

## Administration of Prescription and Over-the Counter (OTC) Medications

New York schools must follow strict laws for all student medicines. These rules apply during the regular school day and at any school-sponsored event like sports, field trips, and after-school activities.

### To give any medicine at school, we need:

1. **A written order from a New York State healthcare provider (HCP)**, who is a doctor, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner.
2. **Written permission from the parent or guardian.**

### This law applies to both:

- **Prescription drugs** (medicines ordered by a healthcare provider).
- **Over-the-counter (OTC) medicines** (common medicines you buy at the store without a prescription). Examples of common OTC medicines include:
  - Ointments like Bacitracin®
  - Cough drops
  - Itch creams (like Benadryl® or calamine lotion)
  - Pain relievers like Acetaminophen (Tylenol®) or Ibuprofen (Advil®)
  - Lip balms like Chapstick® or Vaseline®
  - Lotions like Aquaphor®, CeraVe or Eucerin®

### General Information

- Medication orders and parent/guardian permission must be renewed each school year (this includes over the counter medication).
- Medication must be in a container provided by your pharmacist, labeled with your child's name and exact dosage or in the original OTC bottle with your child's name written on it.
- If your child requires medication at home and in school, please request the pharmacist to provide a labeled bottle for home and a labeled bottle for school.
- Students are not allowed to carry medication unless they meet specific criteria defined in law.
- An adult must bring the medication to school and pick it up when it is no longer needed.
- Medication not picked up at end of the school year will be discarded

If your HCP decides that medicine is medically needed for your student to attend school, and participate in the education program, please provide your school nurse with required order and permission. A **Permission to Administer Prescription and OTC Medication** form is available on the health services page of our website or can be requested directly from your school nurse.

**Please contact your school nurse if you have questions or need additional information about this requirement. You can find your school nurse on the [HPCSD Health Services Page](#) or by scanning this QR code.**

