

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PITTSBURGH

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: POSSESSION/USE OF
EMERGENCY MEDICATIONS

ADOPTED: April 25, 2012

REVISED: PROPOSED REVISIONS
SEPTEMBER 2016

<p>1. Purpose SC 1414.1</p> <p>2. Definitions SC 1401</p> <p>SC 1401</p> <p>3. Authority SC 1414.1, 1414.5</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">229.1. POSSESSION/USE OF EMERGENCY MEDICATIONS</p> <p>The Board shall permit students in District schools to possess emergency medications, and to self-administer such prescribed emergency medications in compliance with state law and Board policy.</p> <p>Emergency medications, as used in this policy, shall refer to, but is not necessarily limited to, asthma inhalers, epinephrine auto-injectors, and diabetes medication.</p> <p>Epinephrine auto-injector (e.g., EpiPen) shall mean a prescribed disposable drug delivery system designed for the administration of epinephrine to provide rapid first aid for persons suffering the effects of anaphylaxis.</p> <p>Asthma inhaler shall mean a prescribed device used for self-administration of short-acting, metered doses of prescribed medication to treat an acute asthma attack.</p> <p>Insulin injection shall mean an injection of insulin used to control blood sugar in students who have diabetes and medically require this level of condition management.</p> <p>Diabetes medication shall mean glucagon, insulin and glucose tablets.</p> <p>Self-administration - a student's use of medication in accordance with a prescription or written instructions from a licensed healthcare provider.</p> <p>Licensed healthcare provider shall include a health care provider who can legally prescribe medications in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Licensed prescribers include medical doctor (MD), osteopathic physician (DO), dentist, physician assistant, and certified nurse practitioner,</p> <p>The Board permits students authorized to possess emergency medications and to carry the medication throughout the school day, including on the school bus, while travelling from home to school and school to home, on school field trips, or other school-related activities.</p>
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<p>4. Guidelines</p>	<p>Possession of emergency medications under proper orders of a treating licensed healthcare provider and in accordance with this policy shall not constitute a violation of the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Policy.</p> <p>Before a student may possess or use emergency medication in the school setting, the Board shall require the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A written request from the parent/guardian that the school complies with the order of the licensed healthcare provider.2. A written statement from the parent/guardian acknowledging that the school is not responsible for ensuring the medication is taken and relieving the district and its employees of responsibility for the benefits or consequences of the prescribed medication.3. A written statement from the licensed healthcare provider that states:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. The name of the drug;b. The dosage instructions which shall include number and/or quantity of the medications; the frequency of its usage; the maximum period of dosage; the recommended date of discontinuance of dosage; and any special instructions or precautions concerned with the administration of said medication;c. The times when the medication is to be taken;d. The length of time medication is prescribed;e. The diagnosis or reason that the medication is needed, unless the reason should remain confidential;f. The potential of any serious reaction that may occur to the medication, as well as any necessary emergency response;g. Whether the student is qualified and able to self-administer the medication;h. That the student is required to carry the medication on his/her person for medical emergency purposes; andi. The signature of the administering licensed healthcare provider. <p>The District reserves the right to require a statement from the licensed healthcare provider for the continued use of a medication beyond the specified time period.</p>
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<p>5. Delegation of Responsibility</p>	<p>A written request for student use of an emergency medication shall be submitted annually, along with required written statements from the parent/guardian and an updated prescription.</p> <p>A student whose parent/guardian completes the written requirements for the student to possess an emergency medication and to self-administer the prescribed medication in the school setting shall demonstrate to the school nurse the competency for self-administration and responsible behavior in use of the medication. Determination of competency for self-administration shall be based on the student's age, cognitive function, maturity and demonstration of responsible behavior.</p> <p>Students shall notify the school nurse immediately following each use of an emergency medication.</p> <p>Students shall be prohibited from sharing, giving, selling, and using emergency medications in any manner other than which it is prescribed during school hours, at any time while on school property, at any school-sponsored activity, and during the time spent traveling to and from school and school sponsored activities. Violations of this policy shall result in loss of privilege to self-carry the medication and disciplinary action in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct and Board policy.</p> <p>If the District denies a student's request to self-carry an emergency medication or the student has lost the privilege of self-carrying the medication, the student's prescribed medication shall be appropriately stored at an accessible location in close proximity to the student. The student's classroom teachers shall be informed where the medication is stored and the means to access the medication.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee may develop any necessary administrative regulations for student possession and self-administration of emergency medications.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students and parents/guardians of this policy by distributing the same with the Code of Student Conduct and by making it available on the District's website.</p> <p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1401, 1414.1. 1414.5</p>
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