

Administering Medication to Students

Section A - Introduction

When a student's licensed health care provider and parent(s)/guardian(s) believe that it is necessary for the student to take a medication during school hours or school-related activities, the parent(s)/guardian(s) must request that the school dispense the medication to their student and otherwise follow the District's procedures on dispensing medication.

The School District requires written permission by parent(s)/guardian(s) and a licensed health care provider for administration of any medication at school. This form will be kept on file in the Nurse's Office and must be renewed annually.

No School District employee shall administer to any student, or supervise any student's self-administration of, any prescription or non-prescription medication until a completed and signed "School Medication Authorization Form" is submitted by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) and physician.

No student shall possess or consume any prescription or non-prescription medication on school grounds or at a school-related function other than as provided for in this policy and its implementing procedures. Staff are required to report such student possession or consumption to the Deans' Office.

Nothing in this policy shall prohibit any school employee from providing emergency assistance to students, including administering medication. The building principal shall include this policy in the Parent and Student Handbook and shall provide a copy to the parent(s)/guardian(s) of students.

Section B - Self-administration of Medication

A student may possess an epinephrine auto-injector (EpiPen®) and/or asthma medication prescribed for use at the student's discretion, during the school day or at after-school activities. On a case-by-case basis, a student may possess additional medications for appropriate use, so long as such medications have been first:

- Reviewed by the administration;
- The student's parent(s)/guardian(s) has completed and signed a School Medication Authorization Form; and
- The superintendent or designee has ensured that an Emergency Action Plan has been developed for each self-administering student.

An Emergency Action Plan means:

1. an asthma action plan,
2. an individual health care action plan,
3. an allergy emergency action plan,
4. a plan pursuant to Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or
5. a plan pursuant to the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

The School District shall incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from a student's self-administration of medication. A student's parent(s)/guardian(s) must indemnify and hold harmless the Board of Education, the School District, and the District's employees

and agents, against any claims, except a claim based on willful and wanton conduct, arising out of a student's self-administration of an epinephrine auto-injector and/or medication, or the storage of any medication by school personnel.

Section C - School District Supply of Undesignated Epinephrine Auto-Injectors

The Superintendent or designee shall implement 105 ILCS 5/22-30(f) and maintain a supply of undesignated epinephrine auto-injectors prescribed in the name of the District or one of its schools, and shall provide or administer the use of such auto-injectors as necessary according to State law. A school nurse or trained personnel, as defined by State law, may administer an undesignated epinephrine auto-injector to a person when they, in good faith, believe a person is having an anaphylactic reaction. The Director of Student Support shall maintain a list of the names of trained personnel who have received a statement of certification pursuant to State law, and distribute such list to each building principal, school nurse, and other appropriate personnel.

Section D - School District Supply of Undesignated Opioid Antagonists

The Superintendent or designee shall implement 105 ILCS 5/22-30(f) and maintain a supply of undesignated opioid antagonists prescribed in the name of the District or one of its schools and provide or administer them as necessary according to State law. Opioid antagonist means a drug that binds to opioid receptors and blocks or inhibits the effect of opioids acting on those receptors, including, but not limited to, naloxone hydrochloride or any other similarly acting drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. A school nurse or trained personnel, as defined in State law, may administer an undesignated opioid antagonist to a person when they, in good faith, believe a person is having an opioid overdose. The Director of Student Support shall maintain a list of the names of trained personnel who have received a statement of certification pursuant to State law, and distribute such list to each building principal, school nurse, and other appropriate personnel.

Section E - School District Supply of Undesignated Asthma Medication

The Superintendent or designee shall implement 105 ILCS 5/22-30(f) and maintain a supply of undesignated asthma medication in the name of the District and provide or administer them as necessary according to State law. Undesignated asthma medication means an asthma medication prescribed in the name of the District or one of its schools. A school nurse or trained personnel, as defined in State law, may administer an undesignated asthma medication to a person when they, in good faith, believe a person is having respiratory distress. Respiratory distress may be characterized as mild-to-moderate or severe. The Director of Student Support shall maintain a list of the names of trained personnel who have received a statement of certification pursuant to State law, and distribute such list to each building principal, school nurse, and other appropriate personnel.

