

Administration of Medication at School

Dear Parents/Guardians:

In order for schools to dispense medication at schools to students (whether prescription or over-the-counter) Washington State law requires the following:

1. Written permission and instructions from the doctor, dentist, or nurse practitioner.
2. Written permission from the parent.
3. Medication in the original container and accurately labeled with the student's name and correct dose/instructions.
4. Medications are stored in a secured area at school at all times UNLESS both doctor and parent have determined that the medication needs to be carried by the student who is capable of treating him/herself. Examples of these medications are inhalers for asthma, Epi-pens for those with a history of severe allergic reactions, and insulin for diabetes. In these cases the doctor must give written permission for the student to carry their medication.
5. Medication must be brought to school by a responsible adult (unless ordered by the doctor as a self carried medication as in #4 above). Please do not send medication to school with your student or give it to the bus driver to bring to school.
6. Permission and instructions are good for the current school year only.

The doctor, dentist, or nurse practitioner must include the name of the medication, the dosage and time of administration, the reason the medication needs to be given at school, and possible side effects of the medication. This requirement applies to **all** medications, including cough drops and over-the-counter pain relievers.

If at any time the parent is not able to get the doctor/dentist/nurse practitioner's written permission for the school to administer a medication, the parent/guardian must personally come to the school and administer the medication to the student.

If your child has a history of severe allergic reactions (such as to food or beestings), it is highly recommended that they have an Epi-pen ordered by the doctor/nurse practitioner for use at school. Epi-Pen is an automatic injection which reverses the allergic symptoms long enough for the person to receive medical treatment.

If you have any concerns or questions about this medication policy, please feel free to contact me at any time. Thank you!

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