

Medication

Medications may be given to a child at school in an emergency or if it is required in order for the child to remain in daily attendance for comfort or as a necessity. It is expected that in most instances medication will be given at home and not in school.

Our school medication policy follows the recommended guidelines of the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Illinois State Board of Education. It states that the administration of medication to students during regular school hours and during school-related activities should be discouraged unless absolutely necessary for the critical health and well-being of the student. This includes both PRESCRIPTION AND ANY OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATION.

Section I District Administration of Medication

1. Medication forms are available in all school offices and from school nurses and district website.
2. **All medication, including non-prescription drugs, given in school shall be prescribed by a licensed prescriber on an individual basis as determined by the student's health status.**
 - The only exception to the above would be throat lozenges or cough drops (not candy or liquids) which may be sent to school without a written doctor's order if a parent/guardian provides them and writes a note requesting their child be allowed to use them during school. All notes are to be checked by the nurse. The elementary teachers will keep the cough drops on their desks with the note. Middle and high school students may carry them with their note. The cough drops need to be in the original wrapper or bag so that the ingredients can be determined.
3. A written order for prescription and non-prescription medications must be obtained from the student's licensed prescriber in accordance with the prescriber's license.
4. In addition to the prescriber's order, a written request shall be obtained from the parent/guardian requesting the medication be given during school hours. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to assure that the licensed prescriber order, written parent request, and the medication are brought to school in the original container or package (prescribed and over-the-counter medication).
5. All prescription medication brought to school must be properly labeled with the name of the student, prescription number, doctor's name, name of medication, dosage, administration directions, date and refill, pharmacy name, address, and phone number and the name or initials of the pharmacist. All over-the-counter medications must be in the original container or package.
6. All prescriptions for medication are renewed at least yearly. A new written doctor's order must accompany any dosage changes in a student's present medication order.
7. Students will be allowed to carry emergency medications (Epi-pens, asthma inhalers) on the school bus if an order from the doctor is on file with the school nurse. All other medications should be transported to school by parents/guardians. If you have any questions, please contact the Building Principal or the school nurse.
8. No medicine is allowed on district #100 buses unless approved under the procedures previously listed in

this section.

Section II Self-Administration of Medication

Students are not allowed to self-administer medication, except under the following circumstances:

1. High school students may carry over-the-counter pain relievers and self administer without going to the nurse if they have a doctor's written order and written parent request on file with the nurse. The parent/guardian must complete an "Authorization for the Administration of Medication" form and sign that he/she takes full responsibility for the appropriate use of the medication by the student named on the form. The student and the parent understand that distribution to any other student will result in suspension and possible expulsion of the child.
2. A school, whether public or nonpublic, must permit the self-administration of medication by a pupil with asthma or the use of an epinephrine auto-injector by a pupil, provided that:
 - a. The parents or guardians of the pupil provide to the school written authorization for the self-administration of medication or use of an epinephrine auto-injector.
 - b. The parents or guardians of the pupil provide to the school a written statement from the pupil's physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse containing the following information: (a) the name and purpose of the medication or epinephrine auto-injector; (b) the prescribed dosage; and (c) the time or times at which or the special circumstances under which the medication or epinephrine auto-injector is to be administered.
 - c. In the case of self-administration and self-carry of asthma medication the parents or guardians of the pupil must provide to the school the prescription label, which must contain the name of the asthma medication, the prescribed dosage, and time at which or circumstances under which the asthma medication is to be administered.

The parents or guardians of the pupil must sign a statement acknowledging that District #100 is to incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from the self-administration of medication or use of an epinephrine auto-injector by the pupil and that the parents or guardians must indemnify and hold harmless District #100 and its employees and agents against any claims, except a claim based on willful and wanton conduct, arising out of the self-administration of medication or use of an epinephrine auto-injector by the pupil.

The permission for self-administration of medication or use of an epinephrine auto-injector is effective for the school year for which it is granted and shall be renewed each subsequent school year upon fulfillment of the requirements of this section. Provided the requirements of this section are fulfilled, a pupil with asthma may possess and use his or her medication, or a pupil may possess and use an epinephrine auto-injector (a) while in school, (b) while at a school-sponsored activity; (c) while under the supervision of school personnel; (d) before or after normal school activities, such as while in before-school or after-school care on school-operated property.