

STUDENT MEDICATIONS, ALLERGIES, AND ANAPHYLAXIS

I. Statement of Policy

The Board of Education and/or New York Mills Union Free School District (the District) provides for the administration of prescribed medication, including rescue medications for allergies, to a student during school hours when the failure to take such medicine would jeopardize the health of the student, or the student would not be able to attend school or school-sponsored activities (e.g. field trips, athletics) if the medicine were not made available, or where it is administered pursuant to law requiring accommodation of a student's special medical needs.

For the purposes of this Policy, the term “medication” refers to both prescription and non-prescription drugs.

II. Administering Medications

A. Administration of Medication, Including Rescue Medications for Allergies

1. Prerequisites for administration of medication in school:
 - a. The original written order from the student's physician stating the name of the medication, precise dosage, frequency, and time of administration;
 - b. A written, signed consent from the student's parent or legal guardian requesting the administration of the medication, as prescribed by the physician, to the student in school;
 - c. The medication, properly labeled in its original container, must be delivered to the School Health Office by the student's parent or legal guardian. All medication orders must be reviewed at the beginning of each school year or whenever there is a change in dosage;
2. No medication should be brought into school without the knowledge of the health office.
3. No student is to have any other type of medication in school under any circumstances.
4. Excepting students who are permitted to self-administer pursuant to this Policy, medications shall not be transported daily to and from school.

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B. Requirements for Off-Campus or After-Hours Administration

1. District's procedures governing the administration of medication to a student after school hours and/or off school grounds during a school-sponsored activity will be in accordance with NYSED and NYSDOH guidelines and Section II(A) above, of this Policy.
2. Oversight of medication self-administration for supervised and/or self-directed student(s) under these circumstances may be delegated to trained unlicensed school personnel. Such personnel must be appropriately instructed by the School Nurse. (Regulation 7201.3)
3. The School Nurse may prepare oral medication for administration during short out-of-school experiences.
4. A student's Emergency Care Plan (ECP) and epinephrine auto-injectors (EAI) can be given to a designated individual (parent/guardian, parent/guardian designee or trained school personnel) who is familiar with the student's health needs and will be readily available to the student.
5. Plans shall be in place to ensure students' emergency care plans are provided to school personnel at the event, and that a trained staff member is present to administer a student's prescribed emergency epinephrine if needed in accordance with Commissioner's regulation §136.7. When planning events regarding risk to certain students, teachers and coaches should consult with school health personnel regarding health treatment or medication needs to ensure appropriate time is given to parents/guardians to obtain healthcare provider orders, consents, etc.

C. Nurse Dependent Students

Protocols and procedures for nurse dependent students will be conducted in accordance with all legal requirements, including NYSED Medication Management guidance and NYSED Allergies and Anaphylaxis guidance.

D. Supervised Students

1. Students who have been determined to need supervision by the School Nurse or the student's provider may be assisted by trained unlicensed personnel to self-administer their own medication.

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2. Assistance from unlicensed personnel is limited to assistance with needed tasks at the direction of the student and as further detailed in NYSED's Guidelines for Medication Management.
- E. Independent Students
1. Students will be permitted to carry and self-administer their own prescribed medication, including rescue medications for allergies, upon presenting the following to the Health Office:
 - a. A written statement from parent/guardian in support of a licensed health care provider's order that the student be permitted to carry and self-administer medication in school. (Regulation 7201.1)
 - b. A physician or a duly authorized health care provider statement permitting the student to carry and use a prescribed medication, including rescue medications for allergies, during the school day. (Regulation 7201.2)
 2. Students capable of self-administering their (EAI) must be permitted to carry and use their own emergency epinephrine during the school day, on school property, and at any school function pursuant to Education Law §916-a. Such students must have written parent/guardian consent and a written healthcare provider order. The written healthcare provider order must include an attestation including:
 - a. The student has been diagnosed with an allergy for which an EAI is needed;
 - b. The student has demonstrated that they can effectively self-administer the prescribed EAI; and
 - c. The circumstances which may warrant the use of the EAI.
 3. Maintain regular contact with parent/guardian to monitor the effectiveness of such self-medication.
 - a. Require the student to report to the Health Office on a periodic basis as determined by the School Nurse to maintain an ongoing evaluation of the student's management of the self-medication and to work with the parent/guardian and the student regarding such management.

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- b. Refer for counseling any student who self-administers medication without proper authorization and notify school administration and parents of the student's unauthorized use.

III. Allergies and Anaphylaxis

- A. Students with a known diagnosed allergy who are at risk for anaphylaxis should have emergency medication prescribed for use in school. All student-specific medication given to or taken by a student at school must comply with the requirements listed in II, above.
- B. Written protocols will be developed by the Medical Director/Director of School Health Services on anaphylaxis, including the responsibilities of School Nurses (i.e., RNs), other school health professions, and other appropriate school personnel responding to anaphylaxis.

IV. Albuterol

- A. A student may have an extra asthma inhaler in the care and custody of the School Nurse upon the written request of a parent/guardian in accordance with the requirements of Section II(A).

V. Blood Glucose Monitoring

- A. Students with diabetes have the right to care for their diabetes at school in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which provide protection against discrimination for children with disabilities, including diabetes.
- B. Blood glucose monitoring shall be allowed in school for anyone needing such testing. Students must receive assistance if needed with the procedure.
- C. The School Nurse shall oversee any arrangements that need to be made for testing and reporting the results.

VI. Emergency Medication, Including Rescue Medications for Allergies

- A. When emergency use of medication has been prescribed by a licensed prescriber, a school staff member responding to an emergency may administer emergency medication (including EAI and/or oral antihistamine) to a student.
- B. The Persons authorized to use EAI in the event of an emergency are:

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1. RNs or LPNs under the direction of an RN under a nonpatient specific order(s) written by the Medical Director may administer anaphylactic agents to treat anaphylactic symptoms in any person in school, on school property, or at a school sponsored event.
2. School personnel directed in a specific instance to use an EAI device by a health care practitioner as defined in Public Health Law 3000-c.

VII. Implementation and Responsibilities of the Health Office

The School Nurse and other school health professionals shall stay informed on the latest guidance from NYSED and NYSDOH regarding student medications (including requirements regarding storing and disposing of medication), allergies, and anaphylaxis and revise District protocols and procedures to align with the guidance. The School Nurse shall advise their supervisor if a change to this Policy is needed.

VIII. Student Privacy

The District shall protect the privacy rights of students as required by the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, Education Law §2-d, and, where applicable, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 as amended.

New York Mills Union Free School District

Legal Ref: NYS Education Law §§902, 907, 916, 921, 6909; 8 NYCRR 64.7, 136.6; Public Health Law §3000c; State Education Department's "Guidelines for Medication Management in Schools" 2022; State Education Department's "Guidelines for Managing Allergies and Anaphylaxis in Schools", 2024.

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