

Document Status: Draft Update

Students

7:270 Administering Medicines to Students

Students should not take medication during school hours or during school-related activities unless it is necessary for a student's health and well-being. When a student's licensed health care provider and parent(s)/guardian(s) believe that it is necessary for the student to take a medication during school hours or school-related activities, the parent/guardian must request that the school dispense the medication to the child and otherwise follow the District's procedures on dispensing medication.

No School District employee shall administer to any student, or supervise a student's self-administration of, any prescription or non-prescription medication until a completed and signed *School Medication Authorization Form* is submitted by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). No student shall possess or consume any prescription or non-prescription medication on school grounds or at a school-related function other than as provided for in this policy and its implementing procedures.

Nothing in this policy shall prohibit any school employee from providing emergency assistance to students, including administering medication.

The Building Principal shall include this policy in the Student Handbook and shall provide a copy to the parent(s)/guardian(s) of students.

Self-Administration of Medication

A student may possess an epinephrine auto-injector (EpiPen®) and/or asthma medication prescribed for use at the student's discretion, provided the student's parent/guardian has completed and signed a *School Medication Authorization Form*. The School District shall incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from a student's self-administration of medication or epinephrine auto-injector or the storage of any medication by school personnel. A student's parent/guardian must indemnify and hold harmless the School District and its employees and agents, against any claims, except a claim based on willful and wanton conduct, arising out of a student's self-administration of an epinephrine auto-injector and/or medication, or the storage of any medication by school personnel.

School District Supply of Undesignated Asthma Medication [PRESSPlus1](#)

The Superintendent or designee shall implement Section 22-30(f) of the School Code and maintain a supply of undesignated asthma medication in the name of the District and provide or administer them as necessary according to State law.

Undesignated asthma medication means an asthma medication prescribed in the name of the District or one of its schools. A school nurse or trained personnel, as defined in State law, [PRESSPlus2](#) may administer an undesignated asthma medication to a person when they, in good faith, believe a person is having *respiratory distress*. Respiratory distress may be characterized as *mild-to-moderate* or *severe*. Each building administrator and/or his or her corresponding school nurse shall maintain the names of trained personnel who have received a statement of certification pursuant to State law.

Designated Caregiver Administration of Medical Cannabis [PRESSPlus3](#)

The Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act allows a parent/guardian of a student who is a minor to register with the Ill. Dept. of Public Health (IDPH) as a *designated caregiver* to administer medical cannabis to their child. A designated caregiver may also be another individual other than the student's parent/guardian. Any designated caregiver must be at least 21 years old and is allowed to administer a *medical cannabis infused product* to a child who is a student on the premises of his or her school or on his or her school bus if:

1. Both the student and the designated caregiver possess valid registry identification cards issued by IDPH;
2. Copies of the registry identification cards are provided to the District, [PRESSPlus4](#) and
3. That student's parent/guardian completed, signed, and submitted a *School Medication Authorization Form - Medical Cannabis*. [PRESSPlus5](#)

Medical cannabis infused product (product) includes oils, ointments, foods, and other products that contain usable cannabis but are not smoked or vaped. [PRESSPlus6](#) Smoking and/or vaping medical cannabis is prohibited. [PRESSPlus7](#)

After administering the product to the student, the designated caregiver shall immediately [PRESSPlus8](#) remove it from school premises or the school bus. The product may not be administered in a manner that, in the opinion of the District or school, would create a disruption to the educational environment or cause exposure of the product to other students. A school employee shall

not be required to administer the product. [PRESSPlus9](#)

Discipline of a student for being administered a product by a designated caregiver pursuant to this policy is prohibited. The District may not deny a student attendance at a school solely because he or she requires administration of the product during school hours.

Void Policy

The **School District Supply of Undesignated Asthma Medication** section of the policy is void whenever the Superintendent or designee is, for whatever reason, unable to: (1) obtain for the District a prescription for undesignated asthma medication from a physician or advanced practice nurse licensed to practice medicine in all its branches, or (2) fill the District's prescription for undesignated school asthma medication. [PRESSPlus10](#)

The **Designated Caregiver Administration of Medical Cannabis** section of the policy is void and the District reserves the right not to implement it if the District or school is in danger of losing federal funding.

Administration of Undesignated Medication

Upon any administration of an undesignated asthma medication, the Superintendent or designee(s) must ensure all notifications required by State law and administrative procedures occur.

Disclaimers

Upon implementation of this policy, the protections from liability and hold harmless provisions as explained in Section 22-30(c) of the School Code apply.

No one, including without limitation parent(s)/guardians of students, should rely on the District for the availability of undesignated asthma medication. This policy does not guarantee the availability of undesignated medications. Students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) should consult their own physician regarding these medication(s).

LEGAL REF.:

105 ILCS 5/10-20.14b, 5/10-22.21b, [and 5/22-30](#), and [5/22-33](#).

[410 ILCS 130/](#), Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act, and scheduled to be repealed on July 1, 2020.

[720 ILCS 550/](#), Cannabis Control Act.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.540.

