STUDENTS

Medication at School

Under normal circumstances prescribed oral medication and oral over the counter medication should be dispensed before and/or after school hours under supervision of the parent or guardian. Oral medications are administered by mouth either by swallowing or inhaling including through a mask that covers the mouth or mouth and nose.

If a student must receive prescribed or non-prescribed oral medication from an authorized staff member, the parent/guardian must submit a written authorization accompanied by written instructions from a licensed health care professional prescribing within the scope of his or her prescriptive authority.

The superintendent shall establish procedures for:

A. Training and supervision of staff members in the administration of prescribed or non-prescribed oral medication to students by a licensed health care professional or registered nurse;

B. Designating staff members who may administer prescribed or non-prescribed oral medication to students;

C. Obtaining signed and dated parent/guardian and licensed health care professional request for the dispensing of prescribed or non-prescribed oral medications, including instructions from the licensed health care professional;

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 students to carry and self-administer medications necessary to their attendance at school as indicated in the parent’s/guardian’s written authorization and the written instructions from a licensed health care professional prescribing within the scope of his/her prescriptive authority.

No medication shall be administered by injection except when a student is susceptible to a predetermined, life-endangering situation. In such an instance, the parent shall submit a written and signed permission statement. Such an authorization shall be supported by signed and dated written orders accompanied by supporting directions from the licensed health care professional. A staff member shall be trained prior to injecting a medication.
Medications administered by routes other than oral (ointments, drops, nasal inhalers, suppositories or non-emergency injections) may not be administered by school staff other than registered nurses or licensed practical nurses.

Cross Reference: Procedure 3416P Medication at School

Legal References: RCW 28A.210.260 Public and private schools—Administration of oral medication by—Conditions
 RCW 28A.210.270 Public and private schools—Administration of oral medication by—Immunity from liability—Discontinuance, procedure

Attorney General Memorandum (2/9/89) Administration of Medication

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