

# How to Order Naloxone (Narcan)

Naloxone is ordered through California Department of Healthcare Services' [Naloxone Distribution Project \(NDP\)](#). The Naloxone Distribution Project (NDP) is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and administered by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to combat opioid overdose-related deaths throughout California. The NDP aims to reduce opioid overdose deaths through the provision of free naloxone, in its nasal spray formulation. Through the NDP, qualified organizations and entities are able to request free naloxone from DHCS and have it directly shipped to their address.

## What is Naloxone?

Naloxone is a life-saving medication that reverses an opioid overdose while having little to no effect on an individual if opioids are not present in their system. Naloxone works by blocking the opioid receptor sites, reversing the toxic effects of the overdose. Naloxone requires a prescription but is not a controlled substance. It has few known adverse effects, and no potential for abuse. Naloxone is administered when a patient is showing signs of opioid overdose.



## What types of organizations are eligible to apply for the NDP?

DHCS provides free naloxone to organizations and entities eligible to administer or distribute naloxone through a California Public Health standing order. Examples include: • First responders • Emergency medical services • Fire authorities • Law enforcement, courts, & criminal justice partners • Veteran organizations • Homeless programs • Schools & universities • Libraries • Religious entities • Community organizations

## How can entities in California apply to the NDP

Visit: [https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/individuals/Pages/Naloxone\\_Distribution\\_Project.aspx](https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/individuals/Pages/Naloxone_Distribution_Project.aspx)

Complete the [Naloxone Distribution Project \(NDP\) Application](#)

As part of the application, you must have a Standing Order. You can obtain one by clicking here: [Standing Order Application](#). It's free and you will receive it same-day.

## How do I Train my Staff?

Administering Naloxone is quite simple and safe. Many law enforcement, EMS, fire departments and healthcare professionals give demonstrations. You can also access an '[Administering Naloxone – Training Video](#)' provided by CA Department of Public Health.

## Anything Else I Should Know?

Although Naloxone is extremely safe, a person giving/administering Naloxone is protected under California's Good Samaritan Law and AB 472.

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This information is provided by the [Sacramento County Substance Use Prevention and Treatment Unit](#).

If you would like to receive information about adult or youth treatment and prevention services, please contact us at (916) 875-2050 or email: [DHS-SUPT@saccounty.net](mailto:DHS-SUPT@saccounty.net)

