

Medication at School

General Statement

Under normal circumstances prescribed and over-the-counter medication should be dispensed before and/or after school hours under supervision of the parent or guardian. If a student must receive prescribed or over-the-counter oral or topical medication, eye drops or ear drops (“medications”) from an authorized staff member, the parent must submit a written authorization accompanied by a written request from a licensed health professional 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 health professional must also provide written, current and unexpired instructions for the administration of the medication.

Special Exception to General Statement

Over-the-counter topical sunscreen products may be possessed and used by students, parents, 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 or guardian.

Procedures

The superintendent will establish procedures for:

- A. ~~Delegating~~ Training and supervision of staff members in the administration of prescribed or non-prescribed medication to students by a physician or registered nurse;
- B. Designating staff members who may administer prescribed or non-prescribed medication to students;
- C. Obtaining signed and dated parental and health professional request for the dispensing of prescribed or non-prescribed medications, including instructions from health professional if the medication is to be given for more than 15 days;
- D. Storing prescribed or non-prescribed medication in a locked or limited access facility;
- E. Maintaining records pertaining to the administration of prescribed or non-prescribed medication; ~~and~~
- F. Permitting, under limited circumstances, students to carry and self-administer medications necessary to their attendance at school; and
- G. Permitting possession and self-administration of over-the-counter topical sunscreen products. This procedure may include product identification, storage, limitations of volume of sunscreen product possessed, time and circumstances of use, and such other reasonable conditions deemed necessary.

Inhalers, Injections, Suppositories

Nasal inhalers, suppositories and non-emergency injections may not be administered by school staff other than registered nurses and licensed practical nurses. No medication will be administered by injection by school staff except when a student is susceptible to a predetermined, life-endangering situation (See Policy 3420, Anaphylaxis Prevention and

Response). In such an instance, the parent will submit a written and signed permission statement. Such an authorization will be supported by signed and dated written orders accompanied by supporting directions from the licensed health professional. A staff member will be trained prior to injecting a medication.

Discontinuing Medication

If the district decides to discontinue administering a student's medication, the superintendent or designee must provide notice to the student's parents 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.

Administration of legend (prescribed) drugs or controlled substances by nasal spray

If a school nurse is on the premises, he/she may administer a nasal spray containing a prescribed drug or controlled substance to a student. If a school nurse is not on school premises, a nasal spray containing a legend (prescribed) drug or controlled substance may be administered by:

- A trained school employee, provided that person has received appropriate RN delegation and volunteered for the training pursuant to RCW 28A.210.260; or
- A parent-designated adult.

A parent designated adult is a volunteer, who may be a school district employee, who receives additional training from a healthcare professional or expert in epileptic seizure care selected by the parents who provides care for the student consistent with the student's individual health plan on file with the school.

Required Notification of EMS

After every administration of any legend (prescribed) drug or controlled substance by nasal spray to a student, Emergency Medical Services (911) will be summoned as soon as practicable.

~~No medication will be administered by injection except when a student is susceptible to a predetermined, life-endangering situation. In such an instance, the parent will submit a written and signed permission statement. Such an authorization will be supported by signed and dated written orders accompanied by supporting directions from the licensed health professional. A staff member will be trained prior to injecting a medication.~~

~~Medications other than oral or topical medications, eye drops or ear drops such as nasal inhalers, suppositories or non-emergency injections may not be administered by school staff other than registered nurses or licensed practical nurses.~~

~~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.~~

Cross References: Policy 3419
 Policy 3420

Self-Administration of Asthma and
Anaphylaxis Medications
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 News, July 2017

Policy News, July 2014

Policy News, August 2012

Policy News, February 2001

Oral Medication Definition Expanded

OSPI Bulletin

Orientation Level Training for School Employees Who Administer Oral Medications to Student, August 2001

http://www.k12.wa.us/SpecialEd/pubdocs/oral_medications_training_manual.pdf

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Classification: Essential