Section F - Administration of Medical Cannabis

The Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act allows a medical cannabis infused product to be administered to a student by one or more of the following individuals:

1. A parent/guardian of a student who is a minor who registers with the Ill. Dept. of Public Health (IDPH) as a designated caregiver to administer medical cannabis to their child. A designated caregiver may also be another individual other than the student's parent/guardian. Any designated caregiver must be at least 21 years old and is allowed to administer a medical cannabis infused product to a child who is a student on the premises of his or her school or on his or her school bus if:

- a. Both the student and the designated caregiver possess valid registry identification cards issued by IDPH;
 - b. Copies of the registry identification cards are provided to the District;
 - c. That student's parent/guardian completed, signed, and submitted a School Medication Authorization Form - Medical Cannabis; and
 - d. After administering the product to the student, the designated caregiver immediately removes it from school property.
2. A properly trained school nurse or administrator, who shall be allowed to administer the medical cannabis infused product to the student on the premises of the child's school, at a school sponsored activity, or before/after normal school activities, including while the student is in before-school or after-school care on school-operated property or while being transported on a school bus.
 3. The student him or herself when the self-administration takes place under the direct supervision of a school nurse or administrator.

Medical cannabis infused product (product) includes oils, ointments, foods, and other products that contain usable cannabis but are not smoked or vaped. Smoking and/or vaping medical cannabis is prohibited.

The product may not be administered in a manner that, in the opinion of the District or school, would create a disruption to the educational environment or cause exposure of the product to other students. A school employee shall not be required to administer the product.

Discipline of a student for being administered a product by a designated caregiver, or by a school nurse or administrator, or who self-administers a product under the direct supervision of a school nurse or administrator pursuant to this policy is prohibited. The District may not deny a student attendance at a school solely because he or she requires administration of the product during school hours.

Section G - Void Policy: Disclaimer

The School District Supply of Undesignated Epinephrine Auto-Injectors section of this policy is void whenever the Superintendent or designee is, for whatever reason, unable to: (1) obtain for the District or one of its schools a prescription for undesignated epinephrine auto-injectors from a physician or advanced practice nurse licensed to practice medicine in all its branches, or (2) fill the District's or one of its schools' prescription for undesignated school epinephrine auto-injectors.

The School District Supply of Undesignated Opioid Antagonists section of this policy is void whenever the Superintendent or designee is, for whatever reason, unable to: (1) obtain for the District or one of its schools a prescription for opioid antagonists from a health care professional who has been delegated prescriptive authority for opioid antagonists in accordance with Section 5-23 of the Alcoholism and Other Drug Abuse Dependency Act, or (2) fill the District's or one of its schools' prescription for undesignated school opioid antagonists.

The School District Supply of Undesignated Asthma Medication section of this policy is void whenever the Superintendent or designee is, for whatever reason, unable to: (1) obtain for the District a prescription for undesignated asthma medication from a physician or advanced practice nurse licensed to practice

medicine in all its branches, or (2) fill the District's prescription for undesignated school asthma medication.

Upon any administration of an undesignated epinephrine auto-injector, an opioid antagonist, or asthma medication, the Superintendent or designee(s) shall ensure all notifications required by State law and administrative procedures occur.

The Administration of Medical Cannabis section of the policy is void and the District reserves the right not to implement it if the District or school is in danger of losing federal funding.

Upon implementation of this policy, the protections from liability and hold harmless provisions as explained in 105 ILCS 5/22-30(f) apply, including that the school district, public school, and its employees and agents are to incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from the administration of asthma medication, an epinephrine injector, or an opioid antagonist regardless of whether authorization was given by the pupil's parents or guardians or by the pupil's physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse and that the parents or guardians must indemnify and hold harmless the school district, public school, charter school, or nonpublic school and its employees and agents against any claims, except a claim based on willful and wanton conduct, arising out of the administration of asthma medication, an epinephrine injector, or an opioid antagonist regardless of whether authorization was given by the pupil's parents or guardians or by the pupil's physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse.

No one, including without limitation parents/guardians of students, should rely on the District for the availability of an epinephrine auto-injector, opioid antagonist, or asthma medication. This policy does not guarantee the availability of an epinephrine auto-injector, opioid antagonist, or asthma medication; students and their parents should consult their own physician regarding such medication(s).

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