

PUPIL SPECIALIZED HEALTH CARE AND MEDICATION

The Board of Education believes that regular school attendance is critical to student learning and that students who need to take medication prescribed or ordered for them by their authorized health care providers should have an opportunity to participate in the educational program.

The Board recognizes that certain students may need to take prescribed medication during the school day. The school nurse and other certificated school personnel designated by the principal shall develop processes for the administration of medication to these students. For any student with a disability, as defined under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, necessary medication shall be administered in accordance with the student's individualized education program or Section 504 services plan.

If a parent/guardian chooses, he/she may administer the medication to his/her child at school or during school related activities or designate another individual who is not a school employee to do so on his/her behalf.

In addition, upon a written request by the parent/guardian and with the approval of the student's authorized health care provider, a student with a medical condition that requires frequent treatment, monitoring, or testing may be allowed to self-administer, self-monitor, and/or self-test. Such processes shall be implemented in a manner that preserves campus security, minimizes instructional interruptions, and promotes student safety and privacy.

The student shall observe universal precautions in the handling of blood and other bodily fluids.

Administration of Medication by School Personnel

Any medication prescribed by an authorized health care provider, including, but not limited to, emergency antiseizure medication for a student who suffers epileptic seizures, auto-injectable epinephrine, insulin or glucagon, may be administered by the school nurse or other designated school personnel. The following authorizations and supporting documents shall be required before the administration of medication by school personnel:

1. A written statement from the student's physician detailing the method of administration, and the amount of dosage and time schedule for the taking of medication.
2. A written statement from the student's parent/guardian requesting the school's assistance with administering the prescribed medication to the student.

The parent/guardian of a student on a continuing medication regimen for a non-episodic condition shall inform the principal or other designated certificated employee, in writing, of the medication being taken, the current dosage and the name of the supervising physician.

The school nurse, with the parent/guardian's written consent, may communicate with the student's physician regarding the medication and its effects. The school nurse shall also counsel school personnel on the possible effects of the drug on the student's physical, intellectual, and social behavior, and on any signs or physical, intellectual, and social behavior, and on any signs or symptoms of adverse side effects, omission, or overdose.

Except as noted below, only a school nurse or other school employee with an appropriate medical license may administer an insulin injection to a student. In the event that no such licensed school personnel is available, the Office of Education may contract with a licensed nurse from a public or private agency to administer insulin to the student.

When unlicensed personnel are authorized by law to administer a medication, such as emergency antiseizure medication, epinephrine auto-injector, insulin, or glucagon, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that school personnel designated to administer it to students receive appropriate training from qualified medical personnel before any medication is administered. At a minimum, the training shall cover how and when such medication should be administered, the recognition of symptoms and treatment, emergency follow-up procedures, and the proper documentation and storage of medication. Such trained, unlicensed designated school personnel shall be supervised by and provided with emergency communication access to a school nurse, physician, or other appropriate personnel.

School nurses and other designated school personnel shall administer medications to students in accordance with law and Board policy and shall be afforded appropriate liability protection.

In an emergency situation such as a public disaster or epidemic, a trained, unlicensed district employee may administer medication to a student.

Parents/guardians shall be informed of this policy and procedure by the principal on an annual basis.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48980 Notification at beginning of term

49407 Liability for treatment

49408 Emergency information

49414 Emergency epinephrine auto-injectors

49414.5 Providing school personnel with voluntary emergency training

49422-49427 Employment of medical personnel, especially:

49423 Administration of prescribed medication for student

49423.1 Inhaled asthma medication

49480 Continuing medication regimen

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE

2700-2837 Nursing, especially:

2726 Authority not conferred

2727 Exceptions in general

3501 Definitions

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

600-611 Administering medication to students

620-627 Administration of emergency antiseizure medication by trained volunteer nonmedical school personnel

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232g Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974

1400-1482 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

794 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504

COURT DECISIONS

American Nurses Association v. Torlakson, (2013) 57 Cal.App.4th 570