



Vantage Points

A Board Member's Guide to Update 94

SB 27 from the 82nd Legislative Session requires districts to adopt local policy by August 1, 2012, addressing students with food allergies who are at risk of anaphylaxis. The law required the commissioner of the Texas Department of State Health Services, in consultation with an ad hoc committee, to create guidelines to help districts develop local policy. The commissioner's guidelines may not require a district to purchase prescription anaphylaxis medicine or require the administration of anaphylaxis medication to a student unless the medication is prescribed for that student. These legal provisions were added to FFAF(LEGAL) at Update 91.

The resulting guidelines, entitled *Guidelines for the Care of Students with Food Allergies At-Risk for Anaphylaxis* were made available on May 22 at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/schoolhealth/default.shtm> and state that the following components should be addressed in policy and administrative regulations:

- Identification of students with food allergies who are at risk for anaphylaxis
- Development, implementation, communication, and monitoring of emergency care plans, individualized health-care plans, and/or Section 504 plans for students with food allergies who are at risk for anaphylaxis
- Reduction of the risk of exposure within the school setting
- Training for school staff on anaphylaxis and emergency response to anaphylactic reactions
- Review of policies and procedures after an anaphylactic reaction

The *Guidelines* include additional detail on each of the above components.

FFAF(LOCAL) POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

New recommended provisions at FFAF(LOCAL), which is now subtitled Care Plans, incorporate these elements by requiring the district to develop and implement a student food allergy management plan that includes general procedures to limit the risk posed to students by food allergies and specific procedures for when a student is identified with a diagnosed food allergy and is at risk for anaphylaxis.

The general procedures must address specialized training for the employees responsible for developing, implementing, and monitoring the food allergy management plan; employee awareness training regarding food allergy symptoms and emergency procedures to follow in the event of a student's anaphylactic reaction; strategies to reduce the risk of exposure to common food allergens; methods for requesting specific food allergy information from parents; and annual review of the food allergy management plan.

Specific procedures for students with diagnosed food allergies who are at risk for anaphylaxis must include the development and implementation of food allergy action plans, emergency action plans, individualized health-care plans, and Section 504 plans, as appropriate; training as necessary for employees and other individuals to implement a student's care plan; and review of individual care plans and procedures periodically and after an anaphylactic reaction at school or at a school-related activity.

The recommended (LOCAL) policy also requires the district to provide information about the policy and the food allergy management plan in the student handbook and to make the materials available at each campus.

At this update we have also revised the F section table of contents to reflect the new subtitle for FFAF, Care Plans.

On June 15, 2012, Policy Service will publish sample administrative procedures and forms in Update 41 to the *Regulations Resource Manual*, available to superintendents and policy contacts on myTASB, to help district administrators develop a food allergy management plan in accordance with state guidelines and local policy.

Please note: Because the law requires districts to adopt a local policy so quickly, districts in which the local policy adoption process calls for two readings of a proposed policy may wish to implement the process for emergency adoption with one reading. [See BF(LOCAL).]

More Information

For further information, please refer to the Update 94 Explanatory Notes and the FFAF(LOCAL) policy itself, found in your localized update packet.

© 2012 Texas Association of School Boards, Inc. All rights reserved.

PLEASE NOTE: This Update 94 *Vantage Points* and the Localized Update 94 packet may not be considered as legal advice and are not intended as a substitute for the advice of a board's own legal counsel.

Explanatory Notes

TASB Localized Policy Manual Update 94

District: Waskom ISD
F (LEGAL) STUDENTS

We have revised the F section table of contents to rename FFAF, now subtitled Care Plans.

FFAF (LOCAL) WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES
CARE PLANS

SB 27 from the 82nd Legislative Session required the commissioner of state health services, in consultation with an ad hoc committee, to create guidelines to help districts develop local policy for the care of students with a diagnosed food allergy who are at risk for anaphylaxis. The commissioner's guidelines may not require a district to purchase prescription anaphylaxis medicine or require the administration of anaphylaxis medication to a student unless the medication is prescribed for that student. These legal provisions were added to FFAF(LEGAL) at Update 91.

The law requires districts to adopt local policy by August 1, 2012, and the local policy must be based on the guidelines.

