






HeartSafe Designation & Rating System

A HeartSafe program's rating and designation will be calculated using the following focused assessment criteria and five program categories.

Each of the focus areas below earn 1 heart per category, based upon information provided. Any HeartSafe program can earn up to 5 hearts. The number of accumulated hearts will determine the level of rating the program achieves. HeartSafe designations can change over time and be upgraded upon request with an application resubmission at any time, if they are assigned lower than a 5 heart rating. The rating will be reviewed as needed (if an upgrade is desired), or at least every 3 years once a five heart designation rating is achieved.

CATEGORY ONE: TRAINING FOCUS	
	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) & Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Education. Regularly occurring training sessions for CPR and automated external defibrillator (AED) use are being conducted in the community. This training improves early recognition of heart attack or sudden cardiac arrest signs & symptoms and allows for more immediate calling of 9-1-1 or the designated emergency number and reinforces early CPR and quick use of any nearby automated external defibrillation (AED).
CATEGORY TWO: PUBLIC AND PRIVATE AED PLACEMENT FOCUS	
	Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) Placements. AEDs are placed in public and private locations that are key areas for improving community AED response times, and with public safety and designated first responders (usually law enforcement officials) to improve access to early defibrillation while waiting for EMS or 9-1-1 advanced care to arrive. Written Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) and community-wide AED protocols are established, implemented into training, and communicated and reviewed on a regular basis.
CATEGORY THREE: ADVANCED CARE LIFE SUPPORT (ACLS) FOCUS	
	Advanced Care or EMS Care Involvement. Advanced care is engaged (including dispatch 9-1-1 centers) in improving survival rates and a lead organization is designated that will oversee the HeartSafe initiatives. Advanced care life support (ACLS) personnel are arriving early on scene to assist and use any advanced care or specialty ACLS equipment (including 12 lead ECG or manual defibrillators and other monitoring or compression assist devices) due to being dispatched to sudden cardiac arrest and heart attack events quickly. Advanced care is also engaged in preventing SCA, and improving plus evaluating cardiovascular health in the community. This includes ready access to screenings and counseling for risk reduction or referral to quality physician for followup care.
CATEGORY FOUR: TECHNOLOGY FOCUS	
	Updated Technology Involvement. Technology is used to monitor and ensure continual upkeep the health and well being of the Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) or pertinent AED program. Information produced by the technology tools or in the technology solutions enables appropriate levels of transparency of program data and sharing of information with all PAD program administrators or other stakeholders and use by the PAD participants, as appropriate. Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival (CARES) registry database systems are engaged locally, that allow use by all entities and enforce the tracking of data for any AED use and CPR event, enabling continuous quality improvement.
CATEGORY FIVE: MOBILE TECHNOLOGY & SOCIAL MEDIA FOCUS	
	Mobile & Phone Technology Notifications. Technology is engaged by designated dispatch systems (including Public Safety Answering Points or PSAPs for zones or communities applying) and appropriate alerting parties that use computers and mobile devices and/or smart phones/iPhones® social media, messaging, or other pushed/call notifications to improve communication regarding an emergency in progress and improve response times for CPR and AED use.