House Bill 27 - The Basics

In 2026 House Bill 27 passed and it includes changes that relate to health education in schools. **Key components are as follows:**

1. Hands-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is added to AS 14.30.360(a) to be encouraged in health education for K-12 schools.
2. DEED is required to adopt curricula for hands-only CPR based on current national, evidence-based emergency cardiovascular care guidelines for cardiopulmonary resuscitation
3. DEED shall determine which grade levels in which appropriate curricula hands-only CPR should be taught
4. Eligible people to teach the skills are as follows:
    - a current cardiopulmonary resuscitation instructor certificate
    - a license or certificate to provide emergency medical services under AS 18.08.082
    - a current teacher with a certificate issued under AS 14.20
5. A public-school providing instruction to students in grades for which this curriculum has been adopted shall offer instruction **if practicable**.
6. This takes effect July 1, 2027.

What's happening

DEED and partners in the Department of Health, UAA and The American Heart Association - Alaska are meeting to develop a list of curricula from which districts may select. Some curricula may have additional training requirements to be qualified to provide hands-only CPR instruction.

If there are curricula that you are using or would like to use, we want to hear from you so that we can make the transition in July smoothly. (see survey link below)

DEED has looked at other states that have similar laws and found various guidelines for the frequency/grade level of instruction. Some examples are below:

- Students who enter high school at the 9th grade level
- At least once while the student is enrolled in grades 9 - 12
- Part of health education curriculum before graduation
- Curriculum for students in grades 7 through 12

House Bill 27–Hands-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation education for students

We would like to know what your recommendations are for DEED as we consider the frequency/grade level of instruction to be selected by December 15, 2026. (see survey link below)

There has been significant work by American Heart Association – Alaska distributing full kits to about 120 number of schools or communities across the state. UAA and American Heart Association are working to develop a cadre of trainers that can teach hands-only CPR and/or support teachers doing the instruction.

A website with information is planned to be available from DEED in February with resource links and other important information. There may be opportunities in the spring for more web-based meetings if desired.

We would like to offer you two informational meetings for you to meet people from supportive organizations to explain resources available as well as provide time for feedback to us on what you need and want related to this statute.

Informational Meetings (two opportunities – same agenda)

Date: December 2, 2026

Time: Noon – 1:00 PM

Zoom Link: https://education-alaska-gov.zoom.us/j/89531782174?pwd=VTY9X8pfpMWH2qMQyoDATutA84dMKM.1

Date: December 9, 2026

Time: 11:00 AM- Noon

Zoom Link: https://education-alaska-gov.zoom.us/j/86709327443?pwd=pILZ1aH6bAOfGuJlU3Slv93O32B8qF.1

FEEDBACK SURVEY: Link here

If you have any questions, please contact Pat Sidmore at pat.sidmore@alaska.gov