

Student Medication

Non-licensed School personnel, who provide medication administration, including emergency medications and administration or assisting with the self-administration of insulin subcutaneously to students in a school setting authorized to give medications must be trained in accordance with KRS 158.838, KRS 156.502 and 702 KAR 1:160.

Acetaminophen (Tylenol) may be provided by the school but shall only be given to a student with a medical practitioner's order and after written parental permission ~~is obtained~~. Each parent shall have the opportunity to give such permission at the time of enrollment each year.

No other internal medicine, including aspirin, shall be provided by the school for the purpose of administering to pupils, with the exception of select over-the-counter medications given by trained personnel during extended field trips, with signed permission from parent/guardian and a medical practitioner's order. The following are the select medications that may be given with parent/guardian permission and a medical practitioner's order during field trips: cough drops, acetaminophen, ibuprofen, diphenhydramine, and antibiotic ointment. These medications may be given only at standard age-based doses as printed on the label. All other over-the-counter medications must be provided by the student with parent signed permission and a medical practitioner's order. Antiseptic and appropriate other emergency medications shall be maintained in the first-aid kit.

Pupils may take medicine which is brought from home once a completed authorization form from the parent/guardian is on file.¹

PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS

Parents/guardians and health care providers shall complete the required forms before any person administers prescription medication to a student or before a student self-medicates. Authorization forms are only valid for one school year or until treatment changes. A new authorization for medication administration must be completed if there is a change in medication, dosage, time and/or frequency, and a new prescription bottle (or medication label, if applicable) from the pharmacy indicating the prescription change should be provided.

Prescription medications shall be administered only as prescribed on the physician/health care provider's written authorization. If there is a discrepancy between the information on the parent/guardian authorization form and the prescription label, then, either, a new authorization form must be completed by the parent/guardian, or a new prescription bottle or label issued by the dispensing pharmacy. Prescription medications shall be sent to school in one (1) week increments unless otherwise approved by the Principal or designee. Prescription medications shall not be given beyond the date specified on the authorization form or beyond the expiration date on the label. Parent/guardian shall have the ultimate responsibility to provide the school with an adequate supply of medication to enable the orders to be followed.

All prescription medication, original or refill, should be sent to school in a pharmacy labeled container that includes the student's name, date dispensed, medication, dosage, strength, date of expiration, and directions for use including frequency, duration, and route of administration, prescriber's name, and pharmacy name, address, and phone number. Labels that have been altered in any way will not be accepted. Per KRS 218A.210, "A person to whom or for whose use any controlled substance has been prescribed, sold, or dispensed by a practitioner or other persons authorized under this chapter, may lawfully possess it only in the container in which it was delivered to him by the person selling or dispensing the same."

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PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS (CONTINUED)

Changes in the dosage and/or times of administration must be received in the form of a written order from the physician/health care provider OR a new prescription bottle from the pharmacy indicating the change and a note from the student's parent/guardian.

NONPRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS

Over the counter (OTC) medications should not be administered in a school setting without a medical practitioner's order as well as signed parental consent. OTC medications are permitted to be administered when part of standing order or protocols signed by a medical practitioner.

SELF-ADMINISTRATION

~~A student may be permitted to carry medication that has been prescribed or ordered by a health care practitioner to stay on or with the pupil due to a pressing medical need.~~

Student self-administration is allowed in certain situations with a written health care provider's authorization which permits a student to responsibly carry self-administered medication. The authorization form must be completed by the parent/guardian and health care provider and be on file in the student's school. The authorization must be renewed each school year and the health care provider shall include the following information:

- The student is capable of administering the prescribed medication;
- The name and purpose of the medication;
- The prescribed dosage of the medication;
- The times in which, or circumstances under which, the medication may be given; and
- The period of time for which the medication is prescribed.

The parent/guardian shall be notified if the student uses the medication inappropriately or more often than prescribed.

Provided the parent/guardian and health care practitioner files a completed authorization form each year as required by law, a student under treatment for asthma, diabetes, or at risk of having anaphylaxis shall be permitted to self-administer medication.²

~~In accordance with KRS 158.836, s~~Students with a documented life-threatening allergy or designated staff shall be permitted to carry an injectable epinephrine device in all school environments. The injectable epinephrine device shall be provided by the student's parent/guardian, and a written individual health care plan shall be in place for the student.³

Students with serious allergies or other serious health conditions may be permitted to self-administer medication as provided in an individualized education program, Section 504 Plan or Health Plan.

Students shall not share any prescription or over-the counter medication with another student. Each year, the District shall notify students in writing of this prohibition and that violations shall result in appropriate disciplinary action, including but not limited to suspension or expulsion.

STUDENTS

09.2241
(CONTINUED)

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REFERENCES:

¹OAG 73-768

²KRS 158.834; KRS 158.838

³KRS 158.836

KRS 156.502; KRS 158.832; [KRS 218A.210](#)

702 KAR 1:160; Americans with Disabilities Act

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

[Kentucky Board of Nursing Advisory Opinion Statement #16 Roles of Nurses in the Administration of Medication Via Various Routes \(2023\)](#)

[Kentucky Department of Education Medication Administration Training Manual for Non-Licensed School Personnel \(2025\)](#)

OAG 77-530; OAG 83-115

RELATED POLICIES:

09.22; 09.224

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