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Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
Chris Reykdal, Superintendent

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() Action Required
(X) Informational

BULLETIN NO. 006-20 STUDENT ENGAGEMENT & SUPPORT

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents
School District Superintendents
School District Business Managers
Public Charter Schools
Tribal Compact Schools
School District Directors
School Principals
School Nurse Supervisors

FROM: Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: New Guidance and Training on Opioid Use Disorder

CONTACT: Nicole Klein, PhD, RN, NCSN, Program Supervisor, Health Services
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PURPOSE/BACKGROUND

On May 13, 2019, Governor Inslee signed into law Substitute Senate Bill 5380, which requires school districts with 2000 students or more to obtain and maintain at least one set of opioid overdose reversal medication doses in each of its high schools. The bill will go into effect in the 2020–21 school year. This legislation added sections [28A.210.390](#) and [28A.210.395](#) to chapter [28A.210 RCW](#). On August 28, the State Health Officer issued a statewide standing order for naloxone that “shall be considered a naloxone prescription for an eligible person or entity. This standing order authorizes any eligible person or entity in the state of Washington to possess, store, deliver, distribute or administer naloxone.”

To prevent opioid-related overdoses and respond to medical emergencies resulting from overdoses, by January 1, 2020, the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), in consultation with the Department of Health (DOH) and the Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA), shall develop opioid-related overdose policy guidelines and training requirements for public schools and school districts. The opioid-related overdose policy guidelines and training requirements must include information about:

- The identification of opioid-related overdose symptoms.
- How to obtain and maintain opioid overdose reversal medication on school property issued through a standing order.
- How to obtain opioid overdose reversal medication through donation sources.
- The distribution and administration of opioid overdose reversal medication by designated trained school personnel.
- Free online training resources that meet the training requirements in this section.
- Sample standing orders for opioid overdose reversal medication.

REQUIREMENTS FOR DISTRICTS

Beginning in the 2020–21 school year, the following school districts must adopt an opioid-related overdose policy:

- School districts with 2000 or more students.
- School districts with a school that obtains, maintains, distributes, or administers opioid overdose reversal medication.

A school district with 2000 or more students must obtain and maintain at least one set of opioid overdose reversal medication doses in each of its high schools. A school district that demonstrates a good faith effort to obtain the opioid overdose reversal medication through a donation source, but is unable to do so, is exempt from the requirement in the law.

The following personnel may distribute or administer the school-owned opioid overdose reversal medication to respond to symptoms of an opioid-related overdose pursuant to a prescription or a standing order issued in accordance with RCW 69.41.095:

- A school nurse.
- A health care professional or trained staff person located at a health care clinic on public school property or under contract with the school district.
- Designated trained school personnel.

Opioid overdose reversal medication may be used on school property, including the school building, playground, and school bus, as well as during field trips or sanctioned excursions away from school property. A school nurse or designated trained school personnel may carry an appropriate supply of school-owned opioid overdose reversal medication on field trips or sanctioned excursions.

Training for school personnel who have been designated to distribute or administer opioid overdose reversal medication must meet the requirements for training described in the statute and any rules or guidelines for such training adopted by OSPI. Each high school is encouraged to designate and train at least one school personnel to distribute and administer opioid overdose reversal medication if the high school does not have a full-time school nurse or trained health care clinic staff.

KEY POINTS

- The Opioid-Related Overdose Policy Guidelines & Training in the School Setting is available for school districts and can be found at <https://www.k12.wa.us/student-success/health-safety/physical-health-nursing-services/health-services-resources>.
- Schools unable to obtain the opioid overdose reversal medication through a donation source shall have written documentation and maintain on file evidence a good faith effort has been made.
- Districts may use the state standing order or acquire one from another source.
- Districts must use model policy or create their own, however, it must, at a minimum include language in the model policy.
- Training must address the minimum content outlined in the guidelines and training manual (Attachment 1).
- Each high school should have a least one designated and trained staff.
- Training for designated staff shall occur annually prior to the beginning of each school year and throughout the school year as needed.
- The registered professional nurse may also train designated school staff.

INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

For questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Nicole Klein, Health Services Program Supervisor, at 360-725-6040 or email health.services@k12.wa.us. The OSPI TTY number is 360-664-3631. This bulletin is also available on the [Bulletins and Memoranda](#) page of the OSPI website.

Michaela W. Miller, Ed.D, NBCT
Deputy Superintendent

Martin Mueller
Assistant Superintendent
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CR:nk

Attachment 1: Opioid-Related Overdose Policy Guidelines & Training in the School Setting

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