

# New Heights Charter School

## Administration of Medication Policy

The New Heights Charter School (“Charter School”) staff is responsible for overseeing the administration of medication to students attending Charter School during regular school hours, including before- or after- school programs, field trips, extracurricular or co-curricular activities, and camps or other activities that typically involve at least one overnight stay from home. It is imperative that practices followed in the administration of medication be carefully delineated to ensure the safety of our students and the legal protection of our employees. Any pupil who is required to take, during the regular schooldays, medication prescribed for him or her by a physician and surgeon, or ordered for him or her by a physician assistant practicing in compliance with Chapter 7/7 (commencing with Section 3500) of Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code, may be assisted by the school nurse or designated school personnel or may carry and self-administer prescription auto-injectable epinephrine or inhaled asthma medication if Charter School receives the appropriate written statements as follows:

1. In order for a pupil to carry and self-administer prescription auto-injectable epinephrine or inhaled asthma medication, Charter School shall obtain both written statement from the physician and surgeon or physician assistant detailing the name of the medication, method, amount, and time schedules by which the medication is to be taken, and confirming that the pupil is able to self-administer auto-injectable epinephrine or inhaled asthma medication, and a written statement from the parent, foster parent, or guardian of the pupil consenting to the self-administration, providing a release for the school nurse or designated school personnel to consult with health care provider of the pupil regarding any questions that may arise with regard to the medication, and releasing Charter School and school personnel from civil liability if the self-administering pupil suffers an adverse reaction as a result of self-administering medication.
2. Additionally, the school nurse or trained personnel who have volunteered may use epinephrine auto-injectors to provide emergency medical aid to persons suffering, or reasonably believe to be suffering from, an anaphylactic reaction. Charter School will ensure it has the appropriate type of epinephrine auto-injector on site (i.e., regular or junior) to meet the needs of its pupil. Charter School will ensure staff properly store, maintain, and restock the epinephrine auto-injectors as needed.
3. Charter School will ensure any school personnel who volunteer are appropriately trained regarding the storage and emergency use of epinephrine auto-injectors based on the standards developed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Charter School will distribute an annual notice to all staff describing the request for volunteers who will be trained to administer an epinephrine auto-injector to a person if that person is suffering, or reasonable believed to be suffering from, anaphylaxis. The annual notice shall also describe the training the volunteer will receive.

4. In order for pupil to be assisted by the school nurse or other designated school personnel in administering medication other than emergency epinephrine auto-injectors or inhaled asthma medication, Charter School shall obtain both a written statement from the physician and surgeon or physician assistant detailing the name of the medication, method, amount, and time schedules by which the medication is to be taken and written statement from the parent, foster parent, or guardian of the pupil indicating the desire that Charter School assist the pupil in the matters set forth in the physician and surgeon or physician assistant.

*Guidelines:*

- The primary responsibility for the administration of medication rest with the parent/guardian, student medical professional.
- Medication shall be administered only during school hours if determined by a physician to be necessary.
- Designated staff shall keep records of medication administered at Charter School.
- All medication will be kept in a secure and appropriate storage location and administered per physician's instructions by appropriately designated staff.
- Designated staff shall return all surplus medication to the parent/guardian upon completion of the regimen or prior to extended holidays.
- Designated staff shall establish emergency procedures for specific medical condition that require an immediate response (i.e. allergies, asthma, diabetes).
- The written statements specified in this policy shall be provided at least annually and more frequently if the medication, dosage, frequency of administration, or reason for administration changes.
- A pupil may be subject to disciplinary action if that pupil uses auto-injectable epinephrine or inhaled asthma medication in a manner other than as prescribed.
- Any pupil requiring insulin shots must establish a plan for administration of insulin shots with the school office in consultation with the parent or guardian and the pupil's medical professional.