)~~ **(a)(2)** may ensure that
 16 an operational automated external defibrillator (AED) is present at each
 17 event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest
 18 for which the individual described in subsection ~~(a)~~ **(a)(2)** is providing
 19 coaching or leadership.

20 (f) An automated external defibrillator (AED) described in
 21 subsection (e) may be:

- 22 (1) deployed in accordance with the venue specific emergency
 23 action plan for sudden cardiac arrest developed under ~~subsection~~
 24 ~~(f)~~; **section 3.7 of this chapter**;
- 25 (2) except as provided in subsection (g), located on the premises
 26 where the event in which students have an increased risk of
 27 sudden cardiac arrest occurs; and
- 28 (3) present for the duration of the event in which students have an
 29 increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest.

30 (g) One (1) automated external defibrillator (AED) may be shared
 31 by two (2) or more events in which students have an increased risk of
 32 sudden cardiac arrest if the following conditions are met:

- 33 (1) The events in which students have an increased risk of sudden
 34 cardiac arrest occur at the same time.
- 35 (2) The events in which students have an increased risk of sudden
 36 cardiac arrest occur in locations that are in close proximity to
 37 each other, as determined by the department.
- 38 (3) The automated external defibrillator (AED) is placed in a
 39 designated location that is between the events in which students
 40 have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest and meets the
 41 requirement of subsection (f)(3).
- 42 (4) Each individual described in subsection ~~(a)~~ **(a)(2)** who



1 conducts an event in which students have an increased risk of
 2 sudden cardiac arrest described in this subsection is aware of the
 3 designated location of the automated external defibrillator (AED).

4 (h) At each event in which students have an increased risk of sudden
 5 cardiac arrest, an individual described in subsection ~~(a)~~ **(a)(2)** may
 6 inform all individuals who are coaching or providing leadership at the
 7 event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest
 8 of the location of the automated external defibrillator (AED).

9 (i) A school corporation, charter school, and state accredited
 10 nonpublic school may ~~do the following~~:

11 ~~(1)~~ ensure that an automated external defibrillator (AED)
 12 described in subsection (e) is properly maintained.

13 ~~(2)~~ Develop a venue specific emergency action plan for sudden
 14 cardiac arrest that:

15 ~~(A)~~ establishes a goal of responding within three ~~(3)~~ minutes
 16 to a sudden cardiac arrest occurring within the venue; and

17 ~~(B)~~ requires the performance of periodic drills at times and
 18 locations determined by the governing body.

19 ~~(3)~~ Distribute the plan described in subdivision ~~(2)~~ to the school
 20 board.

21 ~~(4)~~ Share the plan described in subdivision ~~(2)~~ with each
 22 individual described in subsection ~~(a)~~.

23 ~~(5)~~ Post the plan described in subdivision ~~(2)~~ in a conspicuous
 24 place so that it is visible by any participants of an activity at the
 25 venue.

26 ~~(6)~~ Before the beginning of the season of each event in which
 27 students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest, share the
 28 plan described in subdivision ~~(2)~~ with all applicable students.

29 ~~(j)~~ A school corporation, a charter school, a state accredited
 30 nonpublic school (as defined in IC 20-18-2-18.7), or an accredited
 31 nonpublic school (as defined in IC 10-21-1-1) may apply for a grant
 32 under IC 10-21-1-2(a)(1)(C)(viii) to purchase an automated external
 33 defibrillator (AED) if the school corporation, charter school, state
 34 accredited nonpublic school or accredited nonpublic school develops
 35 a venue specific emergency action plan for sudden cardiac arrest.

36 SECTION 8. IC 20-34-8-10 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
 37 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
 38 1, 2025]: **Sec. 10. A school corporation, a charter school, a state
 39 accredited nonpublic school (as defined in IC 20-18-2-18.7), or an
 40 accredited nonpublic school (as defined in IC 10-21-1-1) may apply
 41 for a grant under IC 10-21-1-2(a)(1)(C)(viii) to purchase an
 42 automated external defibrillator (AED) if the school corporation,**



- 1 **charter school, state accredited nonpublic school, or accredited**
- 2 **nonpublic school develops a venue specific emergency action plan**
- 3 **for sudden cardiac arrest.**

