

Policy Code: 5023-6128-7268 Emergency Use of Naloxone

The Wake County Board of Education seeks to minimize and prevent opioid misuse. An intervention that reduces overdose deaths is naloxone, a drug antagonist that reverses the effects of opioids and can be lifesaving in the event of an opioid overdose.

This policy addresses the administration of emergency naloxone under a non-patient specific prescription. Student-specific prescriptions for naloxone are addressed in Policy 6125 Administering Medicines to Students.

Designated trained school personnel who have a good faith belief that any person is suffering from an opioid overdose are authorized to administer emergency naloxone to that person so long as they do so with reasonable care. For purposes of this policy, school personnel exercise reasonable care in the administration of naloxone if they follow basic instructions and information on its use, such as manufacturer instructions included in the package. The superintendent or designee is authorized to develop a naloxone program to secure naloxone devices to be placed at schools, early learning centers, and central services locations for this purpose, consistent with applicable legal requirements. Naloxone devices will be stored in secure but unlocked and easily accessible locations.

Each school principal shall designate one or more school personnel, as part of the medical care program under [G.S. 115C-375.1](#), to receive initial training and annual retraining from a school nurse or qualified representative of the local health department regarding the storage and emergency use of naloxone devices. The training shall include basic instruction and information on how to administer naloxone. Only such trained personnel are authorized to administer naloxone to persons believed to be having an overdose reaction. The principal shall make reasonable efforts to notify other school staff members as to which employee(s) has received training to facilitate a prompt emergency response.

Each school principal, in collaboration with appropriate school personnel, shall create an emergency action plan for the use of naloxone that complies with all state law requirements. Principals are encouraged to include in the plan school-wide employee training in recognizing symptoms of opioid overdose.

This policy does not require emergency naloxone to be available at activities held off school grounds during or after the school day, including field trips or off-site athletic events, or during transportation to or from school, except as may be required pursuant to an individual student's IEP, Section 504 Plan, or health or emergency plan.

This policy also does not guarantee availability of naloxone devices at school, and students and parents/guardians should consult with their own physician(s) regarding such medication(s). Nothing in this policy should be construed to require the presence or use of naloxone on school property or at school sponsored events, unless otherwise required by law. The Board cannot and does not guarantee that naloxone or a person trained in its use will be available at any particular school site or school-sponsored event.

The Board and its employees expressly reserve all immunities from civil liability which are available to them under state or federal law, including governmental immunity and the statutory immunities set forth in [North Carolina General Statutes 115C-375.1](#), [90-12.7](#), and [90-96.2](#).

Legal References: [G.S. 115C-375.1](#); [G.S. 90-12.7\(e\)](#), [-96.2](#).

Adopted:

Wake County Board of Education