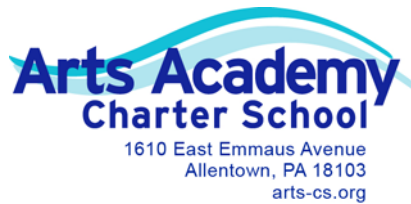


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Board Policy 2.2.1

Possession and Use of Epinephrine Auto-Injectors, Asthma Inhalers and Insulin

The Board shall permit students to possess asthma inhalers, insulin injection devices and epinephrine auto-injectors and to self-administer the prescribed medication in compliance with state law and Board policy. In appropriate and necessary situations, case-by-case arrangements for self-administration of other medications may be made contingent upon a licensed prescriber's recommendation and approval by the parent/ guardian, building principal and school nurse. The school nurse may establish individualized requirements for self-administration of such medication and may revoke permission to self-administer at any time. Permission for a student to carry and/or otherwise possess self-administered medication must be obtained by the school nurse, as per this Policy. Permission to carry and/or self-administer medications other than asthma inhalers, insulin injection devices and epinephrine auto-injectors shall be granted only in very select situations where possession and/or self-administration is deemed by the school nurse to be necessary and appropriate.

Before a student may possess or use an asthma inhaler, insulin device or epinephrine auto-injector during school hours, the Board shall require all of the following:

1. A written request from the parent/guardian that the school complies with the order of the licensed prescriber, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant.
2. A written statement from the parent/guardian acknowledging that the school is not responsible for ensuring the medication is taken and relieving the school and its employees of responsibility for the benefits or consequences of the prescribed medication.
3. A written statement from the licensed prescriber, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant that states:
 - a. Name of the drug.
 - b. Prescribed dosage.
 - c. Times medication is to be taken.
 - d. Length of time medication is prescribed.
 - e. Diagnosis or reason medication is needed, unless confidential.

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- f. Potential serious reaction or side effects of medication.
- g. Emergency response.
- h. If child is qualified and able to self-administer the medication.

The student shall be made aware that the asthma inhaler, insulin injection device or epinephrine auto-injector is intended for his/her use only and may not be shared with other students.

The student shall notify the school nurse immediately following each use of an asthma inhaler, insulin injection device or epinephrine auto-injector.

Violations of this policy by a student shall result in immediate confiscation of the asthma inhaler and medication and loss of privileges. Additional disciplinary action may also result, as per School Policy and Code Of Conduct.

Annual Renewal Required

A written request for student use of an asthma inhaler, insulin injection device and/or epinephrine auto-injector shall be submitted annually, along with required written statements from the parent/guardian and an updated prescription.

The school reserves the right to require a statement from a licensed prescriber, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant for the continued use of a medication at any time.

Self-Administration Requirements

A student who meets the requirements for the possession and/or administration of a medication in the school setting must demonstrate to the school nurse the capability and competency for self-administration and responsible behavior in use of the medication. It shall be the responsibility and right of the school nurse to determine competency for self-administration, and such determination shall be based on the student's age, cognitive function, maturity and demonstration of responsible behavior. Permission to carry and/or self-administer medication may be revoked at any time by the school nurse.

To self-administer any medication, the student must be able to:

1. Respond to and visually recognize his/her name.
2. Identify his/her medication.
3. Demonstrate the ability to properly handle the medication (if permitted to carry).

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4. Demonstrate the proper technique for self-administering medication, including measuring and dosing.
5. Demonstrate the ability to accurately and reliably document the administration of medication.
6. Sign his/her medication sheet to acknowledge having taken the medication.
7. Demonstrate competency and understanding of the nature of the medication and potential risks of improper dosing, including overdosing, under-dosing and missed doses.
8. Demonstrate a cooperative attitude in all aspects of self-administration.

At any time during school hours, while on school property, at any school-sponsored activity and/or during the time spent traveling to and from school and school-sponsored activities, students are prohibited from sharing, giving or selling medications or from using them in a manner for which it is not prescribed and/or for which the school nurse has not granted permission, as per this Policy. Such actions shall be considered illegal drug use and shall be subject to discipline according to School policy and the Code of Conduct.

If the School denies a student's request to self-carry an asthma inhaler, insulin injection device, epinephrine auto-injector or other medication, or if the student at any time loses the privilege to carry such medication, the student's prescribed medication shall be appropriately stored in the school nurse's office and/or may be stored at a location in close proximity to the student, as determined by a Section 504 team, IEP team or building administrator in conjunction with the school nurse. The student's classroom teachers shall be informed as to where the medication is stored and the means by which the medication can be accessed.

The School shall annually notify parents and students of this Policy.

The school shall annually inform staff, students and parents/guardians about the School's policy and procedures governing student possession and use of asthma inhalers, insulin injection devices and epinephrine auto-injectors.

When an asthma inhaler, insulin injection device or epinephrine auto-injector is initially brought to school by a student, the school nurse shall be responsible for the following:

1. Obtain the required written request and statements from the parent/guardian and licensed prescriber, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant, which shall be kept on file in the office of the school nurse.
2. Review pertinent information with the student and/or parent/guardian, specifically the information contained on the statement submitted by the licensed prescriber, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant.
3. Determine the student's ability to self-administer medication and the need for care and supervision.

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4. Maintain an individual medication log for all students possessing asthma inhalers, insulin injection devices, or epinephrine auto-injectors.