JLCD - Administering Medications to Students

School personnel may not administer prescription or nonprescription medications to students unless appropriate administration cannot reasonably be accomplished outside of school hours.

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.

Student possession, use, distribution, sale, or being under the influence of medication inconsistent with this policy will 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.

NOTE: The following paragraph contains language stating that the Board has adopted a policy regarding the administration of medical marijuana to qualified students. C.R.S. 22-1-119.3 (3)(d)(I). . C.R.S. 22-1-119.3 (3)(d)(III).

State law requires school districts to allow “primary caregivers” and school personnel who volunteer to administer medical marijuana to qualified students on school property, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored event. State law permits Boards to adopt a policy regarding “who may act as a primary caregiver” and establishing “reasonable parameters” upon the administration and use of medical marijuana. The administration of medical marijuana must 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. “Medical marijuana” is defined as cannabis products with a THC concentration greater than 0.3 percent, in accordance with state and federal law. As a result, administration of cannabis products with a THC concentration of 0.3 percent or less to students is covered by this policy, not CASB sample policy JLCDB*.

Medication may be administered to students only when the following requirements are met:

1. Medication must 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 must be printed on the container.

2. The school must 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 is responsible for providing all medication to be administered to the student, unless it is an over-the-counter medication such as Advil or Tylenol.

Self-Administration of Medication

A student who is prescribed medication by a licensed health care practitioner may possess and self-administer medication to treat the student's asthma, food or other allergy, anaphylaxis or related, life-threatening condition, or other condition for which the medication is prescribed. 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 must be in accordance with the regulation accompanying this policy.

Authorization for a student to possess and self-administer medication for the purposes described above 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.

Use of stock epinephrine in emergency situations

The district will not have a stock supply of epinephrine for use in emergency anaphylaxis events that occur on school grounds. Any administration of a stock epinephrine to a student by a district employee must be in accordance with applicable state law, including applicable State Board of Education rules.

The district's stock supply of emergency use epinephrine 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.

To the extent state funding and supplies are available, the district shall have a stock supply of opiate antagonists to assist a student who is at risk of experiencing an opiate-related drug overdose event. For purposes of this policy, an opioid antagonist means naloxone hydrochloride or any similarly acting drug that is not a controlled substance and that is approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the treatment of a drug overdose.

The stock supply of opiate antagonists may also be used to assist a district employee or any other person who is at risk of experiencing an opiate-related drug overdose event.

Administration of an opioid antagonist by a district employee to a student or any other person must be in accordance with applicable state law.

Adopted: August 20, 2001
Revised: October 17, 2005, October 18, 2010, April 21, 2014, December 12, 2016, February 25, 2019, February 10, 2020, September 13, 2021, January 9, 2023, March 18, 2025, October 13, 2025

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

Platte Valley School District, Weld RE-7