CROSS REF.: 7:285 (Food Allergy Management Program)

ADOPTED: September 10, 2002

REVISED: February 6, 2007; December 6, 2012; January 8, 2015

REVIEWED: October 6, 2016

Question 1. Has the Board adopted the optional subsection regarding a School District Supply of Undesignated Asthma Medication? Type yes or no.

Answer:

Question 2. Has the Board adopted the subsection regarding Designated Caregiver Administration of Medical Cannabis? Type yes or no.

Answer:

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Optional. A school board must ensure that it does not adopt this section into the policy unless it is prepared to implement 105 ILCS 5/22-30, amended by P.A. 100-726, eff. 1-1-19. The law permits a district to maintain a supply of undesignated asthma medication in any secure location that is accessible before, during, and after school where a person is most at risk, including, but not limited to a classroom or the nurse's office, and use them when necessary. The P.A. 100-726, eff. 1-1-19, amendment requiring accessibility before, during, and after school does not address the logistical issues that classrooms are typically locked before and after school. Consult the board attorney about the implementation issues with this new phrase in the law.

Consult the board attorney about the consequences of informing the community that the district will obtain a prescription for a

supply of undesignated asthma medication, implement a plan for its use, and then not doing it, as doing so may be fraught with legal liabilities. Also fraught with legal liabilities is when the district provides them, but does not have them accessible before, during, and after school where an asthmatic person is most at risk as required by 105 ILCS 5/22-30, amended by P.A. 100-726, eff. 1-1-19.

The superintendent is given broad authority to implement this section; however, several preliminary steps should occur with the assistance of the board attorney. They include, but are not limited to: (1) investigating the feasibility of obtaining a prescription for a supply of undesignated asthma medication in the name of the district or one of its schools, and (2) outlining the advantages and disadvantages of implementing this plan based upon each district's individual resources and circumstances, and student population's needs.

See **Questions** to indicate whether the board has adopted the School District Supply of Undesignated Asthma Medication subsection.

Issue 99, October/November 2018

PRESSPlus 2. 105 ILCS 5/22-30(a), amended by P.A. 100-726, eff. 1-1-19, defines *trained personnel* as any school employee or volunteer personnel authorized in Sections 10-22.34, 10-22.34a, and 10-22.34b of the School Code who has completed training required by 105 ILCS 5/22-30(g), amended by P.A. 100-726, eff. 1-1-19 to recognize and respond to anaphylaxis, an opioid overdose, or respiratory distress. ISBE must develop the training curriculum for trained personnel, and it may be conducted online or in person. **Issue 99, October/November 2018**

PRESSPlus 3. 105 ILCS 5/22-33(g), added by P.A. 100-660 (*Ashley's Law*), allows students to be given medical cannabis infused products at school or on the school bus and requires school boards to adopt a policy to implement the law. **Important: Implementation of this policy may cause a district to lose federal funding. Consult the board attorney.**

See **Questions** to indicate whether the board has adopted the Designated Caregiver Administration of Medical Cannabis subsection.

Issue 99, October/November 2018

PRESSPlus 4. The laws are silent about copies of the cards being provided to the district. Requiring copies of the registry cards is a best practice. Consult the board attorney about any records laws implicated in requiring and maintaining copies of these registry cards. **Issue 99, October/November 2018**

PRESSPlus 5. A completed and signed school medication authorization form is not required by *Ashley's Law* but is a best practice and consistent with this sample policy's language for other medications. See sample exhibit 7:270-E2, *School Medication Authorization Form - Medical Cannabis*, available by logging in to **PRESS Online** at iasb.com. **Issue 99, October/November 2018**

PRESSPlus 6. Consult the board attorney regarding the controversial issue of students using at, or bringing to school, cannabis-infused products without THC that are derived from *industrial hemp* (hemp oil or cannabidiol (CBD) oil, the naturally occurring cannabinoid constituent of cannabis). **Issue 99, October/November 2018**

PRESSPlus 7. Optional sentence. 410 ILCS 130/10(q), amended by P.A. 100-660, and scheduled to be repealed on July 1, 2020, prohibits medical cannabis from being smoked. District administrators may find providing this information to the community helpful to enforcement of this policy. **Issue 99, October/November 2018**

PRESSPlus 8. The word *immediately* is not in *Ashley's Law*. It is added to ensure legal compliance with federal laws that could affect federal funding. For example, consider administrators who may be in the situation where a designated caregiver provides his or her child the product and then wants to volunteer in the school or greet another child in the school while carrying the product in the building which may violate the Cannabis Control Act (720 ILCS 550/). Consult the board attorney about the best term to use here, if any, as nothing in the law addresses these common scenarios that school administrators will encounter. **Issue 99, October/November 2018**

PRESSPlus 9. 105 ILCS 5/22-33(e), added by P.A. 110-660. **Issue 99, October/November 2018**

PRESSPlus 10. Discuss with the board attorney whether the board should remove this sentence when the district reaches full

implementation of this section. **Issue 99, October/November 2018**