

## ADMINISTERING MEDICATION TO STUDENTS

Some students may need prescription and nonprescription medication to participate in their educational program. It is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian to ensure that the school receives properly authorized medication as described below.

Medication shall be administered when the student's parent or legal guardian (hereafter "parent") provides a signed and dated written statement requesting administration and the medication is in the original, labeled container, with as dispensed or in the manufacturer's container. Medication shall be administered and accessed only by the school nurse, or in the nurse's absence, by a person who has successfully completed the Iowa School Medication Management course. A medication administration course and periodic updates shall be conducted by the registered nurse, and a record of course completion shall be kept on file with the district.

When administration of the medication requires ongoing professional health judgment, an individual health plan shall be developed by a licensed health professional. Students may self-administer the following emergency medications; insulin, EPI pen injection, or airway constrictive medication with a written statement by the student's parent or legal guardian and prescribing physician. The statement will be on file requesting co-administration of medication. The statement will be on file in the nurse's office and renewed annually.

Iowa law allows students with asthma and other airway constricting diseases to carry and self-administer their medication upon written approval from their parents and prescribing physician. Students do not have to prove competency to the school district. The consent form, see 507.2R, is all that is required.

Pursuant to state law, the school district and its employees are to incur no liability, except for gross negligence, as a result of an injury arising from self-administration of medication by the student. The parent or legal guardian of the student shall sign a statement acknowledging that the school district is to incur no liability, except for gross negligence, as a result of self-administration of a medication by the student as established by Iowa Code 280.16. If the school district and/or licensed health professional determine a student is abusing their self-administration they may withdraw the self-administration if medically advisable. The student may face disciplinary action.

Persons administering medication shall include the licensed registered nurse, physician, persons who have successfully completed a medication administration course, or to be an authorized practitioner, including parents. A medication administration course and periodic update shall be conducted by the registered nurse and a record of course completion kept on file in the health office.

A Written medication administration record shall be on file including

- Date
- Student's name;
- Prescriber or person authorizing administration;
- Medication;

- Medication dosage;
- Administration time;
- Administration method;
- Signature and title of person administering medications; and
- Any unusual circumstances, actions, or omissions.

Medication shall be stored in a secured area unless alternate provision is documented. Medication information shall be confidential information except as provided to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Emergency protocols for medication-related reactions shall be posted in the area where medications are administered. The parent or legal guardian is responsible for providing safe delivery of medication and equipment to and from school and to pick up remaining medication and equipment at the end of the school year or whenever it is no longer needed at school. No medication will be sent home with the student.

In the best interest of the child and through communication to the school, a parent/guardian may provide permission for a school employee to pick up the medication from a pharmacy if they are unable to do so.

The licensed registered nurse shall have the authorization and responsibility to question and not dispense the medication, in the event that he/she feels the dosage or medication may be detrimental to the student. The licensed registered nurse will communicate with the prescribing physician to discuss dosage and adverse effects. Herbal medications and products containing aspirin will not be dispensed at school.

The superintendent shall be responsible, in conjunction with the provider of school nursing service, for developing rules and regulations governing the administration of medication, prescription and nonprescription, to students. Annually, each student shall be provided with the requirements for administration of medication at school.

Legal Ref.: Iowa Code ch.124, 152, 155A.  
281 I.A.C. 41.12(6)(f), (11).  
657 I.A.C. 1.1(3), 10.61(1).

Cross Ref.: 507.5 Special Health Services

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