Self-Administration of Asthma and Anaphylaxis Medications

Asthma is an inflammatory disease of the respiratory tract. Anaphylaxis is a life-threatening allergic reaction that may involve systems of the entire body. Anaphylaxis is a medical emergency that requires immediate medical treatment and follow-up care by a licensed healthcare provider (LHP).

It is the policy of the board of directors that students with asthma or anaphylaxis are afforded the opportunity to self-administer prescribed medications. The student’s parent or guardian will submit a written request and other documentation required by the school. The student’s prescribing LHP must provide a written medication order/treatment plan.

The student will demonstrate to their LHP and the school’s registered nurse that the student is competent to possess and self-administer prescribed medications during school and at school sponsored events.

The superintendent will establish procedures that implement this policy and follow emergency rescue procedures outlined in the most recent edition of AMES: Asthma Management in Educational Settings, in cases of suspected asthma and the emergency rescue procedures outlined in the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction’s Guidelines for the Care of Students with Anaphylaxis (2009) in cases of suspected anaphylaxis.

Cross References:
Policy 3416  Medication at School
Policy 2161  Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students
Policy 2162  Education of Students with Disabilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitative Act of 1973
Policy 3420  Anaphylaxis Prevention and Response

Legal References:
42 U.S.C. 280  Public Health Service Act
42 U.S.C. 12212  Section 512 Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
34 CFR Part 104  Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973
RCW 28A.210.370  Students with Asthma
RCW 28A.210.380  Anaphylaxis-Policy guidelines-Procedures-Reports

Management Resources:
Policy News, August, 2012  Self-Administration of Asthma and Anaphylaxis Medications
Policy News, February 2009  Anaphylaxis Prevention Policy Required
OSPI, March 2009  Guidelines for the Care of Students with Anaphylaxis