

ANAPHYLAXIS PREVENTION

For students with a medically diagnosed life-threatening allergy, the district will take appropriate steps for the student's safety, including implementing an Individual Health Plan.

Parent/Guardian Responsibility

Prior to enrolling a student, the parent/guardian will inform the school in writing of the medically diagnosed allergy(ies) and risk of anaphylaxis. Upon receiving the diagnosis, the school nurse will work with the parent/guardian to develop an Individual Health Plan.

Individual Health Plan

The written IHP will be developed by the nurse for each student with a medically diagnosed life-threatening allergy and will identify the student's allergies, symptoms of exposure, practical strategies to minimize the risks and how to respond in an emergency.

When developing the plan the school nurse will use input from the parent, the health care provider, and appropriate school staff. If the treatment plan includes self-administration of medications, they will follow the *Self-Administration of Asthma and Anaphylaxis Medication procedure*. If needed, a meeting will be held with the parent prior to the first day of school to discuss the IHP.

Annually and prior to the first day of attendance, the student health file will contain: 1) a completed IHP; 2) a written description of the treatment order, signed by a licensed health care provider; and 3) an adequate and current supply of auto-injectors (or other medications). The parents/guardians are responsible for notifying the school if the student's condition changes, providing the medical treatment order, and providing the ordered unexpired medication.

Students who have a diagnosed life-threatening allergy without the appropriate treatment order and life saving medication shall be excluded from school to the extent that the district can do so consistent with federal requirements for students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and pursuant to the following due process requirements:

Written notice to the parents, guardians or persons in loco parentis is delivered in person or by certified mail.

Notice of the applicable laws, including a copy of the laws and rules.

The order that the student shall be excluded from school immediately and until medications and treatment order is available at school or until a licensed provider declares in writing that there is not a life threatening allergic condition.

Communications Plan and Responsibility of School Staff

After the IHP is developed, the school nurse (R.N.) will train appropriate staff regarding the affected student and the IHP. The plan will be distributed to appropriate staff and available in the appropriate locations to staff that are responsible for the student throughout the day (this may include classroom, office, school bus, lunchroom, staff responsible for before/after school activities etc.). With the permission of parents/guardian and the student, (if appropriate), other students and parents may be given information about the student's condition to support the IHP.

In-service Training

Annually, each school principal will assure an in-service training for all staff on generally how to minimize exposure and how to respond to an anaphylaxis emergency. The training will include a review of avoidance strategies, recognition of symptoms, the emergency protocols to deal with an anaphylaxis episode and use of an auto injector. Student IHP specific training will be provided by the school nurse to staff responsible for the student.

Controlling the Exposure to Allergens

Controlling the exposure to allergens requires the cooperation of many. These may include parents, students, the health care community and school employees. The school may inform parents of the presence of a student with life threatening allergies in their child's classroom and/or school and the general measures being taken to protect the affected student. Parents may be asked to avoid including some foods in lunches, snacks or other products. The district will discourage the sharing of food, utensils and containers. The district may take other precautions such as avoiding the use of party balloons or contact with latex containing products when appropriate. Additionally, play areas may be specified that are lower risk for allergic student.

The district may also identify high-risk events and areas for students with life-threatening allergies, such as foods and beverages brought to school for seasonal events, school equipment and curricular materials used by large numbers of students (play-dough, stuffed toys, science projects, etc.)

During school-sponsored activities, appropriate staff will be made aware of the identity of the student with life-threatening allergies, the school staff will ensure that the auto-injector is brought on field trips.

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