

STUDENTS

Administering Medication And Monitoring Health Conditions

Definitions

Authorized health care provider means an individual who is licensed by the State of California to prescribe or order medication, including, but not limited to, a physician or physician assistant.

Other designated school personnel means any individual employed by the El Dorado County Office of Education (EDCOE), including a nonmedical school employee, who has volunteered or consented to administer medication or otherwise assist the student and who may legally administer the medication to the student or assist the student in the administration of the medication.

Medication may include not only a substance dispensed in the United States by prescription, but also a substance that does not require a prescription, such as over-the-counter remedies, nutritional supplements, and herbal remedies.

Emergency medical assistance for a student suffering an epileptic seizure means the administration of an emergency antiseizure medication such as diazepam rectal gel and other emergency medications approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration for patients suffering from epileptic seizures.

Notifications to Parents/Guardians

At the beginning of each school year, the El Dorado County Superintendent of Schools (Superintendent) or designee shall notify parents/guardians of the options available to students who need to take prescribed medication during the school day and the rights and responsibilities of parents/guardians regarding those options.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall inform the parents/guardians of any student on a continuing medication regimen for a nonepisodic condition of the following requirements:

1. The parent/guardian is required to inform the school nurse or other designated employee of the medication being taken, the current dosage, and the name of the supervising physician.
2. With the parent/guardian's consent, the school nurse or other designated employee may communicate with the student's physician regarding the medication and its effects and may counsel school personnel regarding the possible effects of the medication on the student's physical, intellectual, and social behavior, as well as possible behavioral signs and symptoms of adverse side effects, omission, or overdose.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the parent/guardian of any student who may need medication during the school day shall include, but are not limited to:

1. Providing parent/guardian and authorized health care provider written statements each school year as described in the sections "Parent/Guardian Statement" and "Health Care Provider Statement" below. The parent/guardian shall provide a new authorized health care provider's statement if the medication, dosage, frequency of administration, or reason for administration changes.

2. If the student is on a continuing medication regimen for a nonepisodic condition, informing the school nurse or other designated certificated employee of the medication being taken, the current dosage, and the name of the supervising physician and updating the information when needed.
3. If the student suffers from epilepsy, notifying the principal or designee whenever the student has had an emergency antiseizure medication administered to him/her within the past four hours on a school day.
4. Providing medications in properly labeled, original containers along with the authorized health care provider's instructions. For prescribed or ordered medication, the container also shall bear the name and telephone number of the pharmacy, the student's identification, and the name and phone number of the authorized health care provider.

Parent/Guardian Statement

When EDCOE employees are to administer medication to a student, the parent/guardian's written statement shall:

1. Identify the student
2. Grant permission for an authorized EDCOE employee representative to communicate directly with the student's authorized health care provider and pharmacist, as may be necessary, regarding the health care provider's written statement or any other questions that may arise with regard to the medication
3. Contain an acknowledgment that the parent/guardian understands how EDCOE employees will administer the medication or otherwise assist the student in its administration
4. Contain an acknowledgment that the parent/guardian understands his/her responsibilities to enable EDCOE to administer or otherwise assist the student in the administration of medication, including, but not limited to, the parent/guardian's responsibility to provide a written statement from the authorized health care provider, to ensure that the medication is delivered to the school in a proper container by an individual legally authorized to be in possession of the medication, and to provide all necessary supplies and equipment
5. Contain an acknowledgment that the parent/guardian understands that he/she may terminate the consent for the administration of the medication or for otherwise assisting the student in the administration of medication at any time.

In addition to the requirements in items #1-5 above, if a parent/guardian has requested that his/her child be allowed to carry and self-administer prescription auto-injectable epinephrine or prescription inhaled asthma medication, the parent/guardian's written statement shall:

1. Consent to the self-administration
2. Release EDCOE and school personnel from civil liability if the student suffers an adverse reaction as a result of self-administering the medication.

In addition to the requirements in items #1-5 above, if a parent/guardian wishes to designate an individual who is not an employee of EDCOE to administer medication to his/her child, the parent/guardian's written statement shall clearly identify the individual and shall state:

1. The individual's willingness to accept the designation
2. That the individual is permitted to be on the school site
3. Any limitations on the individual's authority.