The *Guidelines for the Care of Students with Food Allergies At-Risk for Anaphylaxis* were made available on May 22 at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/schoolhealth/default.shtm> and state that the following components should be addressed in policy and administrative regulations:

- Identification of students with food allergies who are at risk for anaphylaxis
- Development, implementation, communication, and monitoring of emergency care plans, individualized health-care plans, and/or Section 504 plans for students with food allergies who are at risk for anaphylaxis
- Reduction of the risk of exposure within the school setting
- Training for school staff on anaphylaxis and emergency response to anaphylactic reactions
- Post-anaphylaxis reaction review of policies and procedures

The *Guidelines* include additional detail on each of the above components.

The enclosed policy, now subtitled Care Plans, incorporates these elements by requiring the district to develop and implement a student FOOD ALLERGY MANAGEMENT PLAN that includes general procedures to limit the risk posed to students by food allergies and specific procedures for when a student is identified with a diagnosed food allergy and is at risk for anaphylaxis.

The policy includes a requirement to develop GENERAL PROCEDURES on the following:

- Specialized training for employees responsible for the development, implementation, and monitoring of the district's food allergy management plan. The *Guidelines* explain that this training is more comprehensive than the general awareness training listed below and should address management of food allergies in the school setting.
- Awareness training for employees on the signs and symptoms of food allergies and emergency procedures employees should follow in the case of a student's anaphylactic reaction. The *Guidelines* include suggested elements of this training and provide information about online training and other training resources.
- General strategies to reduce the risk of exposure to common food allergens. The *Guidelines* include many strategies for the district to consider; the strategies implemented will vary from district to district based on local circumstances.

Explanatory Notes

TASB Localized Policy Manual Update 94

- Methods for requesting specific food allergy information from parents. Once a student is identified as having a food allergy and as being at risk for anaphylaxis, the district will need to implement procedures related to the care of that student.
- Annual review of the food allergy management plan.

In addition to these general procedures, the policy requires development of procedures for STUDENTS AT RISK FOR ANAPHYLAXIS, including:

- Development and implementation of food allergy action plans, emergency action plans, individualized health-care plans, and Section 504 plans, as appropriate.
- Training as necessary for employees and others to implement a student's care plan. This training will focus on the roles of various individuals in implementing the specific elements of the care plan and will include strategies to reduce the student's risk of exposure to the diagnosed allergen.
- Review of individual care plans and procedures periodically and after an anaphylactic reaction at school or at a school-related activity. The *Guidelines* emphasize that the review after an anaphylactic reaction would provide an opportunity to adjust the procedures and plans and ensure that any medication used during a reaction is replaced. Periodic review may be necessary, for example, when a student changes grade levels or campuses.

At DISTRIBUTION, the policy also requires the district to provide information about the policy and the food allergy management plan in the student handbook and to make the materials available at each campus.

On June 15, 2012, Policy Service will publish sample administrative procedures and forms in Update 41 to the *Regulations Resource Manual*, available on myTASB. The regulations are aligned with the local policy text and will allow the district to designate a district-wide food allergy coordinator, if any; indicate whether the district will create food allergy management teams at the campus level; and develop procedures to implement the local policy requirements.

Please note: Because the law requires districts to adopt a local policy so quickly, districts in which the local policy adoption process calls for two readings of a proposed policy may wish to implement the process for emergency adoption with one reading. [See BF(LOCAL).]

Please Note: This manual does not have policies in all codes. The coding structure is common to all TASB manuals and is designed to accommodate expansion of both (LEGAL) and (LOCAL) policy topics and administrative regulations.

SECTION F: STUDENTS

FA	STUDENT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES
FB	EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY
FBA	Service Animals
FC	SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AREAS
FD	ADMISSIONS
FDA	Interdistrict Transfers
FDAA	Public Education Grants
FDB	Intradistrict Transfers and Classroom Assignments
FDC	Homeless Students
FDD	Military Dependents
FDE	School Safety Transfers
FE	ATTENDANCE
FEA	Compulsory Attendance
FEB	Attendance Accounting
FEC	Attendance for Credit
FED	Attendance Enforcement
FEE	Open/Closed Campus
FEF	Released Time
FF	STUDENT WELFARE
FFA	Wellness and Health Services
FFAA	Physical Examinations
FFAB	Immunizations
FFAC	Medical Treatment
FFAD	Communicable Diseases
FFAE	School-Based Health Centers
FFAF	Care Plans
FFB	Crisis Intervention
FFC	Student Support Services
FFD	Student Insurance
FFE	Student Assistance Programs/Counseling
FFEA	Comprehensive Guidance Program
FFEB	Substance Abuse
FFF	Student Safety
FFFA	Supervision of Students
FFFB	Safety Patrols
FFFD	Bicycle/Automobile Use
FFFF	School Buses
FFG	Child Abuse and Neglect
FFH	Freedom from Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation
FFI	Freedom from Bullying
FG	STUDENT AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

