

Administering Medications to Students

If under exceptional circumstances a student is required to take medication during school hours, only a district school nurse or the nurse's designee may administer the medication to the student in compliance with the following regulation. In the alternative, the parent/guardian may come to school to administer the medication. Administration of medical marijuana shall only be in accordance with Board Policy JLCD.

1. All directives of the accompanying policy shall be followed.
2. Written orders from the student's health care practitioner with prescriptive authority under Colorado law shall be on file in the school stating:
 - a. Student's name
 - b. Name of medication
 - c. Dosage
 - d. Purpose of the medication
 - e. Time of day medication is to be given
 - f. Anticipated number of days it needs to be given at school
 - g. Possible side effects
 - h. Signature of parent, which serves as authorization to give the medication
 - i. Signature of health care practitioner
3. The medication shall be brought to school in a container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or health care practitioner.
4. An individual record shall be kept of medications administered by school personnel.
5. Medication shall be stored in a clean, locked cabinet or container. Emergency medications (such as epinephrine) shall be kept in a secure location accessible to designated school staff.

Unless these requirements are met, medication will not be administered to students at school.

Self-administration of medication for asthma, allergies or anaphylaxis

A school shall permit a student to possess and self-administer medication for asthma, severe allergies, diabetes or other life-threatening conditions, such as an inhaler or epinephrine, if all of the following conditions are met:

1. Written authorization signed by the student's health care practitioner must be on file with the school which shall include the student's name; the name, purpose, prescribed dosage, frequency, and length of time between dosages of the medication(s) to be self-administered; and confirmation that the student has been instructed and is capable of self-administration of the medication.
2. A district school nurse or school administrator, in consultation with the school health clerk, the student's health care practitioner, and the student's parent/guardian collaborate to make an assessment of the student's knowledge of his or her condition and ability to self-administer medication.

3. A written statement signed by the student's parent/guardian must be on file with the school, which shall include permission for the student to self-administer his/her medication and a release from liability for any injury arising from the student's self-administration of such medication.
4. A written contract between the school health clerk, school administrator, the student, and the student's parent/guardian must be on file with the school, assigning levels of responsibility to the student's parent/guardian, student, and school employees.

A treatment plan authorizing a student to possess and self-administer medication for asthma or anaphylaxis shall be effective only for the school year in which it is approved.

A student shall report to the school health clerk or designee or to some adult at the school immediately after the student uses an epinephrine auto-injector during school hours. Upon receiving such report from a student, the school health clerk, designee, or other adult will provide appropriate follow-up care to the student, which shall include making a 911 emergency call.

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