

Administration of Medication to Students

Students may need to take medication during the school day. Persons authorized to administer medication include a licensed registered nurse, physician, an authorized practitioner, persons who have successfully completed a medication administration course, or the students' parent/legal guardians. A medication administration course and periodic updates shall be conducted by a registered nurse or licensed pharmacist. A record of course completion will be maintained in the district's Health Services office.

If medication is required to be self-administered for asthma or airway constriction, the Consent Form No. 507.2E3, "Asthma or Airway Constricting Medication Self-administration Consent," must be completed. If other alternative provisions are necessary, they must be made through the school nurse. When administration of the medication requires ongoing professional health judgment, an individual health plan and/or an emergency plan shall be developed jointly by the school nurse, student, and student's parent/legal guardian.

ALL medications, over-the-counter as well as prescribed (see Exception below), will require written and dated authorization from the parent(s) or guardian **AND** a legal prescriber (physician, dentist, podiatrist, physician assistant, advanced registered nurse practitioner or another health care provider legally authorized to prescribe medications).

A statement of the legal prescriber's directions specifying frequency, amount, method of administration, and description of anticipated reactions to and possible side effects of the medicine signed by the legal prescriber must be filed at the school.

A written medication administration record shall be on file which includes the following:

- Date of receipt of medication
- Name of student
- Prescriber or person authorizing administration
- Name of medicine
- Medication dosage
- Administration time
- Administration method
- Any unusual circumstances, actions or omissions
- Signature and title of the person administering medication

Medication shall be maintained in the original, labeled container, either as dispensed or in the manufacturer's container. Medication shall be stored in a secured area unless an alternative provision is documented. Emergency protocols for medication-related reactions shall be posted. Medication information shall be confidential information.

EXCEPTION ONLY FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLS AND HIGH SCHOOLS:

Non prescription medications may be administered in the middle and high schools by the school nurse after assessment of appropriate use for the student with ONLY a parent or legal guardian consent. Students may receive up to five (5) doses, after which the student's parent or legal guardian may be contacted and the student's health status reassessed to determine if medical referral is necessary before continuing administration. Based upon assessment findings, a school nurse can determine if it is appropriate to administer medication regardless of the number of doses given until the parent or legal guardian provides permission from a licensed health care provider.

Adopted: November 9, 1992
Revised: February 12, 2007
Revised: April 13, 2009

Legal Reference:
Iowa Code §§124.101(1), 147.107, 152.1, 155A.4(2),
280.16, 280.23 (2007)