



## **MEDICATION FOR STUDENTS AT SCHOOL GUIDELINES**

These guidelines reflect Washington State law and School District policies, written to support student health and safety. Trained school staff can assist students with administering their oral and topical medication, asthma inhalers, eye and ear drops, nasal sprays and EpiPens. Required medication forms are available in school offices and on some district websites.

1. **REQUIRED FORM:** A current, unexpired Authorization for Administration of Medication at School form is required for all prescription and over the counter medication, including: oral and topical medication; asthma inhalers; eye and ear drops, and nasal sprays (see #7 below for EpiPens). Authorization forms are required for both for medication kept in the office to be administered by staff, and for medication carried and self-administered by students.
2. **HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS WHO CAN LEGALLY AUTHORIZE MEDICATION FOR USE AT SCHOOL:** Medical Doctors (M.D.); Osteopathic Doctors (O.D.); Dentists (D.D.S.); Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners (ARNP); Physician Assistants (P.A.)
3. **DELIVERING MEDICATION TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE:** Medication to be kept in the school office and for field trips must be delivered to the office by a parent or designated adult. All medication must be logged in by office staff with the adult who brings in the medication. It must be in an original pharmacy or factory labeled container **ONLY**.
4. **CARRYING and SELF-ADMINISTERING ORAL MEDICATION** is allowed only for students in grades 6-12, if the following guidelines are followed: 1) The health care provider and parent have checked permission to do so on a current Authorization; 2) the student does so in a responsible manner and carries only a single dose per day in an original pharmacy or factory labeled container. (Carrying and self-administration of controlled medication as defined by the FDA is NEVER allowed - for example methylphenidate or prescription pain medication.)
5. **CARRYING and SELF-ADMINISTERING ASTHMA INHALERS** is allowed for students in all grades if the parent and provider have checked permission to do so on a current Medication Authorization. And/or inhalers can be stored in the office to be administered as needed by school staff.
6. **CARRYING and SELF-ADMINISTERING TOPICAL MEDICATION, EYE and EAR DROPS, and NASAL SPRAYS** is allowed in all grades if the parent and health care provider have checked permission to do so on a current Medication Authorization, the student does so in a responsible manner, and the medication is carried in an original factory or pharmacy labeled container. And/or medication can be stored in the office to be administered as needed by school staff.
7. **REQUIRED FOR STUDENTS WITH EPINEPHRINE (EpiPen) FOR SEVERE ALLERGIES:** Complete, current for each school year Severe Allergy Medication Administration and Emergency Response Plan, a Health Care Plan and prescribed medication must be provided in order to attend school. A student's EpiPen can be kept in the school office and/or classroom, and/or students can carry their EpiPen if the parent and provider have checked permission to do so on current forms.
8. **MEDICATION NOT PICKED UP BY A PARENT AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR** will be safely discarded.

**UPDATED 10/13**