



FAQs of the new RESCUE program in Illinois 2023-2024 School Year

What is RESCUE?

RESCUE is an asthma intervention program for schools that helps keep children with asthma in the classroom and out of emergency rooms.



Thanks to Public Act 100-0726, schools in Illinois are allowed to store and administer "undesignated" asthma medication to students, staff, and school visitors experiencing a medical emergency. For some school districts, getting a standing order, filling out a prescription or procuring equipment has been challenging.

Thanks to a grant by the Illinois State Board of Education, the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America chapter in Missouri will be able to give asthma equipment to the majority of public K-12 schools in Illinois. We have been operating the RESCUE program for 12 years in the St. Louis metro area and in southern Illinois and have proven experience working with providers, pharmacists, and school districts to keep kids safe.

What do I get?

The RESCUE program has three packages:



- A medication package with 3 metered dose inhalers.
- An equipment package with 3 chambers and 10 disposable spacers
- An education box with 1 peak flow meter, a program overview, and a storage tote bag

Which schools are eligible?



Approximately 80% of public schools are eligible for at least one set of shipments. Schools with higher enrollment and higher asthma risk will receive multiple sets of medication and equipment.

To see how exactly what your school or school district is eligible for, please visit www.aafastl.org/rescue-Illinois-schools. Click on RESCUE IL - School List and search the spreadsheet for your school or school district.

How do I sign up?



RESCUE is an automatic enrollment program. All eligible schools are included by default! Please sign up for one of our upcoming RESCUE trainings to learn more about the resources, medication, and requirements of the program.

Sign up for an Illinois training on our website: www.aafastl.org/rescue-Illinois-schools/

FAQs of the new RESCUE program in Illinois 2023-2024 school year

How and why do I report online?



We are required to have schools report their usage of the RESCUE medication and equipment. To report online, you must first register with our portal. Visit https://aafastl.org/rescue-illinois-schools and hit "Click Here to Register (NEW USERS)."

This way we can learn how to bring you even BETTER resources in the future!

How do I get trained?



We are offering many training opportunities at the start of the school year. There is a combination of virtual, on-demand, and in-person training sessions.

To see our training schedule, please visit www.aafastl.org/rescue-Illinois-schools/

If you would like to schedule a virtual or in-person training for your school district and/or region, please contact AAFA's Director of Programs, Naomi Soto: nsoto@aafastl.org

Can only nurses be trained?



Nurses are the primary administrators of the RESCUE program, but Public Act 100-0726 is not exclusive to school nurses! We recognize that not all schools have a nurse on campus. Not to mention an asthma emergency can happen anywhere - sports games, field trips, after school, etc.

Any trained school official is eligible to administer RESCUE medication. We encourage coaches, PE teachers, school administration, and security staff to all consider attending a RESCUE training.

Do I need to get a prescription?



AAFA has that covered! We have worked with providers, pharmacists, and medical equipment vendors to get you everything you need.

As part of the RESCUE program, you'll have access to the standing order, prescription, and protocol for stock albuterol. Now if your school district or county already has a standing order in place, we can absolutely coordinate efforts.

Can I reorder materials or medication?



Short answer: yes.

We are still working on the reordering process, but we are working with our program partners to make the reordering process as simple as possible. More details on the ordering process will be released by November.

FAQs of the new RESCUE program in Illinois 2023-2024 school year

Who should fill out a Nurse Form?



Anyone who will be dispensing the asthma medication and using the equipment provided by RESCUE should fill out a Nurse Profile. If you are a nurse overseeing multiple schools, you will only need to fill out one Nurse Profile, but please indicate all of the schools that you will be supporting.

Who can access CONNECT?



If you have filled out a Nurse Profile, you can access CONNECT - the system to log each individual use case. For compliance purposes, we ask that only those eligible to dispense medication and equipment log on to CONNECT.

Who Should Log Incidents?



The best practice is that the nurse that is trained to administer medication, log their individual incident in CONNECT. This is to ensure the information provided about the incident is first-hand and as accurate as possible.

We recognize that there may be other scenarios where this delegation may deviate. Maybe you have several nurses that support a building, or a district nurse lead usually oversees these kind of reports. Please reach out to rescuelL@aafastl.org if you want to troubleshoot and brainstorm the best set up for your school.

What If the Nurse is On Vacation?



We ask that the Nurse that dispenses the medication and uses the equipment is the individual that logs the incident on CONNECT. While you have 3 calendar days to log the incident in our portal, CONNECT, if you are soon going to be absent we ask that you record the incident before you step away.

If this is not feasible, please reach out to rescueIL@aafastl.org, where we can help get the most relevant information logged into the system.

Have a specific question?

You're welcome to attend our RESCUE IL Office Hours every Friday at 12 CT. Zoom link is on the AAFA website: www.aafastl.org/rescue-Illinois-schools/

You can also email: rescuelL@aafastl.org

FAQs of the new RESCUE program in Illinois 2023-2024 school year

Help. I'm still confused about the portal! What's the step by step?!

STEP 1 Complete a Nurse Profile.

> If you are a nurse overseeing multiple schools, you will only need to fill out one Nurse Profile, but please indicate all of the schools that you will

be supporting.

Don't forget to complete the **MOU** that is attached to the Nurse Portal! STEP 2

STEP 3 WAIT.

> An AAFA Team Member will link your Nurse Profile to the schools you support. This can take several days.

Once your nurse profile and school(s) are linked, you'll get an invitation to REGISTER FOR CONNECT.



STEP 4 Register for RESCUE CONNECT. This is the portal where you will log

incidents that require you to administer RESCUE asthma medication.



Fantastic! You're ready to go! Next time you have an asthma emergency STEP 5

that required you to use RESCUE medication, please complete the

Undesignated Asthma Medication Reporting Form.

To learn more about the RESCUE Illinois program, please visit www.aafastl.org for more information.

Still have questions? rescuelL@aafastl.org

