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STUDENTS

7:270 Administering Medicines to Students

School Administration

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/guardian 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 (SMA Form)* is submitted by the student's parent/guardian. 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 emergency medication.

The Student Handbook shall include all applicable information regarding medication as outlined in this policy and the Illinois School Code.

Self-Administration of Medication

A student may possess and self-administer an epinephrine injector, e.g., EpiPen®, and/or asthma medication prescribed and directed by licensed provider. The student's parent/guardian must complete and sign an *SMA Form*. The Superintendent or designee will ensure an Emergency Action Plan and/or SMA form is developed for each self-administering student.

A student may self-administer medication required under a *qualifying plan*, provided the student's parent/guardian and licensed provider has completed and signed an *SMA Form*. A qualifying plan means: (1) an asthma action plan, (2) an Individual Health Care Action Plan, (3) an Ill. Allergy Emergency Action Plan and Treatment Authorization Form including Diabetic Management Plan, (4) a plan pursuant to Section 504 of the

federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or (5) a plan pursuant to the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

The 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, including asthma medication or epinephrine injectors, or medication required under a qualifying plan. A student's parent/guardian must indemnify and hold harmless the 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 injector, asthma medication, and/or a medication required under a qualifying plan.

School District Supply of Undesignated Asthma Medication

The Superintendent or designee may implement [105 ILCS 5/22-30\(f\)](#) and maintain a supply of undesignated asthma medication, when available, 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 or obtained by the District without a prescription. A school nurse or trained personnel, as defined in State law, 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*. The Human Resources Department shall maintain the names of trained personnel who have received training pursuant to State law.

School District Supply of Undesignated Epinephrine

The Superintendent or designee may implement [105 ILCS 5/22-30\(f\)](#) and maintain a supply of undesignated epinephrine, when available, in the name of the District and provide or administer them as necessary according to State law. *Undesignated epinephrine* means an epinephrine prescribed in the name of the District or one of its schools. A school nurse or trained personnel, as defined in State law, may administer an undesignated epinephrine to a person when they, in good faith, believe a person is having an anaphylactic reaction. The Human Resources Department shall maintain the names of trained personnel who have received training pursuant to State law.

School District Supply of Undesignated Opioid Antagonists

The Superintendent or designee may implement [105 ILCS 5/22-30\(f\)](#)^{PRESSPlus1} and maintain a supply of undesignated opioid antagonists, when available, ~~in the name of the District~~ and provide or administer them as necessary according to State law. *Opioid antagonist* means a drug that binds to opioid receptors and blocks or inhibits the effect of opioids acting on those receptors, including, but not limited to, naloxone hydrochloride or any other similarly acting drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. *Undesignated opioid antagonist* is not defined by the School Code; for purposes of this policy it means an opioid antagonist prescribed in the name of the District or one of its schools or obtained by the District without a prescription. A school

nurse or trained personnel, as defined in State law, may administer an undesignated opioid antagonist to a person when they, in good faith, believe a person is having an opioid overdose. Each building administrator and/or their corresponding school nurse shall maintain the names of trained personnel who have received training pursuant to State law. See the website for the Ill. Dept. of Human Services for information about opioid prevention, abuse, public awareness, and a toll-free number to provide information and referral services for persons with questions concerning substance abuse treatment.

School District Supply of Undesignated Oxygen Tanks^{Q1}

In schools where the District maintains special educational facilities, the Superintendent or designee shall implement 105 ILCS 5/22-30(f) and maintain a supply of undesignated oxygen tanks in the name of the District and provide or administer them as necessary. The supply shall be maintained in accordance with manufacturer instructions and local fire department rules.

School District Supply of Undesignated Glucagon

The Superintendent or designee may implement [105 ILCS 145/27](#) and maintain a supply of undesignated glucagon in the name of the District in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

When a student's prescribed glucagon is not available or has expired, a school nurse or delegated care aide may administer undesignated glucagon only if he or she is authorized to do so by a student's diabetes care plan.

Administration of Medical Cannabis

The Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act allows a *medical cannabis infused product* to be administered to a student by one or more of the following individuals:

1. A parent/guardian of a student who is a minor who registers 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:
 - a. Both the student and the designated caregiver possess valid registry identification cards issued by IDPH;
 - b. Copies of the registry identification cards are provided to the District;
 - c. That student's parent/guardian completed, signed, and submitted a *School Medication Authorization Form - Medical Cannabis*; and

- d. After administering the product to the student, the designated caregiver immediately removes it from school premises or the school bus.
2. A properly trained school nurse or administrator, who shall be allowed to administer the *medical cannabis infused product* to the student on the premises of the child's school, at a school-sponsored activity, or before/after normal school activities, including while the student is in before-school or after-school care on school-operated property or while being transported on a school bus.
3. The student him or herself when the self-administration takes place under the direct supervision of a school nurse or administrator.

Medical cannabis infused product (product) includes oils, ointments, foods, and other products that contain usable cannabis but are not smoked or vaped. Smoking and/or vaping medical cannabis is prohibited, as is rectal, ocular, or injectables. CBD oils are unregulated and are not a substitute for medical cannabis and therefore are not allowed in the District.

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.

Discipline of a student for being administered a product by a designated caregiver, or by a school nurse or administrator, or who self-administers a product under the direct supervision of a school nurse or administrator 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.

The **School District Supply of Undesignated Epinephrine** 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 epinephrine 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 epinephrine.

