



STATE OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF GENERAL SERVICES
John C. Egan, COMMISSIONER

Heather Groll - Public Affairs Office
(518) 474-5987
heather.groll@ogs.state.ny.us
<http://www.ogs.state.ny.us>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
June 1, 2010

50th ANNIVERSARY OF CPR FINDS MORE THAN 1600 STATE EMPLOYEES TRAINED *Office of General Services Program Promotes Defibrillator and CPR Training*

New York State Office of General Services (OGS) Commissioner, John C. Egan, today announced that more than 1600 state employees have been trained to provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and to use automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in the event of sudden cardiac arrest. This year marks the 50th anniversary of CPR training nationwide and the United States Congress has designated June 1 – 7 as National Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Awareness Week. The American Heart Association in Albany will celebrate CPR Week with a ceremony on June 3.

“Installing AEDs in state operated buildings and offering our employees training in their use along with CPR training is an important step to increase the survival rate for victims of sudden cardiac arrest,” Commissioner Egan said. “I am extremely pleased that more than 1,600 state employee responders have stepped up to the plate and taken the initiative to become proficient in these important life-saving skills.”

“We know that starting CPR immediately when someone suffers cardiac arrest doubles or triples the chances of survival,” said Bob Elling, paramedic and member of the American Heart Association Capital Region Advisory Board. “The state Office of General Services employs and comes in contact with huge numbers of New Yorkers every day, and we commend them for teaching so many of their staff how to perform CPR and use the AEDs they’ve installed in their buildings statewide.”

Chapter 510 of the Laws of 2004 and Part 303 of Title 9 of the Rules and Regulations of the State of New York (NYCRR) requires all public institutions and buildings of the state, including leased facilities, to be equipped with automatic external defibrillators (AEDs).

OGS has the responsibility to oversee the management of this important program. The AED program is an initiative that will benefit the people of the State of New York by providing an extra layer of emergency response to those who work in or visit many state facilities.

Founded in 1924, the American Heart Association is the nation's oldest and largest voluntary health organization dedicated to building healthier lives, free of heart disease and stroke. These diseases, America's No. 1 and No. 3 killers, and all other cardiovascular disease, claim nearly 870,000 lives per year.

OGS provides a broad range of core services that facilitate the operations of state and local governments in areas such as: property management, design and construction, procurement and essential support services.

###