

# Revision DRAFT

Denton ISD

FFAC(LOCAL)-X

061901  
WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES FFAC  
MEDICAL TREATMENT (LOCAL)  
DATE ISSUED: 10/23/2007 1 of 3  
LDU 2007.02

## ILLNESS OR MEDICAL EMERGENCY

The District employs for each campus full-time registered nurses who work under the direction of the director of health services and in conjunction with the campus principal to provide a safe and healthy environment at school. In the event of illness or injury at school, the school nurse has the responsibility to assess ill or injured students and provide necessary and appropriate first aid treatment according to the "Clinical Guidelines" for standards of practice, and to refer the student appropriately back to the classroom, to home, or for further necessary medical treatment as designated by the parent on the student health card **and follow-up care at school**. The school nurse shall also communicate with the parent or guardian in significant medical situations to ensure agreement and consent. The school nurse shall follow Texas Department of State Health Services requirements regarding student exclusion from school for possible infectious or communicable diseases and readmittance criteria, with additional reference made to the student's primary care provider, the Denton County Health Department, and the Red Book on infectious disease.

In the absence of the school nurse, a substitute **nurse RN** who has completed the District Health Services orientation may assume these responsibilities, or, if no substitute is available, the responsibilities will be assumed by the campus principal or designee, who maintains the overall responsibility for the safety and well-being of the students. The director of health services **or her designee** shall be available for consultation on all health-related matters.

## MEDICATION

No employee shall give any student prescription medication, nonprescription medications, herbal substances, anabolic steroids, or dietary supplements of any type, except as provided below. Under TEC Section 22.052 (a), the task of administering medication may be assigned to a school employee by the principal as an administrative function. School staff may be assigned the task of administering medications:

1. in the absence of a nurse on campus
2. In circumstances where students are unable to come to the health room for their medications without experiencing discomfort or a

significant loss of instructional time, provided it is agreed upon by the parent and/or included in the student's IHP (Individualized Health Plan)

3. for life-threatening conditions in students with diabetes (hyperglycemia or hypoglycemia) and/or those with severe allergies (anaphylaxis). See FFAF Legal and FFAF Local.

In all these situations, the school RN will provide training to the school personnel who are assigned this task to ensure safe administration and accurate dosing.

~~The school may, with the consultation of the school's director of health services, modify or restrict the application of this policy.~~

## ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

At elementary school, all medications, including anabolic steroids, dietary supplements\*, all prescription and over-the-counter medicines such as cough drops, vitamin supplements, pain relievers, etc.

~~and the like~~ administered at school by school personnel must be accompanied by a doctor's order.

Medication shall not be administered at school unless it is essential to the health of the child and/or the student's ability to function successfully in the classroom. ~~Three times a day or less medications~~ Medications ordered to be given less often than four times per day shall not be given during the school day unless the doctor's order specifically states it must be given during the school day and designates the specific time or circumstances. "Doctor's orders" are defined as those of an M.D., podiatrist, dentist, a nurse practitioner working under doctor's orders, or health care professional with legal prescriptive authority to write prescriptions in Texas.

Labels on the medicine and parent request forms must match prior to administration.

When an elementary student must take medicine during the school day, it is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian to administer it. When that is not possible, the parent or guardian may arrange with the principal or designee for school personnel to give the medication. These arrangements must be made in writing by completing the "Medication Administration Request," which is available ~~in the registration packet and~~ from school office personnel. No medication shall be given unless this form accompanies the medication in the original, properly marked container. Any change in the medication order requires a new form and a newly labeled container that reflects the change. Parents are responsible for bringing medication to the school themselves.

Elementary students may carry inhalers and self-administer prescription medication for asthma and/or anaphylaxis under certain circumstances. [See FFAC(LEGAL)]

No other medications may be carried by an elementary student. Medication not picked up by parents at the end of the school year shall be discarded after parent notification.

\*Dietary/herbal supplements are not regulated by the FDA to ensure quality standards, nor have they been tested for safety or effect on school-aged children. The school nurse shall administer these preparations on a case-by-case basis only after careful consideration with the student's physician or other health care professional with authority to write prescriptions, with parental consent and the nurse's own agreement to do so in accordance with Board of Nurse Examiners Rules and Regulations 217.11(3) and 217.11(1a).

## SECONDARY STUDENTS

To promote a safe and healthy school environment, and to support the "drug-free" philosophy of the District, the District's medication administration practices seek to minimize as much as possible the amount of medicine brought to campus each day. This protective attitude regarding medication allows secondary students to bring/take only those medications that are essential to their health and ability to function well and safely at school.

If it is necessary for a student to take medicine during the school day, a parent/guardian must complete the "Medication Administration Request" for the school nurse to keep on file. The medication label must match the parent permission form.

Middle school students must come to the health room to receive prescription medications, although, with appropriate doctor's orders, they may carry their own inhalers [and/or medication for anaphylaxis \(see FFAF Local\)](#).

[In order to prepare](#) high school students [for self-responsibility post graduation, they](#) may carry and self-administer their own prescription medications; the high school nurses do not administer medicines from the health room, nor are medications stored in the health room. Only the day's dose may be carried to the campus.

~~A secondary student~~ [Secondary students](#) (middle school and high school), with parent consent, may carry small (limited to a one or two day's supply) amounts of nonprescription, over-the-counter medicines, such as aspirin, acetaminophen, [etc and the like](#), and self-administer according to the directions on the container, [which must be](#) labeled with his or her name.

All medicines brought to District campuses must be in the original properly labeled container, with the student's name, without regard as to whether it is prescription, over-the-counter, or self- or other administered.

Herbal preparations, anabolic steroids, dietary supplements of any type, vitamins, weight reduction, muscle building and performance enhancing aids are not considered essential during school hours/activities and are not allowed to be taken during those times

unless administered by a parent. Exceptions to this policy are rare and shall be considered only with an order by a physician or other health care professional with authority to write prescriptions, parental consent and agreement of the school nurse according to Board of Nurse Examiners Rules and Regulations 217.11(3) and 217.11(1a).

A student shall not share medication (including over-the-counter, dietary/herbal supplements of any type, and anabolic steroids) with another student under any circumstance. Any violation of this standard shall be considered an infraction subject to consequences outlined in the Student Code of Conduct/Discipline Management Plan.

## PSYCHOTROPICS

Except as permitted by Education Code 38.016, an employee shall not:

1. Recommend to a student or a parent that the student use a psychotropic drug;
2. Suggest a particular diagnosis; or
3. Exclude the student from a class or a school-related activity because of the parent's refusal to consent to psychiatric evaluation or examination or treatment of the student.