

Administering Medications to Students

School personnel shall not administer prescription or nonprescription medications to students unless appropriate administration cannot reasonably be accomplished outside of school hours and the student's parent/guardian is not available to administer the medication during the school day.

Medication may be administered to students by school personnel whom a registered nurse has trained and delegated the task of administering such medication. For purposes of this policy, the term "medication" includes both prescription medication and nonprescription medication, but does not include medical marijuana.

The administration of medical marijuana shall be in accordance with the Board's policy on administration of medical marijuana to qualified students.

The term "nonprescription medication" includes but is not limited to over-the-counter medications, homeopathic and herbal medications, vitamins and nutritional supplements.

Medication may be administered to students by the school nurse or other school designee only when the following requirements are met:

1. Medication shall be in the original properly labeled container. If it is a prescription medication, the student's name, name of the medication, dosage, how often it is to be administered, and name of the prescribing health care practitioner shall be printed on the container.
2. The school shall have received written permission from the student's parent/guardian to administer the medication to the student and either:
 - a. written permission to administer the medication from the student's health care practitioner with prescriptive authority under Colorado law; or
 - b. a standing medical order, if the medication is an over-the-counter medication such as Advil or Tylenol
3. The parent/guardian shall be responsible for providing all medication to be administered to the student.
4. The nonprescription medication is a product that has been approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Self-administration of medication for diabetes, asthma, allergies or anaphylaxis

A student with diabetes, asthma, a food allergy, other severe allergies, or a related, life-threatening condition may possess and self-administer medication to treat the student's diabetes, asthma, food or other allergy, anaphylaxis or related, life-threatening condition. Self-administration of such medication may occur during school hours, at school-sponsored activities, or while in transit to and from school or a school-sponsored activity. Student possession and self-administration of such medication shall be in accordance with regulation JLCD-R.

Authorization for a student to possess and self-administer medication to treat the student's diabetes, asthma, food or other allergy, anaphylaxis or other related, life-threatening condition may be limited or revoked by the school principal after consultation with the school nurse and the student's parent/guardian if the student demonstrates an inability to responsibly possess and self-administer such medication.

Stock Epinephrine Policy

The district shall have a stock supply of epinephrine auto-injectors at Marsh Elementary, Bill Metz Elementary, Monte Vista Middle School, Monte Vista High School and Byron Syring Delta Center for use in emergency anaphylaxis events that occur on these school grounds. Any administration of a stock epinephrine auto-injector to a student by a district employee shall be in accordance with applicable state law, including applicable State Board of Education rules.

The district's stock supply of epinephrine auto-injectors is not intended to replace student-specific orders or medication provided by the student's parent/guardian to treat the student's asthma, food or other allergy, anaphylaxis or related, life-threatening condition. Parents of students with known allergies who have a prescription for epinephrine are expected to provide the school with epinephrine auto-injectors and a Colorado Allergy and Anaphylaxis Emergency Care Plan and Medication Orders.

The district shall have a prescription and standing order for stock epinephrine from a licensed physician and shall administer per order following the district's Stock Epinephrine Auto-injector Procedure, (see Policy JLCD-R-1 Stock Epinephrine Standing Order and Procedure).

The epinephrine auto-injectors will be kept in a secure location that is easily accessible to staff.

Monte Vista School District staff will be trained to recognize anaphylaxis, reduce the risk of an allergic reaction and how to respond to an allergic reaction. At least two employees in each building where stock epinephrine auto-injectors are available who are CPR/1st Aid certified will be trained and designated by the school nurse in the administration of stock epinephrine auto-injectors.

Student possession, use, distribution, sale or being under the influence of medication inconsistent with this policy shall be considered a violation of Board policy concerning drug and alcohol involvement by students and may subject the student to disciplinary consequences, including suspension and/or expulsion, in accordance with applicable Board policy.

Adopted: 09/24/83

Revised: 03/09/95, 08/23/01, 10/13/05, 10/14/10, 09/13/18, 04/11/19, 04/16/20

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. 12-38-132 (delegation of nursing tasks)
C.R.S. 12-38-132.3 (school nurses - over-the-counter medication)
C.R.S. 22-1-119 (no liability for adverse drug reactions/side effects)
C.R.S. 22-1-119.1 (board may adopt policy to acquire a stock supply of opiate antagonists)

C.R.S. 22-1-119.3 (3)(c), (d) (no student possession or self-administration of medical marijuana, but school districts must permit the student's primary caregiver to administer medical marijuana to the student on school grounds, on a school bus or at a school-sponsored event)

C.R.S. 22-1-119.5 (Colorado Schoolchildren's Asthma, Food Allergy, and Anaphylaxis Health Management Act)

C.R.S. 22-2-135 (Colorado School Children's Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Management Act)

C.R.S. 24-10-101 et seq. (Colorado Governmental Immunity Act)

1 CCR 301-68 (State Board of Education rules regarding student possession and administration of asthma, allergy and anaphylaxis management medications or other prescription medications)

6 CCR 1010-6, Rule 6.13 (requirements for health services in schools)

CROSS REFS.: JICH, Drug and Alcohol Involvement by Students
JKD/JKE, Suspension/Expulsion of Students (and Other Disciplinary Interventions)
JLCDA*, Students with Food Allergies
JLCDB*, Administration of Medical Marijuana to Qualified Students
JLCE, First Aid and Emergency Medical Care

NOTE: The Colorado Department of Education (CDE), in collaboration with various school districts and other organizations, has created numerous guidelines regarding medication administration in the school setting. These guidelines are available on CDE's website.