

## **Administering Medications to Students**

School personnel may not administer prescription or nonprescription medications to students unless appropriate administration cannot reasonably be accomplished outside of school hours.

Medication may be administered to students by school personnel whom a registered nurse has trained and delegated the task of administering such medication. For the purposes of this policy, the term “medication” includes both prescription medication and nonprescription medication.

The term “nonprescription medication” includes but is not limited to over-the-counter medications, homeopathic and herbal medications, cough drops, vitamins and nutritional supplements.

Medication may be administered to students only when the following requirements are met:

1. Medication must be in the original properly labeled pharmacy container. If it is a prescription medication, the student’s name, name of the medication, dosage, how often it is to be administered, and name of the prescribing health care practitioner shall be printed on the container. Non-prescription medications shall be provided in a new, unopened, sealed container.
2. The school must have received written permission from the student’s parent/guardian to administer the medication to the student and written permission to administer the medication from the student’s health care practitioner with prescriptive authority under Colorado law.
3. The parent/guardian is responsible for providing all medication to be administered to the student.
4. Students in 9th-12th grades may carry and self-administer certain nonprescription medication; acetaminophen or ibuprofen. When self-carry of medication is permitted, a student shall carry only 1-2 doses of nonprescription medication and the medication shall be kept in the original container.

### **Self-administration of medication for asthma, allergies or anaphylaxis**

A student with asthma, a food allergy, other severe allergies, or a related, life-threatening condition, or who is prescribed medication by a licensed healthcare practitioner, may possess and self-administer medication to treat the student’s asthma, food or other allergy, anaphylaxis or other related life-threatening condition. Self-administration of such medication may occur during school hours, at school-sponsored activities, or while in transit to and from school or a school-sponsored activity. Student possession and self-administration of such medication must be in accordance with regulation JLCD-R.

Authorization for a student to possess and self-administer medication to treat the student's asthma, food or other allergy, anaphylaxis or other related, life-threatening condition may be limited or revoked by the school principal after consultation with the school nurse and the student's parents/guardian if the student demonstrates an inability to responsibly possess and self-administer such medication.

Student possession, use, distribution, sale or being under the influence of medication inconsistent with this policy will be considered a violation of policy JICH, Drug and alcohol Use by Students and may subject the student to disciplinary consequences, including suspension and/or expulsion, in accordance with policy JICH.

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LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. 12-38-132 (*delegation of nursing tasks*)  
C.R.S. 12-38-132.3 (*school nurses – over-the-counter medication*)  
C.R.S. 22-1-119 (*no liability for adverse drug reactions/side effects*)  
C.R.S. 22-1-119.5 (*Colorado School Children's Asthma, Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Health Management Act*)  
C.R.S. 22-2-135 (*Colorado School Children's Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Management Act*)  
C.R.S. 24-10-101 *et seq.* (*Colorado Governmental Immunity Act*)  
1 CCR 301-68 (*State Board of Education rules regarding Administration of Colorado School Children's Asthma and Anaphylaxis Act and Colorado School Children's Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Management Act*)  
6 CCR 1010-6, Rule 6.13 (*requirements for health services in schools*)

CROSS REFS.: JICH, Drug and Alcohol Use by Students  
JLCDA\*, Students with Food Allergies  
JLCE, First Aid and Emergency Medical Care

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