

POLICY	516	Page: 1 of 5
SERIES	500	Students
SUBJECT	516	Student Medication and Telehealth
Adopted		May 8, 2001
Revised		August 24, 2004, May 10, 2005, June 13, 2006; April 11, 2017; May 11, 2021; August 12, 2024; October 7, 2025
Reviewed		July 2026

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set forth the provisions that must be followed when administering non-emergency prescription medication to students at school.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school district acknowledges that some students may require prescribed drugs or medication or telehealth during the school day. The school district's licensed school nurse, trained health clerk, principal, teacher or other designated person will administer prescribed medications in accordance with law and school district procedures.

III. DRUG AND MEDICATION REQUIREMENTS

A. Administration of Drugs and Medicine

1. The administration of medication or drugs at school requires a completed signed request from the student's parent. An oral request must be put in writing within two school days, provided that the school district may rely on an oral request until a written request is received.

2. Exclusions

The provisions on administration of drugs and medicine above do not apply to drugs or medicine that are:

- a. purchased without a prescription;
- b. used by a pupil who is 18 years old or older;
- c. used in connection with services for which a minor may give effective consent;
- d. used in situations in which, in the judgment of the school personnel, including a licensed nurse, who are present or available, the risk to the pupil's life or health is of such a nature that drugs or medicine should be given without delay;
- e. used off the school grounds;
- f. used in connection with athletics or extracurricular activities;
- g. used in connection with activities that occur before or after the regular school day;

- h. provided or administered by a public health agency to prevent or control an illness or a disease outbreak as provided under Minnesota law;
- i. prescription asthma or reactive airway disease medications can be self-administered by a student with an asthma inhaler if:
 - a. the school district has received a written authorization each school year from the pupil's parent permitting the student to self-administer the medication;
 - b. the inhaler is properly labeled for that student; and
- j. epinephrine delivery systems, consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section [121A.2205](#), if the parent and prescribing medical professional annually inform the pupil's school in writing that
 - a. the pupil may possess the epinephrine or
 - b. the pupil is unable to possess the epinephrine and requires immediate access to epinephrine delivery systems that the parent provides properly labeled to the school for the pupil as needed.
- k. For the purposes of Minnesota Statutes, 121A.22, special health treatments and health functions, such as catheterization, tracheostomy suctioning, and gastrostomy feedings, do not constitute administration of drugs or medicine.
- l. Emergency health procedures, including emergency administration of drugs and medicine are not subject to this policy.

B. Prescription Medication

- 1. An "Administering Prescription Medications" form must be completed annually (once per school year) and/or when a change in the prescription or requirements for administration occurs. "Prescription medication" as used in this policy does not include medical cannabis, as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 152.22, subdivision 6.
- 2. Prescription medication must come to school in the original container labeled for the student by a pharmacist in accordance with law and must be administered in a manner consistent with the instructions on the label.
- 3. The designated person may request to receive further information about the prescription, if needed, prior to administration of the substance.
- 4. Students must deliver prescription medications to appropriate school personnel promptly upon entering the school and prescribed medications are not to be carried by the student thereafter. Exceptions to this requirement are: prescription asthma medications self-administered with an inhaler, and medications as administered as noted in a written agreement between the school district and the

parent or as specified in an IEP (individualized education program), Section 504 plan, or IHP (individual health plan).

5. The school must be notified immediately by the parent or student 18 years old or older in writing of any change in the student's prescription medication administration. A new medical authorization or container label with new pharmacy instructions shall be required immediately as well.
6. For drugs or medicine used by children with a disability, administration may be as provided in the IEP, Section 504 plan or IHP.
7. The school nurse, or other designated person, shall be responsible for the filing of the Administering Prescription Medications form in the health records section of the student file. The school nurse, or other designated person, shall be responsible for providing a copy of such form to the principal and to other personnel designated to administer the medication.
8. If the administration of a drug or medication described in this section requires the school district to store the drug or medication, the parent or legal guardian must inform the school if the drug or medication is a controlled substance. For a drug or medication that is not a controlled substance, the request must include a provision designating the school district as an authorized entity to transport the drug or medication for the purpose of destruction if any unused drug or medication remains in the possession of school personnel. For a drug or medication that is a controlled substance, the request must specify that the parent or legal guardian is required to retrieve the drug or controlled substance when requested by the school.

C. Nonprescription Medication

A secondary student may possess and use nonprescription pain relief in a manner consistent with the labeling, if the school district has received a written authorization from the student's parent or guardian permitting the student to self-administer the medication. The parent or guardian must submit written authorization for the student to self-administer the medication each school year. The school district may revoke a student's privilege to possess and use nonprescription pain relievers if the school district determines that the student is abusing the privilege. This provision does not apply to the possession or use of any drug or product containing ephedrine or pseudo-ephedrine as its sole active ingredient or as one of its active ingredients. Except as stated in this paragraph, only prescription medications are governed by this policy

D. Possession and Use of Epinephrine Delivery Systems

1. Definitions

- a. "Administer" means the direct application of an epinephrine delivery system to the body of an individual.

- b. “Epinephrine delivery system” means a medication product approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration that automatically delivers a single, premeasured dose of epinephrine to prevent or treat a life-threatening reaction.
 - c. “School” means a public school under Minnesota Statutes, section 120A.22, subdivision 4, or a nonpublic school, excluding a home school, under section 120A.22, subdivision 4, that is subject to the federal Americans with Disabilities Act.
2. At the start of each school year or at the time a student enrolls in school, whichever is first, a student’s parent, school staff, including those responsible for student health care, and the prescribing medical professional must develop and implement an individualized written health plan for a student who is prescribed epinephrine delivery systems that enables the student to:
- a. possess epinephrine delivery systems; or
 - b. if the parent and prescribing medical professional determine the student is unable to possess the epinephrine, have immediate access to epinephrine delivery systems in close proximity to the student at all times during the instructional day.

For the purposes of this policy, “instructional day” is defined as eight hours for each student contact day.

The plan must designate the school staff responsible for implementing the student’s health plan, including recognizing anaphylaxis and administering epinephrine delivery systems when required, consistent with state law. This health plan may be included in a student’s Section 504 plan.

E. Sunscreen

A student may possess and apply a topical sunscreen product during the school day while on school property or at a school-sponsored event without a prescription, physician’s note, or other documentation from a licensed health care professional. School personnel are not required to provide sunscreen or assist students in applying sunscreen.

IV. ACCESS TO SPACE FOR MENTAL HEALTH CARE THROUGH TELEHEALTH

- A. Each secondary school must provide an enrolled secondary school student with access during regular school hours, and to the extent staff is available, before or after the school day on days when students receive instruction at school, to space at the school site that a student may use to receive mental health care through telehealth from a student’s licensed mental health provider. A secondary school must develop a plan with procedures to receive requests for access to the space.
- B. The space must provide a student privacy to receive mental health care.

- C. A student may use a school-issued device to receive mental health care through telehealth if such use is consistent with the district or school policy governing acceptable use of the school-issued device.
- D. A school may require a student requesting access to space under this section to submit to the school a signed and dated consent from the student's parent or guardian, or from the student if the student is age 16 or older, authorizing the student's licensed mental health provider to release information from the student's health record that is requested by the school to confirm the student is currently receiving mental health care from the provider. Such a consent is valid for the school year in which it is submitted.