

## LAWRENCE COUNTY SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

# MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

### **Goal:**

To safely assist students with medication at school in order to maintain an optimal state of wellness, thus enhancing the educational experience.

### **Parent's Responsibility:**

- **Contact your School Nurse.**
- The correct School Medication Prescriber/Parent Authorization (PPA) form must be used. This form is dated PPA 2019. According to the Alabama State Department of Education, this is the only form the school can accept.
- All prescription medication/special procedure orders must be delivered to the School Nurse **before** medication or procedures will be done at school. Current doctor orders are required at the beginning of each school year.
- It is the responsibility of the parent to bring all doctor orders, medications, and other needed medical supplies to the School Nurse. Students cannot transport medications.
- **If the orders and medical supplies are not brought to school, the parent/student will be responsible for their own care.**
- Do not bring medication to school that is prescribed for three times a day. It should be given in the morning just before leaving home, upon returning home from school, and just before bedtime. ( Example: antibiotics)
- The school cannot stock Over-the-Counter (OTC) medication. (Example; Tylenol, Advil). OTC medications can be authorized by the parent for chronic illnesses. The School Nurse has the authority to request a doctor's authorization for OTC medication. The parent must supply the OTC medication.
- Sign the School Medication Prescriber/Parent Authorization form. (PPA 2019)
- Bring prescription medication in its original container from the pharmacy with the prescription label intact. Inhalers must be in the prescription box.
- Bring OTC medication in the original, unopened, sealed container with the manufacturer's labeling plus the student's name.
- Medications that are controlled substances will be counted and documented by the School Nurse or Medication Assistant and parent.
- Do not bring more than a six weeks supply of medication at one time.
- Notify the School Nurse of medication changes including discontinued orders. The School Nurse can not implement changes in a medical order from the parent or guardian. A written doctor order is required. A new School Medication Prescriber/Parent Authorization form must be signed if medication orders change during the school year.
- The School Nurse will notify the parent when the student is out of medication or the medication is expired. All expired medications will be properly disposed. It is the Parent's responsibility to bring additional medication to school. If the medication is not brought in a timely manner, the prescribing doctor will be notified.
- Pick up any unused medication at the end of the school year. All medication not picked up will be discarded by the School Nurse.

- **Self-administer Medications: Discuss with your child’s doctor**
  1. Lawrence County School Health Services will allow the self-administration of diabetic medications, asthma inhalers, epinephrine auto-injectors, and other qualified medications.
  2. The doctor, parent, and School Nurse must all approve for the student to self-administer.
  3. The School Medication Prescriber/Parent Authorization (PPA 2019) form must be appropriately completed for self-medication. The yes box for self-administration must be checked, and the parent must sign in two places: parent authorization and self-administration authorization.
  4. There is also the question regarding whether the student is to keep the self-administration medication “on person”. In order to keep the medication on person the student must be able to independently administer his/her medication without the aid of the school nurse. Consideration needs to be given to students who ride the bus and/or participate in extracurricular activities to keep their emergency medications (asthma inhalers, epi-pens, seizure and diabetic medication) on person so he/she will have access to their medication after school hours.
  5. If a student rides the bus/participates in extracurricular activities and will potentially need their medication while on the bus/ at extracurricular activities, but is not capable of self-administering the medication, the student can be authorized to keep the medication “on person” in his/her backpack and the Bus Driver/Paraprofessional/Coach/Sponsor can be trained to assist the student with the medication.
- **Emergency PRN Medication: Glucagon, Epi-Pen, Solu-cortef, Diastat, Asthma Inhalers, etc.** Discuss authorization to keep medication “on person” and “self-administer” with the School Nurse and your child’s doctor. Discuss plan of care in an emergency situation, on the school bus and extracurricular activities. Understand critical importance of keeping medication “on person” during times of crisis management.

**Student’s Responsibility:**

**Self-Administered Medication/Emergency PRN Medication: Insulin, Asthma Inhalers, Glucagon, Epi-Pen, Diastat, etc.**

- Contact School Nurse when needed.
- Keep medication “on self” at all times at school, on school bus, and school activities including field trips and during crisis situations such as fire, weather emergencies, and other evacuations.
- Knowledge of time, dosage, route, and skill to administer own medication.
- Ability to safely bring and keep medication “on self” at school every day.
- Do not share medication.
- Demonstrate knowledge and skill to School Nurse.
- Sign the Medication Self-Administration Documentation and/or Medication Authorized to Keep on Person Documentation.

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