

Board File: JLCDB

ADMINISTERING MEDICAL MARIJUANA, HEMP OILS AND/OR CANNABINOID PRODUCTS

The Board of Education respects the lawful private medical decisions of families to the extent possible while striving to maintain a safe learning environment for all students. These private medical decisions include those related to the administration of medical marijuana, hemp oils and/or cannabinoid products on school property, at school-sponsored events, or on a school bus as authorized by state law.

Administration of medical marijuana hemp oils, and/or cannabinoid products to qualified students on district property shall be in accordance with this policy and applicable state law. This policy does not apply to administration of any other prescription or nonprescription medications, which is governed by separate Board policy and applicable law.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

1. "Designated location" means a location identified in writing by the school district in its sole discretion and may include a location on the grounds of the school in which the student is enrolled, upon a school bus in Colorado, or at a school-sponsored event in Colorado.
2. "Medical marijuana" means a cannabis product with a delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) concentration greater than 0.3 percent.
3. "Permissible form of medical marijuana" means nonsmokeable products such as oils, tinctures, edible products or lotions that can be administered and fully ingested or absorbed in a short period of time. Patches and other forms of administration that continue to deliver medical marijuana to a qualified student while at school may be appropriate for students who receive ongoing adult assistance or on a case-by-case basis as determined by the district when adequate protections against misuse may be made. Forms of medical marijuana not included in this definition may be proposed by the qualified student's primary caregiver to the superintendent, who may authorize such a request after consultation with appropriate medical personnel chosen by the district.
4. "Primary caregiver" means the qualified student's parent, guardian or other responsible adult over eighteen years of age who is identified by the student's parent/guardian as the qualified student's primary caregiver. In no event may another student or a staff member be recognized as a primary caregiver, unless the staff member is the student's parent/guardian. Any primary caregiver seeking access to school or district property, a school bus or school-sponsored event for purposes of this policy must comply with the Board's policy and/or procedures concerning visitors to schools and all other applicable policies.
5. "Qualified student" means a student who holds a valid recommendation for medical marijuana from a licensed physician and is registered with the Colorado Department of

Public Health and Environment for the use of medical marijuana and for whom the administration of medical marijuana cannot reasonably be accomplished outside of school hours.

Permissible administration of medical marijuana to a qualified student by a primary caregiver

A qualified student's primary caregiver may administer a permissible form of medical marijuana to a qualified student in a designated location if all of the following parameters are met:

1. The qualified student's parent/guardian has provided the school with a copy of the student's valid recommendation for medical marijuana from a licensed physician and valid registration from the state of Colorado authorizing the student to receive medical marijuana;
2. The qualified student's parent/guardian signs a written acknowledgement assuming all responsibility for the provision, administration, maintenance and use of medical marijuana under state law, and releases the district from liability for any injury that occurs pursuant to this policy;
3. The qualified student's parent/guardian or primary caregiver must be responsible for providing the permissible form of medical marijuana to be administered to the qualified student;
4. The district determines, in its sole discretion, that a location and a method of administration of a permissible form of medical marijuana are available that do not create risk of disruption to the educational environment or exposure to other students;
5. Either the district determines, in its sole discretion, the location of a locked storage container to store the qualified student's medical marijuana that does not significantly delay access to or the administration of the medical marijuana in a medical emergency, or, after administering the permissible form of medical marijuana to the qualified student, the student's primary caregiver may remove any remaining medical marijuana from the grounds of the school, district, school bus, or school-sponsored event; and
6. The district prepares, with the input of the qualified student's parent/guardian, a written plan that identifies the form, designated location(s), instructions or treatment plan for administration from one of the student's recommending physicians, and any additional protocol regarding administration of a permissible form of medical marijuana to the qualified student. The written plan must be signed by the school administrator, the qualified student (if capable), and the qualified student's parent/guardian.

Permissible administration of medical marijuana to a qualified student by school personnel

School personnel may volunteer to store, administer, or assist in the administration of medical marijuana to a qualified student in a designated location if the following parameters are met:

1. The qualified student's parent/guardian has provided the school with a copy of the student's valid recommendation for medical marijuana from a licensed physician, including the prescribed dosage and the time and method of administration, and valid registration from the state of Colorado authorizing the student to receive medical marijuana;
2. The qualified student's parent/guardian signs a written acknowledgment granting permission for the school personnel who volunteer to store, administer, or assist in the administration of medical marijuana under state law, and releases the district from liability for any injury that occurs pursuant to this policy;
3. The qualified student's parent/guardian or primary caregiver must be responsible for providing the permissible form of medical marijuana to be administered to the qualified student;
4. The district determines, in its sole discretion, that a location and a method of administration of a permissible form of medical marijuana are available that do not create risk of disruption to the educational environment or exposure to other students;
5. The district determines, in its sole discretion, the location of a locked storage container to store the qualified student's medical marijuana that does not significantly delay access to or the administration of the medical marijuana in a medical emergency; and
6. The district prepares, with the input of the qualified student's parent/guardian, a written plan that identifies the form, designated location(s), instructions or treatment plan for administration from one of the student's recommending physicians, and any additional protocol regarding administration of a permissible form of medical marijuana to the qualified student. The written plan must be signed by the school administrator, the school personnel who volunteer to store, administer, or assist in the administration of the medical marijuana, the qualified student (if capable), and the qualified student's parent/guardian.

Additional parameters

School personnel are under no obligation to agree to store, administer, or assist in the administration of medical marijuana pursuant to this policy. If school personnel volunteer to do so, they may at any time revoke their consent to do so. This policy conveys no right to any student or to the student's parents/guardians or other primary caregiver to have any school personnel store, administer, or assist in the administration of medical marijuana. Students or parents who engage in harassment or otherwise attempt to pressure school personnel to volunteer to store, administer, or assist in the administration of medical marijuana, will be in violation of this policy.

This policy conveys no right to any student or to the student's parents/guardians or other primary caregiver to demand access to any general or particular location on school or district property, a school bus, or at a school-sponsored event to administer medical marijuana.

This policy does not apply to school grounds, school buses, or school-sponsored events located on federal property or any other location that prohibits marijuana on its property.

Permission to administer medical marijuana to a qualified student may be limited or revoked if the qualified student and/or the student's primary caregiver violates this policy or demonstrates an inability to responsibly follow this policy's parameters.

Student possession, use, distribution, sale or being under the influence of marijuana inconsistent with this policy may be considered a violation of Board policy concerning drug and alcohol involvement by students or other Board policy and may subject the student to disciplinary consequences, including suspension and/or expulsion, in accordance with applicable Board policy.

If the federal government indicates that the district's federal funds are jeopardized by this policy, the Board declares that this policy must be suspended immediately and that the administration of any form of medical marijuana to qualified students on school property, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored event must not be permitted. The district must post notice of such policy suspension and prohibition in a conspicuous place on its website.

Adopted: July 19, 2016

Revised: August 10, 2021

LEGAL REFS.:

C.R.S. 22-1-119.3

C.R.S. 12-36-102.5 (licensing of physicians)

C.R.S. 12-38-103 (licensing of nurses)

CROSS REFS.:

JCH, Drug and Alcohol Involvement by Students

JKD/JKE, Suspension/Expulsion of Students

JLCD, Administering Medications to Students

JLF, Reporting Child Abuse

JLF-R, Reporting Child Abuse