

NALOXONE

in Schools FAQ

WHY *is it important for schools to have naloxone available?*

According to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data, overdose deaths among adolescents (aged 10-19 years) have increased significantly since 2019, particularly those involving fentanyl. According to [NC School Health Services Report](#), during the 2022-23 school year, naloxone was administered 21 times by school staff or a School Resource Officer due to a suspected overdose that occurred on a school campus. This is a 50% increase from 2021-22 when 14 doses were administered. Naloxone is a safe, effective, and life-saving antidote to opioid overdose that should be accessible for emergency use in school settings.

WHERE *should naloxone be stored?*

Each school should store naloxone in a secure but unlocked location that is easily accessible to individuals trained to administer the medication. The manufacturer's recommendations for storage should be followed.



WHO *can administer naloxone in a school setting?*

Best practice is for personnel who have received training and information on how to administer the opioid antagonist to administer naloxone according to local policy and procedures. School systems that obtain naloxone using the State Health Director's standing order or using a written prescription by a private provider may administer naloxone as described in G.S. § 90-12.7 (d).

School systems that choose to make naloxone available via [NC BON Standing Orders](#) written by their physician advisor or local health department provider, should keep in mind that such an order could only be implemented by the school nurse and is not delegable to unlicensed assistive personnel (UAP).



WHAT *policies or standing orders are required?*

School systems should develop a very clear policy and procedures on naloxone administration. Collaboration between school nurses, administration, school legal authority, and other staff is encouraged.

WHERE can I find resources or templates?

Resources to assist with writing local policies, procedures and protocols are available in the [National Association of School Nurses \(NASN\) Naloxone in Schools Toolkit](#), [NC Naloxone Distribution Toolkit](#), [SAMHSA Toolkit](#), [Arizona Department of Health Services](#), and [Minnesota Department of Health School Toolkit](#). Templates for standing orders can be found on the [NC Public Health Pharmacy website](#).

Am I protected legally if I administer NALOXONE IN SCHOOLS?

G.S. § 90-12.7 (e) provides civil and criminal immunity to individuals administering naloxone if they have good faith belief that the other person is experiencing a drug-related overdose. Licensed individuals are held to standards reflective of their positions.



WHERE can I obtain naloxone?

Naloxone can be obtained through pharmaceutical wholesalers/retailers, as well as directly from the manufacturer for some products.

You can also work with your local health department or LME/MCO which may have grant funding available for naloxone.

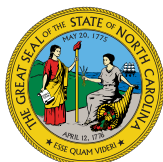


Is there a specific naloxone TRAINING CURRICULUM REQUIRED?

There is no specialized training curriculum required by law; however, on a practical basis, training should cover how to recognize signs of an overdose and respond to an overdose, including administration of naloxone and calling 911.

WHO can I contact if I have additional questions?

Please contact your Regional School Health Consultant here: <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/shnc-map-12-2022pdf/open>



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