

Students

Food Allergy Management Program

School attendance may increase a student's risk of exposure to allergens that could trigger a food-allergic reaction. A food allergy is an adverse reaction to a food protein mediated by the immune system which immediately reacts causing the release of histamine and other inflammatory chemicals and mediators. While it is not possible for the District to completely eliminate the risks of exposure to allergens when a student is at school, using a cooperative effort among students' families, staff members, and students helps the District reduce these risks and provide accommodations and proper treatment for allergic reactions.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement procedures that:

- ~~1. Fully implements the following goals established in The School Code: (a) identifying students with food allergies, (b) preventing exposure to known allergens, (c) responding to allergic reactions with prompt recognition of symptoms and treatment, and (d) educating and training all staff about management of students with food allergies, including administration of medication with an auto injector, and providing an in-service training program for staff who work with students that is conducted by a person with expertise in anaphylactic reactions and management.~~ Fully implements the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE)'s model policy required by School Code that: (a) relates to the care and response to a person having an anaphylaxis reaction, (b) addresses the use of epinephrine in a school setting, (c) provides a full food allergy and prevention of allergen exposure plan, and (d) aligns with 105 ILCS 5/22-30 and 23 Ill. Code 1.540.
2. Ensures staff members receive appropriate training including: (a) an in-service training program for staff who work with students that is conducted by a person with expertise in anaphylactic reactions and management, and (b) training required by law for those staff members acting as *trained personnel* as provided in 105 ILCS 5/22-30 and 23 Ill. Admin Code 1.540.
3. Implements and maintains a supply of undesignated epinephrine in the name of the District, in accordance with policy 7:270, *Administering Medicines to Students*.
4. Follows and references the applicable best practices specific to the District's needs in the joint State Board of Education and Ill. Dept. of Public Health publication *Guidelines for Managing Life-Threatening Food Allergies in Schools*, available at:
www.isbe.net/nutrition/pdf/food_allergy_guidelines.pdf.
5. Provides annual notice to parents/guardians of all students to make them aware of this policy.
6. Complies with State and federal law and is in alignment with Board policies.

Monitoring

Pursuant to State law and policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*, the Board reviews and makes any necessary updates to this policy at least once every three years. The Superintendent or designee shall assist the Board with its review and any necessary updates.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/2-3.149 and 5/10-22.39.
Guidelines for Managing Life-Threatening Food Allergies in Schools (Guidelines),
jointly published by the State Board of Education and Ill. Dept. of Public Health.

ADOPTED: October 19, 2011

REVISED: November 20, 2013; October 16, 2014, **February 8, 2023**