

Medication of Children and Youth Program Participants

General Statement

Each program director of programs that provide direct services to students in ESD facilities shall authorize a minimum of two employees to administer prescribed or over-the-counter medication. These authorized employees will receive RN delegation prior to the opening of the program each year.

Under normal circumstances, all medications, both prescribed and over-the-counter (OTC) medication in its original container, should be administered before and/or after program hours under supervision of the parent or guardian.

If a student must receive prescription or OTC oral medication, topical medication, eye drops, ear drops or nasal spray from an authorized employee, the parent/guardian must submit a written authorization accompanied by a written request from a licensed health professional (LHP), prescribing within the scope of his or her prescriptive authority. If the medication will be administered for more than fifteen consecutive days, the LHP must also provide written, current and unexpired instructions for the administration of the medication.

The program director will establish procedures for:

- A. Training, delegation and supervision of employees in the administration of medication to children and youth by a registered nurse (RN), including oral medication, topical medication, eye drops, ear drops and/or nasal spray;
- B. Designating employees who may administer medication to students;
- C. Obtaining signed and dated parent/guardian and LHP request and authorization for the administration of medications, including instructions from a LHP if the medication is to be given for more than fifteen (15) days;
- D. Transporting medications to and from school;
- E. Storing medication in a locked or limited access area;
- F. Labeling medication;
- G. Administering of medication, including identification of student and medication;
- H. Documenting administration of medication, including errors, reactions, or side effects;
- I. Disposing of medication;
- J. Maintaining records pertaining to the administration of medication;
- K. Maintaining student confidentiality;
- L. Permitting, as appropriate, children and youth to carry and self-administer medications necessary to their attendance at ESD programs;

- M. Permitting possession and self-administration of over-the-counter topical sunscreen products (see Sunscreen Section below);
- N. Reviewing and evaluating of medication practices and documentation;
- O. Policy and Procedure 3419 - Self-Administration of Asthma and Anaphylaxis Medication and Policy and Procedure 3420 - Anaphylaxis Prevention and Response govern the use of injectable medication for the treatment of anaphylaxis.

Except for limited situations, suppositories, rectal gels, or injections (except for emergency injections for students with anaphylaxis as stated in District Policy 3419) may not be administered by employees other than registered nurses (RNs), licensed practical nurses (LPNs), or by a parent designated adult (PDA).

If ESD 112 decides to discontinue administering a child or youth's medication, the designated administrator or designee must provide notice to the child or youth's parent or guardian orally and in writing prior to the discontinuance. There must be a valid reason for the discontinuance that does not compromise the health of the child or youth or violate legal protections for the disabled.

Sunscreen

Over-the-counter topical sunscreen products may be possessed and used by students and employees without a written prescription or note from a licensed health care provider if the following conditions are met:

- A. The product is regulated by the US Food and Drug administration as an over-the-counter sunscreen product; and
- B. If possessed by a student, the product is provided to the student by a parent/guardian.

The program may provide education to students regarding sun safety guidelines.

Diaper Rash Ointment and Similar Products

Over-the-counter diaper rash ointment and similar products may be possessed and used in Early Care and Education Programs without a written prescription or note from a licensed health care provider to the extent it is allowed under regulations that apply to Early Care and Education Programs.

Medical Marijuana

Washington State law (RCW 69.51A.060) permits the use of medical marijuana, however, federal law (Title IV-Part A—Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities and the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) (21 U.S.C. § 811) prohibits the possession and use of marijuana on the premises of recipients of federal funds including educational institutions. ESD 112 will not administer medical marijuana. See 3423 – Parental Administration of Marijuana for Medical Purposes, regarding parental administration of medical marijuana on school grounds, school bus, and school-sponsored activities.

Legal References:

RCW 28A.210.260 Public and private schools - Administration of medication — Conditions
RCW 28A.210.270 Public and private schools — Administration of medication — Immunity from liability — Discontinuance, procedure

Cross References:

3420 - Anaphylaxis Prevention and Response

3419 - Self-Administration of Asthma and Anaphylaxis Medications

3423 - Parental Administration of Marijuana for Medical Purposes

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