

Indiana Naloxone Legislation

June 2022

IC 16-31-12

This Indiana Code expands first responder use of naloxone to EMTs, police officers and firefighters.

IC 16-42-27: Aaron's Law

In October 2013, 20-year-old Aaron Sims of Indianapolis passed away from a heroin overdose. Wanting to help those who have experienced similar tragedies and prevent future ones from occurring, Justin Phillips, Aaron's mother, partnered with Indiana Senator Jim Merritt to create a bill titled Aaron's Law. The bill was signed into law by Indiana Governor Mike Pence in 2015.

Aaron's Law expands the use of naloxone to the public. To administer naloxone, members of the public must:

- Be trained to administer naloxone
- Alert 911 immediately after use of naloxone
- Receive information about substance use disorder services (including MAT)

The statewide standing order from the State Health Commissioner removes the need for prescriptions:

- Distributing entities must register and report annually to optIN.

Good Samaritan Law

This law provides protection from arrest as well as prosecution for certain specific crimes and expands the charges from which people assisting in an emergency overdose situation are immune. If someone calls 911 to help during an overdose or they are experiencing an overdose, their parole and probation status will not be affected and they will not be arrested, charged or prosecuted for possession of a controlled dangerous substance, possession or use of drug paraphernalia or providing alcohol to minors.

Sources:

IN Code 16-42-27-2 and 16-42-27-3

What Is Aaron's Law? (2017) and Naloxone Access and Overdose Good Samaritan Law in Indiana (2018); Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis School of Public Health; Sightes, Janota, Watson, Huynh, Anderson



To receive protection under the laws:

1. Administer naloxone (Narcan) to a person suffering an overdose.
2. Contact emergency services (911).
3. Wait for EMS and police to arrive at the scene.
4. Provide all relevant information requested by law enforcement and co-operate at the scene.

For additional information on naloxone, please visit:
[IN.gov/Health/Overdose-Prevention/Naloxone](https://www.in.gov/Health/Overdose-Prevention/Naloxone)

