

Medication at School

Under normal circumstances prescribed and non-prescription, over-the-counter (OTC) medication, should be administered before and/or after school hours under supervision of the parent/guardian. If a student must receive prescription or OTC oral or topical medication, eye drops or ear drops or nasal spray from an authorized staff member, the parent/guardian must submit a written request accompanied by a written authorization from a licensed health professional (LHP), prescribing within the scope of his or her prescriptive authority. Oral medications are administered by mouth either by swallowing or by inhaling, including through a mask that covers the mouth or mouth and nose. If the medication will be administered for more than fifteen consecutive days, the LHP must also provide written, current and unexpired instructions for the administration of the medication.

The superintendent will establish procedures for:

- A. Designating staff members who may administer medication to students;
- B. Training, delegation, and supervision of staff members in the administration of oral medication to students by a registered nurse (RN);
- C. Obtaining signed and dated parental/guardian and LHP requests and authorization for the administration of medications, including instructions from the LHP if the medication is to be given for more than fifteen (15) days;
- D. Storing medication in a locked or limited access facility;
- E. Maintaining records pertaining to the administration of medications necessary to their attendance at school; and
- F. Permitting possession and self-administration of over-the-counter topical sunscreen products. (See Sunscreen Section Below).

The use of injectable medication for the treatment of anaphylaxis is covered in School District Policy and Procedure 3419 Self-Administration of Asthma and Anaphylaxis Medication and School District Policy and Procedure 3420, Anaphylaxis Prevention and Response.

Medications including suppositories, rectal gels, or injections (except for emergency injections for students with anaphylaxis, that is covered in School District Policy and Procedure 3419 Self-Administration of Asthma and Anaphylaxis Medication and School District Policy and Procedure 3420, Anaphylaxis Prevention and Response) may not be administered by school staff other than by a RN, licensed practical nurses (LPN) or in some situations by a parent designated adult (PDA).

If the district decides to discontinue administering a student's medication, the superintendent or designee must provide notice to the student's parent or guardian orally and in writing prior to the discontinuance. There must be a valid reason for the discontinuance that does not compromise the health of the student or violate legal protections for the disabled.

Sunscreen

Over-the-counter topical sunscreen products may be possessed and used by students, parent/guardians, and school staff without a written prescription or note from a licensed health care provider if the following conditions are met:

- A. The product is regulated by the US Food and Drug administration as an over-the-counter sunscreen product; and
- B. If possessed by a student, the product is provided to the student by a parent/guardian.

Medical Marijuana:

Washington State law (RCW 69.51A.060) permits the use of medical marijuana, however, federal law (Title IV-Part A—Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities and the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) (21 U.S.C. § 811) prohibits the possession and use of marijuana on the premises of recipients of federal funds including educational institutions. Therefore, there will be no accommodation of any marijuana use on any school grounds, school bus or at any other school related activities.

Commented [A1]: Recommended by school nurse corps administrators.

- Cross References: Model Policy 3419 Self-Administration of Asthma and Anaphylaxis Medications
 Model Policy 3420 Anaphylaxis Prevention and Response
- Legal References: RCW 28A.210.260 Public and Private Schools —Administration of Oral Medication by Conditions
 RCW 28A.210.270 Public and Private Schools —Administration of Oral Medication by Immunity from Liability— Discontinuance, Procedure
- Management Resources: **Policy and Legal News 2018 – August Issue**
 Policy News, August 2012
 Policy News, February 2001

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