

STUDENT HEALTH GUIDELINES

IMMUNIZATIONS

New Mexico state statute requires all students be currently immunized before entrance into public school. School personnel will collect and record student immunization records and report to the New Mexico Department of Health the names of students who are not current in accordance with New Mexico statute. Students who are not in compliance with immunization law will not be allowed to attend school and shall be disenrolled.

The school nurse or designee shall review immunization records and notify the administration of those students who are not current with their immunizations. The administration will make every effort to assist the family to meet the requirements of New Mexico state law.

Exemptions

Medical Exemptions

Parents/legal guardians may submit official records, signed by the student's medical care provider, for medical exemptions from immunizations. Questions regarding exemptions will be referred to the Regional Health Officer of the New Mexico Department of Health.

Conscientious Objection

Parents/legal guardians who have an objection to immunization of their children based upon a religious belief may submit a formal written request for exemption through the Public Health Division – Immunization Program of the State Department of Health. The parents/legal guardians and the school shall be notified if the exemption was approved or disapproved. Students may be conditionally enrolled pending the decision.

Parents/legal guardians shall apply for a Certificate of Religious/Conscientious Objection to Immunization before the start of each academic year. This form may be obtained from the Department of Health website or the Immunization Program:

NM Department of Health
PO Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110.

STUDENT MEDICATION

Medication permission forms must be completed by your child's Health Care Provider and parent for each medication to be given at school and submitted to the school Health Office.

Medication Guidelines:

- Request for medication administration at school are good for one school year.
- A separate authorization form must be filled out for **EACH** medication administered.
- Changes in medication require a **new** authorization form signed by the prescribing health care practitioner and parent/guardian.
- Medication must be in the *original pharmacy labeled container*.
- Medication must be brought to the Front Office.
- Written communication from the Health Care Provider/parent/guardian is required for any medication changes.

- When medication is discontinued during the school year, it must be picked up within one week. Unclaimed medication will be destroyed.
- When the school year ends, all medication must be picked up by the last day of school. Unclaimed medications will be destroyed.

Field Trip/CBA Medications

Parents/guardians are responsible for providing their student's daily medication for field trip administration. This medication must be given directly to the teacher by the parent/guardian. **The parent/guardian may wish to provide the medication in an envelope clearly marked with the child's name, the medication to be given, the dosage and time to administer the medication or it may be in a pharmacy labeled prescription bottle.** Only one dose should be provided by the parent for the off-campus activity. For students who self-administer their medication, they may place **a single dose of the medication** in an envelope under observation by school staff in an envelope with the student's name, name of the medication, dose, and time of administration. A prescription medication form must be on file in the school health office.

Asthma Guidelines

Students are authorized to carry and self-administer health care practitioner prescribed asthma medication under the following conditions:

- a health care practitioner has prescribed the medication for use by the student during school hours and instructed the student in the correct and responsible use of the medication
- the student has demonstrated the skill level necessary to use the medication and any device that is necessary to administer such medication as prescribed by the health care practitioner
- the health care practitioner formulates a written treatment plan for managing asthma or anaphylaxis episodes of the student and for medication use by the student during school hours
- the school has, in writing, informed the parent or guardian of the student that the school, including its employees, is to incur no liability as a result of any injury arising from the self-administration of medication

Diabetes Guidelines

Students are authorized to carry and use equipment and supplies, for storage and disposal of sharps, for self-assessment and for self-administration of diabetes treatment medications prescribed by a health care practitioner if the following conditions are met:

- A health care practitioner has prescribed the medication, directed the instruction of the student in the correct and responsible use of the medication, and approved the student's ability to perform self-assessment and medication self-administration
- The student has demonstrated the skill level and developmental level necessary to correctly store and use any equipment and supplies required to perform self-assessment and self-administration of such medication as prescribed by the health care practitioner
- The school has informed the parent or guardian of the student in writing that the school, including its employees and agents, is to incur no liability as a result of any injury arising from the performance of self-assessment procedures and the self-administration of medication nor from any injury arising from the student carrying and disposing of equipment and supplies to perform these procedures.