# ISSUE BRIEF

AUGUST 2, 2024 -VER 2 HYPERLINKS FIXED

## **HB 2112: OPIOID EDUCATION AND AWARENESS**

In 2024, the state Legislature approved <u>HB 2112</u> to help prevent opioid overdoses in Washington state. Among other things, the legislation requires higher education institutions to make free naloxone and fentanyl test strips available to students. This document answers common questions about HB 2112.

## What Are the Requirements of HB 2112?

Approved by the Legislature in 2024, HB 2112 requires higher education institutions to:

- Provide opioid and fentanyl prevention education and awareness information to all students, including information on Washington's <u>Good Samaritan law</u>. The education may be delivered inperson or electronically.
  - Education must be posted on each institution's public website for students, parents, and legal guardians to access.
- Make fentanyl test strips and naloxone available in locations that are accessible to students, such as wellness centers, student union buildings, and student housing.
- Train staff working in residence halls how to administer naloxone.

## Was Funding Provided to Implement HB 2112?

<u>The Legislature appropriated \$412,000 to SBCTC</u> in the 2024 supplemental operating budget for fiscal year 2025. The appropriation was divided evenly between all 34 colleges, so each college will receive \$12,117 in August 2024.

# Will Funding Continue Past Fiscal Year 2025?

SBCTC anticipates ongoing appropriations at some level, but it all depends on what the Legislature decides when it passes the 2025-27 operating budget next session.

# **How Much Do Naloxone and Fentanyl Test Strips Cost?**

NARCAN®, a brand name of the nasal naloxone spray, costs about \$33 per kit at the public interest price; generic versions may cost less. The cost for test strips range from about 75 cents to \$1 each. These prices were current at the time this document was produced.





#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Jamie Traugott
Director, Student Services & K12 Alignment
360-704-3929 | jtraugott@sbctc.edu
Laura McDowell
Communications Director
360-704-4310 | Imcdowell@sbctc.edu

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# Will the Department of Health Make Bulk Purchases of Naloxone and Test Strips and Distribute Them to Colleges?

The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) was provided \$400,000 for fiscal year 2025 to purchase naloxone and fentanyl test strips for public institutions of higher education. As the funding will not be sufficient to provide these supplies to all institutions, DOH will review requests and consider all applications based upon demand and an equitable framework. As DOH anticipates being unable to fund all requests, campuses are encouraged to identify other funding sources to support the purchasing of supplies for their campus communities.

The request form is available online at <a href="https://forms.office.com/g/J2zqEBZnCQ">https://forms.office.com/g/J2zqEBZnCQ</a>. The priority deadline to submit requests is August 30, 2024.

# Where Can Colleges Purchase Naloxone and Fentanyl Test Strips?

#### **Naloxone**

- Colleges and universities can request NARCAN® (one formulation of nasal naloxone) from the <u>Narcan Community Donation Program</u> run by Direct Relief and Emergent Biosolutions.
- In addition, NARCAN® is available to purchase over-the-counter at many retail pharmacies (e.g., Walgreens, CVS, Rite Aid). For more information about over-the-counter naloxone, please visit <u>Over the Counter Naloxone FAQ</u>.
- To purchase NARCAN® directly from the manufacturer, visit <u>NARCANDirect.com</u>. Schools may qualify to purchase NARCAN® Nasal Spray directly from Emergent Devices at the public interest price (currently \$33/two-dose kit).
- Organizations may also be able to purchase NARCAN® and several equivalent generic nasal naloxone products from medical distributors, such as <u>Cardinal Health</u> and <u>McKesson</u>.
- Some colleges and universities may be eligible to use statewide contracts to purchase naloxone. For more information, visit the Department of Enterprise Services' website: <u>How to Use Statewide</u> <u>Contracts</u>.

### Fentanyl text strips

• While there are several products on the market, one commonly used brand of fentanyl test strip is made by <u>BTNX</u>. <u>WiseBatch</u> and <u>DanceSafe</u> also sell test strips.

Colleges should consider reaching out to their local public health departments to see if they can supply resources or referrals.

# Does HB 2112 Require a Specific Type of Dispenser?

No, <u>HB 2112</u> does not mandate that colleges use a certain type of dispenser.

The Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) received a limited amount of funding to help colleges acquire vending machines. Priority will be given to institutions that did not receive vending machines or dispensers under the 2024 emergency contraception grants.

WSAC will open its online grant application for vending machines on September 9, 2024 at 1 p.m. on its Student Supports webpage.

The council plans to hold an informational webinar about this opportunity before the grant application process opens. SBCTC will forward information to colleges as soon as it becomes available. For more information: Ami Magisos, amim@wsac.wa.gov.

# How can students who access the dispensers learn how to use the products?

The naloxone boxes will come with clear instructions. Colleges should also consider hanging posters or flyers near dispensers.

#### **Naloxone**

- Naloxone posters which include a reference to Washington's Good Samaritan law are available from Washington Friends for Life, created by the Washington Health Care Authority.
- Naloxone brochures are available from the Washington State Department of Health.
- Naloxone videos Colleges might want to consider posting a QR code to the naloxone video demonstration on the <u>Washington Friends for Life web page</u> (scroll down) or the <u>Department of</u> <u>Health's video on vimeo</u>.

### **Fentanyl test strips**

- <u>Fentanyl test strip posters and inserts</u> are available from the Washington State Department of Health.
- Fentanyl test strip videos Colleges that acquire BTNX test strips might want to consider posting a QR code to the <u>BTNX instruction video</u>.

### **Good Samaritan law**

Cards and posters about Washington's Good Samaritan law are available at STOPOVERDOSE.org.

# Do Colleges Have Access to Education and Awareness Materials for Students?

<u>HB 2112</u> requires higher education institutions to provide opioid and fentanyl prevention education and awareness information to all students, including information on Washington's Good Samaritan law. The education may be delivered in-person or electronically. Additionally, the education materials must be posted on each institution's public website for students, parents, and legal guardians to access.

## **Examples from other colleges**

<u>Tacoma Community College</u> and <u>Shoreline Community College</u> have created public-facing web pages focused on opioid education and awareness.

#### Free education and awareness resources for students

StopOverdose.org is a project of the Center for Community-Engaged Drug Education, Epidemiology, and Research and the University of Washington Addictions, Drug & Alcohol Institute (ADAI). Visit <a href="StopOverdose.org">StopOverdose.org</a> for:

- Opioid overdose awareness and response videos that you can add to your webpage. (See <u>Shoreline Community College</u> as an example.)
- "What's up with fentanyl" flyers in English and Spanish.
- Good Samaritan" law cards and posters

For colleges in King County: <u>Laced & Lethal</u>, produced by King County. To order print materials, visit the <u>King County website</u>.

The CDC also offers "Facts About Fentanyl."

### **Vector Solutions**

Our college system has access to a suite of online training courses under a master contract negotiated between WWU and Vector Solutions. (SBCTC has signed onto a WIPHE contract led by WWU. WIPHE stands for Washington Institutes of Public Higher Education.) Each college contributes to the cost of the systemwide contract, which gives all 34 colleges access to all the courses listed in two catalogs — one for students, and the other for faculty and staff.

The <u>student catalog</u> includes a 40-minute course called "Prescription Misuse: Opioids." Bear in mind, however, that students would need to log onto a Vector Solutions dashboard to access this information, which might create a barrier to achieving another requirement in <u>HB 2112</u>: "Education must be posted on each institution's public website for students, <u>parents</u>, <u>and legal guardians</u> to view." Thus, colleges that direct students to the Vector Solutions course would still need to post information on their website that's accessible to parents and legal guardians.

### How do We Train Residence Hall Staff About Naloxone?

<u>HB 2112</u> requires that staff working in residence halls be trained in how to administer naloxone. Washington State Department of Health (DOH) will host two web-based trainings for campus staff and residence hall advisors on overdose prevention, recognition, and response, including how to administer naloxone and how to use fentanyl test strips. The virtual training will be conducted on the following two dates and will be recorded and posted on the DOH website.

- August 19, 2024 from noon to 1 p.m.
- September 18, 2024 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The Department of Health plans to record the sessions and make them available on its website for people who are unable to join live. Colleges will then be able to use the videos whenever they need to train residence hall staff in the future. SBCTC will forward links to the recordings as soon as they are available. For more information, please contact <a href="mailto:AcademicAffairs@doh.wa.gov">AcademicAffairs@doh.wa.gov</a>.