

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

NO-COST NALOXONE DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM



What is naloxone?

- Naloxone is a medicine that can rapidly reverse an opioid overdose. Naloxone works by blocking the effects of opioids, including heroin, fentanyl, and prescription opioid medications.
- Naloxone is safe. Even if naloxone is given to someone who is not experiencing an overdose, it will not harm them.
- Naloxone is available in different formulations, the most common being naloxone nasal spray.

What is the VDH No-Cost Naloxone Distribution Program?

- Virginia Department of Health (VDH) distributes no-cost naloxone to **high-impact organizations** that serve **people who are at high risk** for experiencing or witnessing an opioid overdose. This includes people who use drugs (PWUD), family members, friends or coworkers of PWUD, and people who work directly with PWUD. This strategy is outlined in the [Virginia Plan for Distribution and Saturation of Naloxone](#) (published in 2024).
- Organizations that receive naloxone from VDH can maintain a stock of naloxone on-site for emergency use in the case of a suspected overdose and/or to distribute directly to high-risk individuals.
- If your organization also serves individuals that are not eligible to receive no-cost naloxone (e.g., the general public), consider recommending alternative ways to access naloxone. Individuals can purchase over-the-counter (OTC) naloxone at community pharmacies or local retailers, access prescription naloxone from a healthcare provider, or access it from a pharmacy using the [Statewide Standing Order for Naloxone and Other Opioid Reversal Agents](#). Organizations that receive naloxone from VDH are **not** permitted to distribute it to other organizations.

What organizations are eligible to receive naloxone through this program?

- ✓ Authorized [comprehensive harm reduction sites](#)
- ✓ Community services boards
- ✓ Local health departments
- ✓ First responders
 - law enforcement agencies, fire service organizations, licensed emergency medical services (EMS) agencies, jails and correctional facilities, state, regional, or local probation and parole offices
- ✓ Public K-12 school divisions
- ✓ Public universities (campus recovery programs)
- ✓ High-impact community partners
 - treatment and recovery centers, rehabilitation facilities, homeless services providers, public libraries, free clinics and FQHCs, and other community-based organizations that serve high-risk populations

Eligibility criteria are subject to change.

How can I access naloxone for my organization from VDH?

- Access the application for a naloxone agreement through the [Pharmacy Partner Hub](#).
- Once the application is reviewed by VDH, an agreement will be sent for signature via Box Sign.
- The organization point-of-contact will be prompted to set up a user account in the Pharmacy Partner Hub and add additional account users as needed.
- Once the agreement is fully executed, your organization may order naloxone using your Pharmacy Partner Hub account.
- Additional resources are available on the [VDH Naloxone for Community Partners Webpage](#).