Health Care Provider Statement

When any EDCOE employee is to administer prescribed medication to a student, or when a student is to be allowed to carry and self-administer prescribed medication during school hours, the authorized health care provider's written statement shall include:

1. Clear identification of the student
2. The name of the medication
3. The method, amount, and time schedules by which the medication is to be taken
4. If a parent/guardian has requested that his/her child be allowed to self-administer medication, confirmation that the student is able to self-administer the medication
5. For medication that is to be administered by unlicensed personnel, confirmation by the student's health care provider that the medication may safely and appropriately be administered by unlicensed personnel
6. Possible side effects of the medication
7. Name, address, telephone number, and signature of the student's authorized health care provider.

When authorizing an EDCOE employee to administer emergency antiseizure medication to a student, the authorized health care provider's written statement shall also include the following:

1. Detailed seizure symptoms, including frequency, type, or length of seizures that identify when the administration of the medication becomes necessary
2. Any potential adverse responses by the student and recommended mitigation actions, including when to call emergency services
3. A protocol for observing the student after a seizure, including, but not limited to, whether he/she should rest in the school office or return to his/her class and the length of time he/she should be under direct observation
4. A statement that following a seizure, a school administrator or other staff member shall contact the school nurse and the student's parent/guardian to continue the observation plan.

EDCOE Responsibilities

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that any unlicensed school personnel authorized to administer medication to a student receives appropriate training from the school nurse or other qualified medical personnel.

The school nurse or other designated school personnel shall:

1. Administer or assist in administering medication in accordance with the authorized health care provider's written statement
2. Accept delivery of medications from parents/guardians and count and record them upon receipt
3. Maintain a list of students needing medication during the school day, including those authorized to self-administer medication, and note on the list the type of medication and the times and dosage to be administered
4. Maintain for each student a medication log which may:

- a. Specify the student's name, medication, dose, method of administration, time of administration during the regular school day, date(s) on which the student is required to take the medication, and the authorized health care provider's name and contact information
 - b. Contain space for daily recording of the date, time, and amount of medication administered, and the signature of the individual administering the medication
5. Maintain for each student a medication record which may include the authorized health care provider's written statement, the parent/guardian's written statement, the medication log, and any other written documentation related to the administration of medication to the student
 6. Ensure that student confidentiality is appropriately maintained
 7. Coordinate and, as appropriate, ensure the administration of medication during field trips and other school-related activities
 8. Report to a student's parent/guardian and the site administrator any refusal by the student to take his/her medication
 9. Keep all medication to be administered by EDCOE school personnel in a locked drawer or cabinet
 10. As needed, communicate with a student's authorized health care provider and/or pharmacist regarding the medication and its effects
 11. Counsel other designated school personnel regarding the possible effects of a medication on a student's physical, intellectual, and social behavior, as well as possible behavioral signs and symptoms of adverse side effects, omission, or overdose
 12. Ensure that any unused, discontinued, or outdated medication is returned to the student's parent/guardian at the end of the school year or, if the medication cannot be returned, dispose of it in accordance with state laws and local ordinances
 13. In the event of a medical emergency requiring administration of medication, provide immediate medical assistance, directly observe the student following the administration of medication, contact the student's parent/guardian, and determine whether the student should return to class, rest in the school office, or receive further medical assistance.

Additional Requirements for Management of Epileptic Seizures

In addition to applicable provisions in the sections above, the Superintendent or designee shall make arrangements for assisting students with epilepsy who may suffer a seizure at school. Such arrangements shall include the following:

1. Whenever a parent/guardian requests that a nonmedical EDCOE employee be trained to provide emergency medical assistance to his/her child, notification to the parent/guardian that the child may qualify for services or accommodations pursuant to 20 USC 1400-1482, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), or 29 USC 794, Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

The Superintendent or designee shall assist the parent/guardian to explore that option and shall encourage him/her to adopt the option if the student is determined to be eligible for such service or accommodation.

