

Medication at School

Under normal circumstances prescribed and over-the-counter (OTC) medication should be administered before and/or after school hours under supervision of the parent or guardian. When it is necessary for a student to receive prescription or OTC oral medication or topical medication, eye drops, eardrops, or nasal spray at school or at school-sponsored events, the parent/guardian must submit a written parental request and a written authorization form from a licensed healthcare practitioner (LHP). If the medication will be administered for more than fifteen consecutive days, the health professional must also provide written, current and unexpired instructions for the administration of the medication.

The superintendent will establish procedures for:

- A. Designating staff members who may administer medications to students;
- B. Training, delegation, and supervision of staff members in the administration of oral medications to students by a registered nurse (RN), including oral medication, topical medication, eye drops, ear drops, and/or nasal spray;
- C. Obtaining signed and dated parental/guardian and LHP request for the administration of medications, including instructions from the LHP if the medication is to be given for more than fifteen(15) days;
- D. Transporting medications to and from school;
- E. Storing medication in a locked or limited access area;
- F. Labeling medication;
- G. Administering of medication, including identification of student and medication;
- H. Documenting administration of medication, including errors, reactions, or side effects;
- I. Disposing of medications;
- J. Maintaining records pertaining to the administration of;
- K. Maintaining student confidentiality;
- L. Permitting, as appropriate, possession and self-administration of medications necessary for student attendance;
- M. Permitting possession and self-administration of over-the-counter topical sunscreen products. (See Sunscreen Section below); and
- N. Reviewing and evaluating of medication practices and documentation

School District Policy and Procedure 3419 - Self-Administration of Asthma and Anaphylaxis Medication and School District Policy and Procedure 3420 - Anaphylaxis Prevention and Response govern the use of injectable medication for the treatment of anaphylaxis.

Except for limited situations, no school staff other than a RN or licensed practical nurse (LPN) may administer suppositories, rectal gels, or injections (except for emergency injections for students with anaphylaxis, as stated in School District Policy and Procedure 3419 - Self-Administration of Asthma and Anaphylaxis Medication and School District Policy and Procedure 3420 - Anaphylaxis Prevention and Response). In some situations, a parent designated adult (PDA) may administer certain injections.

If the school decides to discontinue administering a student's medication, the superintendent or designee must provide notice to the student's parent/ guardian orally and in writing prior to the discontinuance. There must be a valid reason for the discontinuance that does not compromise the health of the student or violate legal protections for the disabled.

Sunscreen

Over-the-counter topical sunscreen products may be possessed and used by students, parent/guardians, and school staff without a written prescription or note from a licensed health care provider if the following conditions are met:

- A. The product is regulated by the US Food and Drug administration as an over-the-counter sunscreen product; and
- B. If possessed by a student, the product is provided to the student by a parent/guardian.

Medical Marijuana:

Washington State law (RCW 69.51A.060) permits the use of medical marijuana, however, federal law (Title IV-Part A—Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities and the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) (21 U.S.C. § 811) prohibits the possession and use of marijuana on the premises of recipients of federal funds including educational institutions. School nurses may not administer medical marijuana.

Administration of legend (prescribed) drugs or controlled substances by nasal spray

If a school nurse is on the premises, he/she may administer a nasal spray containing a prescribed drug or controlled substance to a student. If a school nurse is not on school premises, a nasal spray containing a legend (prescribed) drug or controlled substance may be administered by: 1) a trained school employee, provided that person has received appropriate RN delegation and volunteered for the training pursuant to RCW 28A.210.260; or 2) a parent-designated adult.

A parent-designated adult is a volunteer, who may be a school district employee, who receives additional training from a healthcare professional or expert in epileptic seizure care selected by the parents who provides care for the student consistent with the student's individual health plan on file with the school.

Required Notification of EMS

After every administration of any legend (prescribed) drug or controlled substance by nasal spray to a student, Emergency Medical Services (911) will be summoned as soon as practicable.

Cross References: 3419 - Self-Administration of Asthma and Anaphylaxis Medications
3420 - Anaphylaxis Prevention and Response

Legal References: RCW 28A.210.260 Public and Private Schools —Administration of Oral Medication by — Conditions
RCW 28A.210.270 Public and Private Schools —Administration of Oral Medication by — Immunity from Liability—Discontinuance, Procedure
Chapter 69.51A RCW – Medical Cannabis

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2018 – August Issue
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