

# EMS and Naloxone



In accordance with [RCW 69.41.095](#) (SSB 5380 Opioid Use Disorder, 2019) any person or entity may obtain, possess, and administer Naloxone. The law defines first responders to include all levels of certified EMS providers. This means emergency medical responder (EMR), emergency medical technician (EMT), advanced emergency medical technician (AEMT), and paramedic level certified EMS personnel may obtain, possess, and administer Naloxone.

The Washington State Department of Health has established a statewide standing order to dispense and deliver Naloxone. You can find the standing order at:

<https://doh.wa.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/Documents/Pubs/150-127-StatewideStandingOrderToDispenseNaloxone.pdf>.

## Can certified EMS providers administer Naloxone?

Yes. Certified EMS providers can administer Naloxone as individuals, and in the course of their duties as a certified EMS provider when operating in accordance with EMS regulations.

A list of what medical skills and procedures certified EMS providers can perform can be found at <https://doh.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-02/530173.pdf?uid=648a00626c91b>.

Additional education, training and EMS Medical Program Director approval may be required for certain levels of EMS providers to perform intramuscular or intravenous routes of administration if those skills are not included in their scope of practice.

## Can EMS initiate and participate in Naloxone leave behind programs?

Yes. Licensed EMS services must consult with the EMS MPD to initiate and participate in Naloxone leave behind programs.

If certified EMS providers are administering or dispensing Naloxone while in the course of their duties with the EMS service, they must follow MPD approved patient care protocols and county operating procedures to do so. MPDs develop patient care protocols in accordance with [WAC 246-976-920](#) that function as standing orders for certified EMS providers.

MPDs can refer to or adopt the [Washington State Department of Health statewide standing order](https://doh.wa.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/Documents/Pubs/150-127-StatewideStandingOrderToDispenseNaloxone.pdf) (<https://doh.wa.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/Documents/Pubs/150-127-StatewideStandingOrderToDispenseNaloxone.pdf>) or develop their own protocol using the statewide standing order as a minimum standard.

For more information about EMS and Naloxone, contact Jill Hayes, EMS Opioid Specialist at [jill.hayes@doh.wa.gov](mailto:jill.hayes@doh.wa.gov).



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