2. The creation of an individualized health plan, seizure action plan, or other appropriate health plan designed to acknowledge and prepare for the student's health care needs in school, if his/her

parent/ guardian refuses to have him/her assessed for services or accommodations under IDEA or Section 504.

3. The distribution of an electronic notice to school staff no more than twice per school year, for each student whose parent/guardian has requested provision of emergency medical assistance pursuant to Education Code 49414.7. The notice shall be in bold print and, in accordance with Education Code 49414.7, shall contain a description of the request for a volunteer school employee, the training that such volunteer school employee will receive, the voluntary nature of the program, and the timelines for the volunteer school employee to rescind his/her offer.

If no employee volunteers to administer emergency antiseizure medication to a student, the Superintendent or designee shall again notify the student's parent/guardian of the option to have the student assessed for services and accommodations under IDEA or Section 504.

4. An assurance that any employee who volunteers to administer an emergency antiseizure medication shall receive from a licensed health care professional the training specified in 5 CCR 623 before administering such medication.

When a trained employee has not administered an emergency antiseizure medication to a student within two years after completing the training and a student who may need the administration of an emergency antiseizure medication is enrolled in the school, the employee shall be retrained in order to retain the ability to administer an emergency antiseizure medication.

5. An assurance that any training provided for EDCOE employees who volunteer to administer emergency antiseizure medication to students shall include, but is not limited to:

- a. Recognition and treatment of different types of seizures
- b. Administration of an emergency antiseizure medication
- c. Basic emergency follow-up procedures, including, but not limited to, a requirement for the principal or designee to call the emergency 911 telephone number and to contact the student's parent/guardian, but not necessarily to transport the student to an emergency room
- d. Techniques and procedures to ensure student privacy

6. A process for notifying the credentialed school nurse, or the Superintendent or designee as applicable, whenever an employee administers an emergency antiseizure medication to a student at a school site.

7. Supervision of volunteer school employees by a licensed health care professional, in accordance with 5 CCR 627.

Emergency Epinephrine Auto-Injectors

The Superintendent or designee shall provide epinephrine auto-injectors to school nurses or other employees who have volunteered to administer them in an emergency and have received training. The school nurse, or a volunteer employee when a school nurse or physician is unavailable, may administer an epinephrine auto-injector to provide emergency medical aid to any person suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering, from potentially life-threatening symptoms of anaphylaxis at school or a school activity.

At least once per school year, the Superintendent or designee shall distribute to all staff a notice requesting volunteers to be trained to administer an epinephrine auto-injector and describing the training that the volunteer will receive.

The principal or designee at each school may designate one or more volunteers to receive initial and annual refresher training, which shall be provided by a school nurse or other qualified person

designated by a physician and surgeon authorized pursuant to Education Code 49414 and shall be based on the standards developed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI). Written materials covering the required topics for training shall be retained by the school for reference.

A school nurse or other qualified supervisor of health, or a district administrator if the district does not have a qualified supervisor of health, shall obtain a prescription for epinephrine auto-injectors for each school from an authorized physician and surgeon. Such prescription may be filled by local or mail order pharmacies or epinephrine auto-injector manufacturers. Elementary schools shall, at a minimum, be provided one adult (regular) and one junior epinephrine auto-injector. Secondary schools shall be provided at least one adult (regular) epinephrine auto-injector, unless there are any students at the school who require a junior epinephrine auto-injector.

If an epinephrine auto-injector is used, the school nurse or other qualified supervisor of health shall restock the epinephrine auto-injector as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than two weeks after it is used. In addition, epinephrine auto-injectors shall be restocked before their expiration date.

Information regarding defense and indemnification provided by EDCOE for any and all civil liability for volunteers administering epinephrine auto-injectors shall be provided to each volunteer and retained in his/her personnel file.

A school may accept gifts, grants, and donations from any source for the support of the school in carrying out the requirements of Education Code 49414, including, but not limited to, the acceptance of epinephrine auto-injectors from a manufacturer or wholesaler.

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain records regarding the acquisition and disposition of epinephrine auto-injectors for a period of three years from the date the records were created.