

ADMINISTERING MEDICINES TO STUDENTS

Students needing medication are encouraged to receive the medication at home, if possible. Only employees of the Board who are licensed health professionals, or who are appointed by the Board and have completed a drug administration training program meeting State law requirements, conducted by a licensed health professional and considered appropriate by the Board, can administer prescription drugs to students.

1. The person or persons designated to administer medication receives a written request, signed by the parent(s) having care or charge of the student, that the drug be administered to the student.
2. Each person designated to administer medication receives a statement, signed by the physician or other person licensed to prescribe medication, which includes all of the following information.
 - A. the name and address of the student
 - B. the school and class in which the student is enrolled
 - C. the name of the drug and the dosage to be administered
 - D. the times or intervals at which each dosage of the drug is to be administered
 - E. the date on which the administration of the drug is to begin
 - F. the date on which the administration of the drug is to cease
 - G. any severe adverse reactions which should be reported to the physician and one or more telephone numbers at which the person who prescribed the medication can be reached in case of an emergency
 - H. special instructions for administration of the drug, including sterile conditions and storage
3. The parent(s) agree to submit a revised statement signed by the physician who prescribed the drug to the person designated to administer medication if any of the information provided by the person licensed to prescribe medication as described above changes.
4. The person authorized to administer the drug receives a copy of the statement described above.
5. The drug is received by the person authorized to administer the drug to the student for whom the drug is prescribed in the container in which it was dispensed by the prescribing physician or other licensed professional.

The person designated by the Board establishes a location in each school building for the storage of drugs to be administered. All such drugs shall be stored in that location in a locked storage place. Drugs which require refrigeration may be kept in a refrigerator in a place not commonly used by students.

No person who has been authorized by the Board to administer a drug and has a copy of the most recent statement which was given to him/her prior to administering the drug is liable for administering or failing to administer the drug, unless such person acts in a manner which constitutes "gross negligence or wanton or reckless misconduct".

A person employed by the Board is not required to administer a prescribed drug to a student unless a Board regulation establishes a requirement; furthermore, the Board shall not require an employee to administer a drug to a student if the employee objects, on the basis of religious convictions, to administering the drug.

Board policy and regulations regarding dispensation of medication must be formally adopted by the Board and may be changed, modified or revised only by action of the Board.

Use of Asthma Inhalers

In order for a student to possess and use an inhaler, he/she must have written approval from the student's physician and parent or other caretaker. The principal and/or the school nurse must have received copies of these required written approvals.

The physician's written approval must specify the minimum following information:

1. the student's name and address;
2. the name of the medication;
3. the date the administration of the medication is to begin;
4. the date, if known, that the administration of the medication is to cease;
5. written instructions which outline the procedures school personnel should follow in the event that the medication does not produce the expected relief from the student's attack;
6. any severe adverse reactions that may occur to the student using the medication that should be reported to the physician;
7. any severe reactions that may occur to another student for whom the medication is not prescribed, should he/she receive a dose of the medication;
8. at least one emergency telephone number for contacting the physician;
9. at least one emergency telephone number for contacting the parent, guardian or other person having care or charge of the student in an emergency, and
10. any other special instructions from the physician.

In no circumstances will the District, any member of the Board or any Board employee be liable for injury, death or loss of person or property when a District employee prohibits a student from using an inhaler or epipen because the employee believes, in good faith, that the required written approvals have not been received by the principal. Additionally, liability cannot accrue because the employee permits the use of an inhaler or epi-pen when the employee believes in good faith that the written approval(s) have been received by the appropriate authority.

Use of Epinephrine Autoinjectors

Student possession of an epipen is permitted only if the student has written approval from the prescriber of the medication and, if a minor, from his/her parent. Written approval must be on file with the principal and, if one is assigned, the school nurse. In addition, the principal or school nurse must

receive a backup dose of the medication from the parent or student.

The prescriber's written approval must specify at least the following information:

1. student's name and address;
2. names and dose of the medication contained in the autoinjector;
3. the date the administration of the medication is to begin and, if known, the date the administration of the medication is to cease;
4. acknowledgment that the prescriber has determined that the student is capable of possessing and using the epi-pen appropriately and has provided the student with training in the proper use of the epi-pen;
5. circumstances in which the epi-pen should be used;
6. written instructions that outline procedures school personnel should follow if the student is unable to administer the medication or the medication does not produce the expected relief from the student's anaphylaxis (allergic response);
7. any severe reaction that:
 - A. the student may experience that should be reported to the prescriber or
 - B. that may occur to another student from whom the medication is not prescribed, if that student receives a dose of the medication;
8. at least one emergency telephone number each for contacting the prescriber and the parent; and
9. any other special instructions from the prescriber.

Whenever a student is administered epinephrine at school or at an activity; event or program sponsored by the school or in which the school is a participant, a school employee must immediately request assistance from an emergency medical service provider. Request for medical assistance applies whether the student self-administers the medication or a school employee administers it to the student.

The Board and District employees are not liable in damages in a civil action for injury, death or loss to person or property allegedly arising if:

1. a school employee prohibits a student from using an epi-pen because he/she has a good faith belief that the conditions for carrying and using the medication have not been satisfied;
2. a school employee permits a student to carry and use an epi-pen because of the good faith that the conditions have been satisfied; or
3. in instances in which a student is rightfully permitted to carry an epi-pen, the medication is sued by a student for whom it was not prescribed.

All immunities granted to schools under the sovereign immunity law or any other law apply.

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