

William Paterson University Policy

University Policy

SUBJECT:	University Policy	TITLE:	Naloxone (Narcan) Public Access Distribution		
CATEGORY: Check One	Board of Trustees <input type="checkbox"/>	University <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Functional <input type="checkbox"/>	School/Unit <input type="checkbox"/>	
Responsible Executive:	President and Cabinet Members		Responsible Offices:	University Police and Counseling, Health and Wellness Center	
CODING:	00-01-	ADOPTED:	01/31/24	AMENDED:	

LAST REVIEWED: 01/31/24

I. PURPOSE

This policy, supported by the NJ Overdose Prevention Act, provides guidelines regarding public access availability of naloxone (Narcan®), which should be administered in suspected opioid overdose. This policy applies to the William Paterson University faculty, staff, students and visitors providing access to naloxone kits available in all AED boxes on campus.

II. ACCOUNTABILITY

- The Director of Counseling, Health and Wellness Center is the primary liaison for the Department of Human Services (DHS) Narcan Direct Program.
- University Police Department will support AED/Narcan distribution.

III. APPLICABILITY

This policy pertains to the WP university community including; employees, students, visitors and community members.

IV. DEFINITION(S)

- **"Opioid antidote"** as "any drug, regardless of dosage amount or method of administration which has been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the treatment of an opioid overdose. Opioid antidote includes, but is not limited to naloxone hydrochloride, in any dosage amount, which is administered through nasal spray or any other FDA-approved means or methods."
- **Naloxone** is the generic form of Narcan ®. Naloxone is a medication used to reverse an opioid overdose. Opioid prescription or illicit drugs can cause an overdose and may result in death. Naloxone is a safe, effective and easy to use medication that is successful in reversing an overdose, if used in a timely manner.
- **"Drug overdose"** means "an acute condition including, but not limited to, physical illness, coma, mania, hysteria, diminished consciousness, respiratory depression, or death resulting from the consumption or use of a controlled dangerous substance or another substance with which a controlled dangerous substance was combined and that a layperson would reasonably believe to require medical assistance."

V. BACKGROUND

The State of New Jersey legislature enacted the Overdose Prevention Act (P.L. 2021 c.152) with the specific purpose of ensuring that access to opioid antidotes be made as easily accessible and as widely available as possible, such that they are readily available at all times to provide treatment to people experiencing a suspected opioid overdose. The Department of Human Services, in partnership with the Department of Health (DOH) and the State Attorney General's Office, has established the Naloxone Direct Program (State Program) to operationalize the legislation.

New Jersey's new law requires the Commissioner of Health or Deputy Commissioner for Public Health Services to issue two statewide standing orders:

- A standing order authorizing any person to distribute free opioid antidotes;
- A standing order authorizing licensed pharmacists to dispense an opioid antidote to any individual or entity.
- On August 31, 2021, the New Jersey Department of Health issued a standing order accomplishing both mandates.

VI. REFERENCE(S) (optional)

1. <https://njharmreduction.org/naloxone-access/>
2. Department of Human Services Standing Order: 2nd REVISED STANDING ORDER TO DISTRIBUTE OPIOID ANTIDOTE FOR OVERDOSE PREVENTION; CONTROL NUMBER: 2021-02 (2nd Revised)
3. NJ Overdose Prevention Act of 2021 (N.J.S.A. § 24:6J –1)
4. <https://dmhas.dhs.state.nj.us/NDP>

VII. POLICY

A. Requirements: This policy is an addendum to the William Paterson University Public Access AED Program Police Policy and provides guidelines for the non-first responders or community members for Naloxone (Narcan) Public Distribution.

B. Responsibilities:

- The Director of Counseling, Health and Wellness Center is the primary liaison for the Department of Human Services (DHS) Narcan Direct Program. In this role, they will be responsible for marketing, distribution and allocation of all naloxone kits. As directed by DHS participating agencies must comply with all provisions of the Overdose Prevention Act, including but not limited to the statutory requirements regarding distribution and administration of an opioid antidote, training, the dissemination of certain information and necessary documentation. Counseling, Health and Wellness Center will provide training to the community on the use of naloxone for the prevention of overdose deaths.
- The University Police department inspects AED boxes periodically and if any kits are missing or expired, they will notify the Director of Counseling Health and Wellness Center to obtain replacement.

VIII. PROCEDURE(S)

- Public access of naloxone kits will be available in all university AED cabinets. Cabinets are labeled on the outside with a sticker "Narcan" which would draw attention to the contents in the boxes. An infographic with instructions will be available at each AED cabinet. A tracking system for distribution will ensure that no medications are expired and will identify when kits need to be replaced. Any party that administers Naloxone (Narcan) should be calling 911 for further assistance. It is also recommended that individuals that have been given naloxone should be transported to nearest hospital via ambulance.
- If police or EMS respond to an incident where Narcan was administered; a police report will be sent to Director of CHWC for review. Police are instructed to leave behind another kit to individuals that have had an overdose.

- Any student that would like to obtain a Narcan kit for personal use can request one by making an appointment with the Alcohol and Drug Counselor at CHWC.

IX. EXHIBIT(S)

- Good Samaritan Law protects individuals for naloxone administration to someone who they in good faith believe to be experiencing an opioid-related overdose. “The new law explicitly states that prescribers and other health care providers are immune from civil and criminal liability and professional discipline for prescribing or dispensing an opioid antidote. An individual is immune from civil and criminal liability and professional discipline for distributing or administering an opioid antidote in good faith”
<https://njharmreduction.org/naloxone-access/>

By Direction of the President and Cabinet:

Date: 01/31/24

Vice President for Student Development