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Parent-Designated Adults

RCW 28A.210.330 through 350 allows parents to designate an adult through proper legal procedures to assist the student in managing his or her diabetes. The statute defines a Parent-Designated Adult (PDA) as "a volunteer, who may be a school employee, who receives additional training from a healthcare professional or expert in diabetes care selected by the parents, and who provides care for the child consistent with the individual health plan." Parents, rather than the school, are responsible for the training of the PDA.

The statute requires districts to provide **an individual health plan (IHP) for each child with diabetes**. As a part of an IHP, parents may choose to designate an unrelated adult, or PDA, to provide care such as blood sugar monitoring and/or insulin administration that would otherwise be performed by a health professional licensed under RCW 18.79. The volunteer PDA may be a school district employee.

Parents' responsibilities in regards to PDAs

- Provide written authorization for a PDA to provide additional care, specifying the additional care so authorized. This may include blood glucose testing and injections.
- Coordinate with the district-designated licensed professional to ensure that the additional care authorized for the PDA to provide is consistent with the child's IHP.
- Arrange for a healthcare professional or an expert in diabetes to provide training for the additional care that the parent authorizes the PDA to provide. A health professional licensed under RCW 18.79 would otherwise perform this care.

Parent-Designated Adult Responsibilities

- Voluntarily submit to the school district a written, current, and unexpired letter of intent.
- Schedule appointments with school staff.
- Attend school district "general" training offered for staff directly involved in care of student with diabetes.
- The PDA, if not a district employee, may provide documentation of comparable training in lieu of attending district offered training.
- Complete and provide documentation of training for **additional** care authorized by the parents.
- Deliver care consistent with the IHP.

Liability

A school district, school district employee, agent, or PDA is not liable in any criminal action or for civil damages in his or her individual, marital, governmental, corporate, or other capacities as a result of the services provided if he or she:

- Acts in good faith.
- Acts in substantial compliance with the student's individual health plan, and the instructions of the student's licensed healthcare professional.
- Provides assistance or services as outlined in this new law.

Please contact the healthroom for more information about the Parent Designated Adult process