**UPDATE: Model Policy 516.5—Overdose Medication**

Since Model Policy 516.5 was first introduced in February 2023, state and federal actions have led MSBA to update the policy.

**Effective July 1, 2023**, a new state law—Minnesota Statutes 121A.224 (Opiate Antagonists)—requires a school district or charter school to:

1. maintain a supply of opiate antagonists; and
2. each school site must have two doses of nasal naloxone available on-site.

**Note**: MSBA has requested that the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) provide guidance on the meaning of the terms “school site” and “school building” for purposes of this statute. MSBA will share MDE’s response when we receive it.

Additional state law changes were enacted:

1. School nurses now may be authorized to administer opiate antagonists;
2. A licensed practical nurse is authorized to possess and administer an opiate antagonist in a school setting;

The Federal Drug Administration (FDA) approved Narcan (4 mg naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray) for over-the-counter, nonprescription, use—the first naloxone product approved for use without a prescription. **The FDA approval will take effect when availability and price matters are determined**—until these steps are complete, schools may choose from the options below in order to obtain naloxone.

**Until OTC nonprescription availability of Narcan begins**

A licensed prescriber cannot write a prescription for a school or district because prescriptions must be patient specific. Schools may use a standing order for distribution of naloxone medication, as set forth in Model Policy 516.5.

1. A number of Minnesota schools have chosen to work with the Steve Rummler Hope Foundation ([https://steverummlerhopenetwork.org/](https://steverummlerhopenetwork.org/)) to obtain naloxone.
2. Another option is the **Narcan Direct program** ([https://www.narcandirect.com/](https://www.narcandirect.com/)):

Qualified direct purchasers, such as departments of health, EMS, law enforcement, schools/universities and community organizations qualify to purchase NARCAN® Nasal Spray directly from Emergent Devices at our public interest price.

The Narcan Direct process allows a licensed prescriber to write a letter of authorization (the *Narcan Letter of Authorization-Fillable* is attached to illustrate the process). Schools can then order directly through Narcan Direct by uploading the letter of authorization. This process allows schools to order and pay online. This process will remain the same after Narcan becomes available OTC. This option may be best for schools looking to purchase directly if free resources are not available.

3. Schools may work with a local emergency management system, medical clinic, or hospital to obtain Naloxone.

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**Instructions to access Model Policy 516.5**

1. Please visit [www.mnmsba.org](http://www.mnmsba.org).
3. Choose either *District Policies* or *Charter Policies*.
5. Choose 516.5 – Overdose Medication.
6. Scroll to the bottom of the page to click on the 516.5 download link.

If you have questions about MSBA/MASA Policy Services, how to navigate the online Policy Reference Manual, or the content of the model policies, please contact Terry Morrow at (507) 934-8126 or (800) 324-4459 or by email at tmorrow@mnmsba.org

Jaymyson Sillman ([jsillman@mnmsba.org](mailto:jsillman@mnmsba.org)) can assist if technological issues arise related to log-in issues and for accessing model policies or revisions.