

AR 5141.21

Definitions

Authorized health care provider means an individual who is licensed by the State of California to prescribe medication, including, but not limited to, a physician or physician assistant. (Education Code [49423](#); 5 CCR [601](#))

Other designated school personnel means any individual employed by the district, including a nonmedical school employee who has volunteered or consented to administer the medication or otherwise assist the student and who may legally administer the medication to the student or assist the student in the administration of the medication. (5 CCR [601](#), [621](#))

Medication may include not only a substance dispensed in the United States by prescription, but also a substance that does not require a prescription, such as over-the-counter remedies, nutritional supplements, and herbal remedies. (5 CCR [601](#))

Emergency medical assistance for a student suffering an epileptic seizure means the administration of an emergency antiseizure medication such as diazepam rectal gel and other emergency medications approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration for patients suffering from epileptic seizures. (Education Code [49414.7](#); 5 CCR [621](#))

Epinephrine auto-injector means a disposable delivery device designed for the automatic injection of a premeasured dose of epinephrine into the human body to prevent or treat a life-threatening allergic reaction. (Education Code 49414)

Anaphylaxis means a potentially life-threatening hypersensitivity to a substance, which may result from an insect sting, food allergy, drug reaction, exercise, or other cause. Symptoms may include shortness of breath, wheezing, difficulty breathing, difficulty talking or swallowing, hives, itching, swelling, shock, or asthma. (Education Code [49414](#))

Opioid antagonist means naloxone hydrochloride or another drug approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration that, when administered, negates or neutralizes in whole or in part the pharmacological effects of an opioid in the body and that has been approved for the treatment of an opioid overdose. (Education Code 49414.3)

Notifications to Parents/Guardians

At the beginning of each school year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians of the options available to students who need to take prescribed medication during the school day and the rights and responsibilities of parents/guardians regarding those options. (Education Code [49480](#))

(cf. [5145.6](#)- Parental Notifications)

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall inform the parents/guardians of any student on a continuing medication regimen for a nonepisodic condition of the following requirements: (Education Code [49480](#))

1. The parent/guardian is required to inform the school nurse or other designated employee of the medication being taken, the current dosage and the name of the health care provider.
2. With the parent/guardian's consent, the school nurse or other designated employee may communicate with the student's health care provider regarding the medication and its effects and may counsel school personnel regarding the possible effects of the drug on the student's physical, intellectual and social behavior, as well as possible behavioral signs and symptoms of adverse side effects, omission or overdose.

When a student requires medication during the school day in order to participate in the educational program, the Superintendent or designee shall, as appropriate, inform the student's parents/guardians that the student may qualify for services or accommodations pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 USC 1400-1482) or Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC 794).

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the parent/guardian of any student who may need medication during the school day shall include, but are not limited to:

1. Providing parent/guardian and authorized health care provider written statements each school year as described in the sections "Parent/Guardian Statement" and "Health Care Provider Statement" below. The parent/guardian shall provide a new authorized health care provider's statement if the medication, dosage, frequency of administration, or reason for administration changes. (Education Code [49414.5](#), [49414.7](#), [49423](#), [49423.1](#); 5 CCR [600](#), [626](#))
2. If the student is on a continuing medication regimen for a nonepisodic condition, informing the school nurse or other designated certificated employee of the medication being taken, the current dosage, and the name of the supervising health care provider and updating the information when needed. (Education Code [49480](#))
3. If the student suffers from epilepsy, notifying the principal or designee whenever the student has had an emergency antiseizure medication administered to him/her before or after the start of the school day. (Education Code [49414.7](#))
4. Providing medications in properly labeled, original containers along with the authorized health care provider's instructions. For prescribed or ordered medication, the container also shall bear the name and telephone number of the pharmacy, the student's identification, and the name and phone number of the authorized health care provider. (5 CCR [606](#))

Parent/Guardian Statement

When district employees are to administer medication to a student, the parent/guardian's written statement shall:

1. Identify the student

2. Grant permission for the authorized district representative to communicate directly with the student's health care provider and pharmacist, as may be necessary, regarding the health care provider's written statement or any other questions that may arise with regard to the medication
3. Contain an acknowledgment that the parent/guardian understands how district employees will administer or otherwise assist the student in the administration of medication
4. Contain an acknowledgment that the parent/guardian understands the responsibilities to provide a written statement from the authorized health care provider, to ensure that the medication is delivered to the school in a proper container by an individual legally authorized to be in possession of the medication, and to provide all necessary supplies and equipment
5. Parent/Guardian must supply the school with all medicine their child must take during the school day. The Parent/Guardian or another adult must deliver the medicine to the school, except medicine the student is authorized to carry and self-administer.
6. Delivery of the medication will include counting and verification and signing the log sheet with authorized school staff.
7. Contain an acknowledgment that the parent/guardian understands that he/she may terminate the consent for the administration of the medication or for otherwise assisting the student in the administration of medication at any time.