The **School District Supply of Undesignated Opioid Antagonists** section of the policy is void whenever the Superintendent or designee is, ~~for whatever reason,~~ unable to ~~(1)~~ obtain a supply of opioid antagonists due to a shortage, in which case the District shall make reasonable efforts to maintain a supply. ~~for the District a prescription for~~

opioid antagonists from a health care professional who has been delegated prescriptive authority for opioid antagonists in accordance with Section 5-23 of the Substance Use Disorder Act, or (2) fill the District's prescription for undesignated school opioid antagonists.

The **School District Supply of Undesignated Oxygen Tanks** 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 oxygen tanks from a qualifying prescriber, [PRESSPlus2](#) or (2) fill the District's prescription for undesignated oxygen tanks.

The **School District Supply of Undesignated Glucagon** 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 glucagon from a qualifying prescriber, or (2) fill the District's prescription for undesignated school glucagon.

The **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 medication permitted by State law, the Superintendent or designee(s) must ensure all notifications required by State law and administrative procedures occur.

Undesignated Medication Disclaimers

Upon implementation of this policy, the protections from liability and hold harmless provisions applicable under State law apply.

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

LEGAL REF.:

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

[105 ILCS 145/](#), Care of Students with Diabetes Act.

[410 ILCS 130/](#), Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act.

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

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.540](#).

CROSS REF.: 7:285 (Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program)

Questions and Answers:

***Required Question 1. 105 ILCS 5/22-30(f), amended by P.A. 103-196, eff. 1-1-24, permits a district maintaining special educational facilities to maintain a supply of undesignated oxygen tanks in a secure location that is accessible before, during, and after school where a person with developmental disabilities is most at risk, including, but not limited to classrooms and lunchrooms. *Special educational facility* is not specifically defined in 105 ILCS 5/14-4.01; consult the board attorney for advice regarding this term and if it is limited to separate buildings, self-contained classrooms, and/or programs attended solely by students with disabilities. For example, this option may not be available if a district utilizes a special education cooperative for all of its special education programming. There is a reference to *special education facilities* in 105 ILCS 5/14-12.01, which may provide some guidance; it addresses reimbursement for the construction and maintenance of “special education facilities designed and utilized to house instructional program, diagnostic services” and “other special education services for children with disabilities.” 105 ILCS 22-30(f), amended by P.A. 103-196, eff. 1-1-24, does not specify who can administer undesignated oxygen, nor does it specify any training requirements for its use in schools. To minimize potential liability and ensure proper administration, a best practice is to restrict who can administer undesignated oxygen to school nurses and other school personnel who have received appropriate training on the emergency use and storage of oxygen. See sample administrative procedure 7:270-AP2, *Checklist for District Supply of Undesignated Medication(s)*, available at PRESS Online by logging in at www.iasb.com.

Consult the board attorney about the consequences of informing the community that the district will obtain a prescription for a supply of undesignated oxygen tanks and implement a plan for their use, and then not doing it, as doing so may be fraught with legal liabilities. Also fraught with legal liabilities is if the district provides them, but does not have them accessible before, during, and after school where a person with development disabilities is most at risk as required by 105 ILCS 5/22-30(f), amended by P.A. 103-196, eff. 1-1-24. See *In re Estate of Stewart*, 406 Ill.Dec. 345 (2nd Dist. 2016)(denying tort immunity to district, finding its response to a student’s asthma attack was *willful* and *wanton* (which district disputed as a possible heart attack)); *In re Estate of Stewart*, 412 Ill.Dec. 914 (Ill. 2017)(school district’s appeal denied).

Does the district maintain special educational facilities for children with disabilities under 105 ILCS 5/14-4.01?

- No. (IASB will delete the subhead regarding School District Supply of Undesignated Oxygen Tanks.)
- Yes. If yes, does the board want the district to maintain a supply of undesignated

oxygen tanks in the name of the District and provide or administer them as necessary? Type "yes" or "no." If no, IASB will delete the subhead regarding School District Supply of Undesignated Oxygen Tanks.)

PRESSPlus Comments

[PRESSPlus 1.](#) Required by 105 ILCS 5/22-30(f), amended by P.A. 103-348, eff. 1-1-24. In the case of a shortage of opioid antagonists, a district must make reasonable efforts to maintain a supply. At least one opioid antagonist, a naloxone nasal spray, has been approved by the U.S. Federal Food and Drug Administration for over-the-counter, nonprescription use. A district must obtain a prescription for a supply of opioid antagonists from a *health care professional* with prescriptive authority under the Substance Use Disorder Act, 20 ILCS 301/5-23, unless it is able to secure a supply without a prescription. *Health care professional* means a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches, a licensed physician assistant with prescriptive authority, a licensed advanced practice registered nurse with prescriptive authority, or an advanced practice registered nurse who practices in a hospital or ambulatory surgical treatment center and possesses appropriate clinical privileges in accordance with the Nurse Practice Act, 20 ILCS 301/5-23(d)(4). **Issue 113, October 2023**

[PRESSPlus 2.](#) 105 ILCS 22-30(f), amended by P.A. 103-196, eff. 1-1-24, provides that a physician, a physician assistant who has prescriptive authority under the Physician Assistant Practice Act of 1987 (225 ILCS 95/7.5), or an advanced practice registered nurse who has prescriptive authority under the Nurse Practice Act (225 ILCS 65-40) may prescribe undesignated oxygen tanks in the name of the district to be maintained for use when necessary. **Issue 113, October 2023**