

OPIOID OVERDOSE ON CAMPUS: KEY STEPS TO EXPAND HARM REDUCTION EFFORTS

Checklist Resource



The following is a checklist of the basic building blocks of an effective and sustainable opioid overdose prevention and response strategy. It is recommended to use this resource as a starting point. This is not an exhaustive, one-size-fits-all list. It takes time to implement these promising practices and change culture, depending on your campus needs.

An institution prepared to prevent and intervene with life-saving care in the instance of an opioid overdose will have some form of all of the following:

- On-campus naloxone availability for emergency response regarding incidents that involve students, faculty, staff, guests, and on-campus living spaces (if applicable). Naloxone should be able to be accessed and administered within 5 minutes of identifying a potential overdose.
- Naloxone available for distribution to students and staff for on- and off-campus emergencies.
- Regularly occurring in-person on-campus opioid overdose response training and readily accessible online opioid overdose response training for students, faculty, and staff.
- Establishment and regular communication of Good Samaritan/Responsible Exemption Policies within the Student and Employee Codes of Conduct. These policies encourage overdose intervention without fear of punishment from responding or impacted parties.
- Campus policies and procedures for emergency response in the case of an opioid overdose.
- Campus policies and procedures for individual and impacted community support following a suspected overdose.
- Campus policies and procedures for internal tracking of suspected and confirmed overdose incidents and trends to assist in informed strategic response.
- A publicly available overview of campus overdose response strategy and resources.
- Ongoing evaluation, tracking, and reporting of training, distribution, and intervention data with goals for the number of individuals trained and naloxone kits distributed each year.
- Reciprocal data sharing with local public health and emergency response entities to track and communicate trends for response strategy purposes. Keep students' confidentiality and FERPA regulations in mind when sharing data.

In addition, our organizations already offer many resources related to alcohol and other drug primary prevention, health promotion, opioid overdose response, and collegiate recovery to support beyond this checklist. Reach out to learn more at: campuses@safeproject.us