

## Medication of Children and Youth Program Participants

Under normal circumstances prescribed and over-the-counter medication in its original container, for students under the age of 18, should be dispensed before and/or after program hours under supervision of the parent or guardian.

If a program participant must receive prescribed or over-the-counter oral or topical medication, eye drops, ear drops or nasal spray ("medications") from an authorized staff member, the parent/guardian must submit a written authorization accompanied by a written request from a licensed health professional prescribing within the scope of his or her prescriptive authority. If the medication will be administered for more than fifteen consecutive days, the health professional must also provide written, current and unexpired instructions for the administration of the medication.

The designated administrator will establish procedures for:

- A. Training and supervision of staff members in the administration of prescribed or non-prescribed oral medication to children and youth by a physician or registered nurse;
- B. Designating staff members who may administer prescribed or non-prescribed oral medication to children and youth;
- C. Obtaining signed and dated parental and health professional request for the dispensing of prescribed or non-prescribed oral medications, including instructions from health professional if the medication is to be given for more than fifteen (15) days;
- D. Storing prescribed or non-prescribed medication in a locked or limited access facility;
- E. Maintaining records pertaining to the administration of prescribed or non-prescribed oral medication; and
- F. Permitting, under limited circumstances, children and youth to carry and self-administer medications necessary to their attendance at ESD programs.

Nasal Inhalers, suppositories and non-emergency injections may not be administered by program staff other than registered nurses and licensed practical nurses. No medication will be administered by injection by program staff except when a child or youth is susceptible to a predetermined, life-endangering situation [See Policy 3420, Anaphylaxis Prevention and Response]. In such an instance, the parent will submit a written and signed permission statement. Such an authorization will be supported by signed and dated written orders accompanied by supporting directions from the licensed health professional. A staff member will be trained prior to injecting a medication.

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.

Administration of legend (prescribed) drugs or controlled substances by nasal spray: If a school nurse is on the premises, he/she may administer a nasal spray containing a prescribed drug or controlled substance to a child or youth. If a school nurse is not on school premises, a nasal spray containing a legend (prescribed) drug or controlled substance may be administered by: 1) a trained school employee, provided that person has received appropriate RN delegation and volunteered for the training pursuant to RCW 28A.210.260; or 2) a parent designated adult.

A parent designated adult is a volunteer, who may be an ESD or school district employee, who receives additional training from a healthcare professional or expert in epileptic seizure care selected by the parent who provides care for the child or youth consistent with the child or youth's individual health plan on file with the school.

**Required Notification of EMS:** After every administration of any legend (prescribed) drug or controlled substance by nasal spray to a child or youth, Emergency Medical Services (911) will be summoned as soon as practicable.

**Diaper Rash Ointment and Similar Products**

Over-the-counter topical sunscreen, diaper rash ointment and similar products may be possessed and used by students, parent/guardians, and school staff 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 product; and
- B. The product is one that is not typically administered in a stronger dose with a prescription; and
- C. If possessed by a program participant, the product is provided to the student by a parent/guardian.

**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.

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

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