

Administering Medication in School

School personnel shall not provide any medication to students, except as provided for in this policy. A parent or guardian and a qualified physician must provide written notice before prescribed medicine may be given, except as provided for in School-Based Health Centers below. However, school nurses or their designees, acting under medical directives signed by a physician, may administer specific emergency medication. School personnel who have successfully completed a training course developed by the Oregon Medical Association may administer epinephrine for anaphylactic emergencies.

Students who must depend upon prescribed medication as defined by OAR 581-021-0037 in order to stay in school must have written permission from a parent or guardian requesting that the school district comply with the instructions of the physician. The medication is to be in the original prescription bottle or container, clearly labeled with the name of the student, drug dosage, name of the prescribing physician, and the time interval that the medication is to be taken. The label may serve as the physician's instruction. Parents will provide written permission for their child to receive nonprescription medication as defined in OAR 581-021-0037, except as provided for in this policy. However, any product that contains aspirin requires a physician's order.

School staff shall keep medication that is brought to school by the parent in the original container, appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or physician. Nonprescription medication must be provided to and maintained by the school staff in the original bottle or container unless the student self-administers his or her own medication as specified below. The principal's office shall maintain a list of students receiving medication and document when they have been administered. The principal shall designate the staff members who will assist with the medications. Staff shall store student medications in a locked cabinet. Any consent forms required by this policy will be returned to and maintained in the school office.

Before assisting a student with medication, school personnel shall contact the building principal or school nurse to receive required medication training, review the policies and procedures, and complete the necessary forms.

There are instances when it is advisable for a student to carry and administer his or her own medication.

A student may administer his or her own medication in the following situations unless the school determines that the student does not demonstrate the ability, developmentally and/or behaviorally, to administer medication to him or herself without the assistance of a trained staff member:

- Students in grades K-8 may carry inhalers or any other emergency prescription medication with the written consent of the parent and the school administrator;

- Students in grades K-8 may carry and self-administer one day’s dose of nonprescription medication with the written consent of the parent;
- Students in grades 6-8 may carry and self-administer one day’s dose of noncontrolled prescription medications, including inhalers with the written consent of the parent and school administrator. Controlled prescription medications may not be self-administered;
- Students in grades 9-12 may carry and self-administer one day’s dose of noncontrolled prescription medication (including inhalers) with the written consent of the parent;
- Students in grades 9-12 may carry and self-administer one day’s dose of a controlled medication with the written consent of the parent.

In the event of an emergency that requires treatment with medication, a designated member of the school staff must notify parents or guardian as quickly as possible. The student’s record should contain the current telephone number of the parent specifically for this purpose.

The principal shall notify school personnel each year about the provisions of this policy dealing with medication.

School-Based Health Centers

School nursing staff assigned to a school-based health center may provide medication for students in accordance with clinic rules and statutes and regulations.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 109.640](#)

[ORS 339.867](#)

[ORS 339.869](#)

[ORS 339.870](#)

[ORS 433.800 - 433.830](#)

[ORS 475.005 - 475.285](#)

[OAR 581-021-0037](#)