

THE NALOXONE APP COMPETITION



Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. Purpose of the App.** We received several questions asking how the app is meant to be used. Examples of such questions included:

- **Is the goal of the app to get people who are overdosing to treatment centers, or for treatment personnel to get to the people who are overdosing?**
- **Is the app meant to be used by an individual onsite at an overdose to request help?**
- **Is this app intended to function as a means to track the location of naloxone carriers and allow police or EMS to contact those individuals closest to the overdose?**

Answer: The goal of the Competition is to develop an app that increases the likelihood of timely naloxone administration by connecting opioid users experiencing an overdose with nearby naloxone carriers.

The Rules for the Competition indicate that the minimum requirements for a submission are:

- Use of crowd-sourcing technology to identify one or more individuals in close proximity to the overdose who could administer naloxone;
- Minimize the time required to identify one or more individuals in close proximity to the overdose that could deliver naloxone to an individual experiencing an opioid overdose; and
- Compatibility with multiple platforms, including Android and iOS.

Any submission that meets these requirements will be considered, so you may otherwise be creative in the design of your app.

- 2. Requirements for the App.** We also received several questions related to what requirements an app may have to meet.

Are there any guidelines for building the app using a wearable device such as FitBit?

Answer: The Federal Register Notice indicates that the competition is seeking submissions for an “app that increases the likelihood of timely naloxone administration”. Therefore, it does not preclude building an app that leverages a wearable device like Fitbit. If the wearable device manufacturer does not provide an open source api then the team should take this constraint into consideration before moving forward.

Are you only going to consider full iPhone and Android apps? If there is a web-based or alternate solution, would it be considered?

Answer: Any submission that meets the minimum requirements will be considered. As listed above, however, one of the minimum requirements is “compatibility with multiple platforms, including Android and iOS.”

Is integration with 911 or EMS systems expected?

Answer: There is no requirement that the app interface with EMS or the 911 system, though we would note that the FDA labeling instructs users to call for emergency medical assistance immediately after administration of naloxone. There are resources available that may be relevant to designing an app that interfaces with 911, including: Next Generation 911 Standards: <http://www.911.gov/standardsfornextgen.html>.

Is the app required to be publicly available in an app store or on the internet to be considered for the Competition?

Answer: No, the app is not required to be publicly available at the time you submit your solution for the Competition.

3. **Data Sources.** Several participants had questions on the availability of specific data sources beyond what was provided in our [Resources Document](#).

Does FDA have a database of naloxone carriers that can be downloaded or accessed using an api?

Answer: No, FDA does not maintain such a database and is not aware that such a database exists elsewhere.

Does FDA have a national database of all locations where naloxone can be obtained?

Answer: No, FDA does not maintain such a database and is not aware that such a database exists elsewhere.

Are there data on the breakdown of annual household incomes for fatal heroin overdoses versus fatal prescription opioid overdoses?

Answer: To our knowledge, these specific data have not been collected. There is evidence that some populations are switching from prescription opioid abuse to heroin use, so it is likely that the socioeconomic data for these populations are at least somewhat overlapping. This resource may be of further help: <https://www.drugabuse.gov/about-nida/legislative-activities/testimony-to-congress/2016/americas-addiction-to-opioids-heroin-prescription-drug-abuse>

4. **Submission Requirements.**

How do we make our app testable for the judges or is the video demonstration sufficient?

Answer: A submission must consist of the video demonstration and a summary document, as described in the Rules of the Competition. The app does not need to be made available for testing.

Can a single team submit multiple solutions?

Answer: Yes, a team may submit multiple solutions, each of which will be judged independently.