DATE ISSUED: 6/1/2012
 UPDATE 94
 F(LEGAL)-P

1 of 2
 UPDATE 94
 F(LEGAL)-P

Please Note: This manual does not have policies in all codes. The coding structure is common to all TASB manuals and is designed to accommodate expansion of both (LEGAL) and (LOCAL) policy topics and administrative regulations.

SECTION F: STUDENTS

FH	STUDENT VOLUNTEERS	FA
FJ	GIFTS AND SOLICITATIONS	FB
FL	STUDENT RECORDS	FBA
FLA	Confidentiality of Student Health Information	FC
FM	STUDENT ACTIVITIES	FD
FMA	School-Sponsored Publications	FDA
FMB	Student Government	FDAA
FMD	Social Events	FDB
FME	Performances	FDC
FMF	Contests and Competition	FDD
FMG	Travel	FDE
FMH	Commencement	FE
FN	STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES	FEA
FNA	Student Expression	FEB
FNAA	Distribution of Nonschool Literature	FEC
FNAB	Use of School Facilities for Nonschool Purposes	FED
FNB	Involvement in Decision Making	FEE
FNC	Student Conduct	FEF
FNCA	Dress Code	FF
FNCB	Care of School Property	FFA
FNCC	Prohibited Organizations and Hazing	FFAA
FNCD	Tobacco Use and Possession	FFAB
FNCE	Personal Telecommunications/Electronic Devices	FFAC
FNCF	Alcohol and Drug Use	FFAD
FNCG	Weapons	FFAE
FNCH	Assaults	FFAF
FNCI	Disruptions	FFB
FND	Married Students	FFC
FNE	Pregnant Students	FFD
FNF	Interrogations and Searches	FFE
FNG	Student and Parent Complaints/Grievances	FFFA
FO	STUDENT DISCIPLINE	FFFB
FOA	Removal by Teacher	FFFC
FOB	Out-of-School Suspension	FFFD
FOC	Placement in a Disciplinary Alternative Education Setting	FFFE
FOCA	Disciplinary Alternative Education Program Operations	FFFA
FOD	Expulsion	FFFB
FODA	Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program	FFFC
FOE	Emergency and Alternative Placement	FFFD
FOF	Students with Disabilities	FFFE
FP	STUDENT FEES, FINES, AND CHARGES	FFFA

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES
CARE PLANS

FFAF
(LOCAL)

FOOD ALLERGY
MANAGEMENT PLAN

The District shall develop and implement a student food allergy management plan that includes the components below.

GENERAL
PROCEDURES

Procedures to limit the risk posed to students with food allergies shall include:

1. Specialized training for employees responsible for the development, implementation, and monitoring of the District's food allergy management plan.
2. Awareness training for employees regarding signs and symptoms of food allergies and emergency response in the event of an anaphylactic reaction.
3. General strategies to reduce the risk of exposure to common food allergens.
4. Methods for requesting specific food allergy information from a parent of a student with a diagnosed food allergy. [See FD]
5. Annual review of the District's food allergy management plan.

STUDENTS AT RISK
FOR ANAPHYLAXIS

Procedures regarding the care of students with diagnosed food allergies who are at risk for anaphylaxis shall include:

1. Development and implementation of food allergy action plans, emergency action plans, individualized health-care plans, and Section 504 plans, as appropriate.
2. Training, as necessary, for employees and others to implement each student's care plan, including strategies to reduce the student's risk of exposure to the diagnosed allergen.
3. Review of individual care plans and procedures periodically and after an anaphylactic reaction at school or at a school-related activity.

DISTRIBUTION

Information regarding this policy and the District's food allergy management plan shall be distributed annually in the student handbook and made available at each campus.