What the Bill Requires

- Beginning with the 2015-2016 Ninth Grade class, an instructional component on the proper administration of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) shall be included as part of the physical education or health education curriculum.

- The curriculum shall incorporate into the instruction the psychomotor skills necessary to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation and use of an automated external defibrillator. The term “psychomotor skills” means the use of hands-on practicing to support cognitive learning. Cognitive-only training does not qualify as “psychomotor skills.”

- The instruction should include an instructional program developed by the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross. The instructional program should be nationally recognized and be based on the most current national evidence-based Emergency Cardiovascular Care guidelines for cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator.

- A licensed teacher shall not be required to be a certified trainer of cardiopulmonary resuscitation, to facilitate, provide or oversee instruction for non-certification of students.

- CPR Certification is not required, but when seeking certification, the training must be taught by an authorized CPR/AED instructor.

- The State Department of Education shall establish a procedure for monitoring adherence by school boards to the requirements set forth in this law.

- Beginning in school year 2015-2016, schools who are monitored for their implementation of health and wellness policies and procedures, will be expected to provide evidence that CPR is being taught. This evidence will include lesson plans and class rolls.

- Implementation of this law begins in July 2015.

Best Practice

The best practice for a district CPR program would include collaboration of health teachers, physical education teachers, school nurses and medical personnel in the school community. A determination should be made as to who will provide the instruction and which curriculum will be used.
Consideration of appropriate classroom space and teaching resources, that allow for the practicing of CPR and AED techniques, will be required and should be considered when planning for implementation.

Accommodations should be made so that students with limited physical abilities can participate in the “hands-on” psychomotor skills portion of the training.

Although the law does not require that the CPR instructor be certified, a best practice would be to have a certified CPR instructor to administer the training.

The local School Health Council should update the local school wellness plan to include a statement relating to the CPR requirement and how it will be instructed. This statement should appear in the Physical Activity/Physical Education section and the Health Education of the policy. The School Health Council can use the Local Wellness Policy Guide for Development found at http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/ohs/home as a reference.

**Available Resources:**

The Office of Healthy Schools has provided two (2) lesson plans, a CPR/AED PowerPoint and other resources for teaching CPR. These can be found on the Office of Healthy Schools website at http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/ohs/home under Hot Topics.

Contemporary Health Curriculum (9-12) can be found at http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/ohs/home and it includes the American Heart Association Guidelines for teaching CPR in the Safety and First Aid Unit 9, page 60.

American Heart Association Guidelines –http://bethebeat.heart.org/ (click on Lesson Plans)

American Red Cross – http://www.redcross.org – click on Health and Safety Training Education

American Safety and Health Institute – http://www.hsi.com – click on Take a Student Course

**Assess Your Situation:**

Questions that you will want to answer:

1. Who will provide the instruction?
2. Which curriculum will be used?
3. Where will we get the needed resources and equipment?
4. What space in our facility will be adequate for the instruction of hands-on CPR and AED instruction?
5. Do we want our students to receive certification and do we have a certified instructor to provide the certification training?
6. Who will pay the cost of student certification if that path is chosen?

Contact the Office of Healthy Schools (601-359-1737) if you have further questions.