

Anaphylaxis Prevention and Response

Anaphylaxis is a life-threatening allergic reaction that may involve systems of the entire body. Anaphylaxis is a medical emergency that requires immediate medical treatment and follow-up care by an allergist/immunologist.

The Ephrata Board of Directors expects school administrators, teachers and support staff to be informed and aware of life threatening allergic reactions (anaphylaxis) and how to deal with the resulting medical emergencies. For students, some common life threatening allergens are peanuts, tree nuts, fish, bee or other insect stings, latex and some medications. Affected students require planned care and support during the school day and during school sponsored activities. Additionally, any student could potentially have a life threatening allergic reaction even without a history of such.

Parents/guardians are responsible for informing the school about their student's potential risk for anaphylaxis and for ensuring the provision of ongoing health information and necessary medical supplies. The district will take reasonable measures to avoid allergens for affected students. The district will also train all staff in the awareness of anaphylaxis and prepare them to respond to emergencies. Additionally, student specific training will be provided for appropriate personnel.

Even with the district's best efforts, staff and parents/guardians need to be aware that it is not possible to achieve a completely allergen-free environment. However, the district will take precautions to reduce the risk of a student with a history of anaphylaxis coming into contact with the offending allergen in school.

Parent/guardian is responsible to ensure that they provide the school with appropriate medication and treatment orders pursuant to RCW 28A.210.320 if their student is identified with a life-threatening allergy.

The superintendent will establish procedures to support this policy and to ensure:

- 1) Emergency response procedures in cases of suspected anaphylaxis will follow OSPI's Guidelines for the Care of Students with Anaphylaxis (2009);
- 2) A simple and standardized format for emergency care plans is utilized;
- 3) A protocol is in place to ensure emergency care plans are current and completed;
- 4) Medication orders are clear and unambiguous;
- 5) Training and documentation is a priority.

Cross References: Model Policy 3419
 Model Policy 3420

Self-Administration of Asthma and
Anaphylaxis Medications
Anaphylaxis Prevention and Response

Model Policy 3418
Model Policy 3416

Emergency Treatment
Medication at School

Legal References: WAC 392-380 Public School Pupils – Immunization Requirement and Life-Threatening Health Condition
RCW 28A.210.383 Anaphylaxis – Policy guidelines – Procedures – Report

Management Resources:

Policy News, August 2018
Policy News, December 2013
Policy News, August 2012
Policy News, February 2009

Anaphylaxis Prevention and Response
Anaphylaxis Prevention Policy Required

OSPI, March 2009

Guidelines for the Care of Students with
Anaphylaxis