In addition to the requirements in items #1-7 above, if a parent/guardian has requested that his/her child be allowed to carry and self-administer prescription auto-injectable epinephrine or prescription inhaled asthma medication, the parent/guardian's written statement shall also: (Education Code [49423](#), [49423.1](#))

1. Consent to the self-administration
2. Release the district and school personnel from civil liability if a student suffers an adverse reaction as a result of self-administering the medication

In addition to the requirements in items #1-7 above, if a parent/guardian wishes to designate an individual who is not an employee of the district to administer medication to his/her child, the parent/guardian's written statement shall clearly identify the individual and shall state:

1. The individual's willingness to accept the designation
2. That the individual is permitted to be on the school site
3. Any limitations on the individual's authority

Health Care Provider Statement

When any district employee is to administer prescribed medication to a student, or when a student is to be allowed to carry and self-administer auto-injectable epinephrine or prescribed diabetes or asthma medication during school hours, the authorized health care provider's written statement shall include:

1. Clear identification of the student (Education Code [49414.7](#), [49423](#), [49423.1](#); 5 CCR [602](#), [626](#))

2. The name of the medication (Education Code [49414.7](#), [49423](#). 49423.1; 5 CCR [602](#), [626](#))
3. The method, amount, and time schedules by which the medication is to be taken (Education Code [49414.7](#), [49423](#), [49423.1](#); 5 CCR [602](#), [626](#))
4. If a parent/guardian has requested that his/her child be allowed to self-administer medication, confirmation that the student is able to self-administer the medication. (Education Code [49423](#), [49423.1](#); 5 CCR [602](#))
5. For medication that is to be administered on an as-needed basis, the specific symptoms that would necessitate administration of the medication, allowable frequency for administration, and indications for referral for medical evaluation
6. For medication that is to be administered by unlicensed personnel, confirmation by the student's health care provider that the medication may safely and appropriately be administered by unlicensed personnel (Education Code 49423, 49423.1; 5 CCR 602)
7. Possible side effects of the medication
8. Name, address, telephone number, and signature of the student's authorized health care provider

When authorizing a district employee to administer emergency antiseizure medication to a student, the authorized health care provider's written statement shall also include the following: (Education Code [49414.7](#); 5 CCR [626](#))

1. Detailed seizure symptoms, including frequency, type, or length of seizures that identify when the administration of the medication becomes necessary
2. Any potential adverse responses by the student and recommended mitigation action
3. A protocol for observing the student after a seizure, including, but not limited to, whether he/she should rest in the school office or return to his/her class and the length of time he/she should be under direct observation

For self-administration of inhaled asthma medication, the district shall accept a written statement from a physician or surgeon contracted with a health plan licensed pursuant to Health and Safety Code 1351.2. Such written statement shall be in English and Spanish, and shall include the name and contact information for the physician or surgeon. (Education Code 49423.1)

District Responsibilities

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that any unlicensed school personnel authorized to administer medication to a student receives appropriate training from the school nurse or other qualified medical personnel.

The school nurse or other designated school personnel shall:

1. Administer or assist in administering the medication in accordance with the health care provider's written statement

2. Accept delivery of medication from the student's parent/guardian, including counting and recording the medication upon receipt
3. Count and record all controlled substances upon each delivery to the school. Verify the count by having the parent and school employee sign the log sheet
4. Maintain a list of students needing medication during the school day, including those authorized to self-administer medication, and note on the list the type of medication and the times and dosage to be administered
5. Maintain for each student a medication log which may:
 - a. Specify the student's name, medication, dose and method of administration, time of administration during the regular school day, date(s) on which the student is required to take the medication, and the authorized health care provider's name and contact information.
 - b. Contain space for daily recording of the date, time, and amount of medication administered, and the signature of the individual administering the medication
5. Maintain a medication record which may include the authorized health care provider's written statement, the parent/guardian's written statement, the medication log, and other written documentation related to the administration of medication to the student.
6. Ensure that student confidentiality is appropriately maintained

(cf. [5125](#) - Student Records)
7. Coordinate and as appropriate, ensure the administration of medication during field trips and other school-related activities

(cf. 5148.2 - Before and After School)

(cf. [6145.2](#) - Athletic Competition)

(cf. [6153](#) - School- Sponsored Trips)
8. Report to a student's parent/guardian and the site administrator any refusal of a student to take his/her medication.
9. Keep all medication to be administered by the district in a secure location
10. As needed, communicate with a student's authorized health care provider and/or pharmacist regarding the medication and its effects.
11. Counsel other designated school personnel regarding the possible effects of the medication on the student's physical, intellectual and social behavior, as well as possible behavioral signs and symptoms of adverse side effects, omission or overdose.

12. Ensure that any unused, discontinued, or outdated medication is returned to the student's parent/guardian at the end of the school year or, if the medication cannot be returned, dispose of it in accordance with state laws and local ordinances

13. Provide immediate medical assistance if needed and report to the site administrator, the student's parent/guardian, and if necessary, the student's authorized health care provider any instance when a medication is not administered properly, including administration of the wrong medication or failure to administer the medication in accordance with authorized health care provider's written statement

14. In the event of a medical emergency requiring administration of medication, provide immediate medical assistance, directly observe the student following the administration of medication, contact the student's parent/guardian, and determine whether the student should return to class, rest in the school office, or receive further medical assistance

15. Report to the site administrator, the student's parent/guardian, and, if necessary, the student's authorized health care provider any instance when a medication is not administered properly, including administration of the wrong medication or failure to administer the medication in accordance with authorized health care provider's written statement

Emergency Epinephrine Auto-Injectors

The Superintendent or designee shall provide epinephrine auto-injectors to school nurses or other employees who have volunteered to administer them in an emergency and have received training. The school nurse, or a volunteer employee when a school nurse or physician is unavailable, may administer an epinephrine auto-injector to provide emergency medical aid to any person suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering, from potentially life-threatening symptoms of anaphylaxis at school or at a school activity. (Education Code [49414](#))

At least once per school year, the Superintendent or designee shall distribute to all staff a notice requesting volunteers to be trained to administer an epinephrine auto-injector and describing the training that the volunteer will receive. (Education Code [49414](#))

The principal or designee at each school may designate one or more volunteers to receive initial and annual refresher training, which shall be provided by a school nurse or other qualified person designated by a physician and surgeon authorized pursuant to Education Code [49414](#) and shall be based on the standards developed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Written materials covering the required topics for training shall be retained by the school for reference (Education Code [49414](#))

A school nurse or other qualified supervisor of health, or a district administrator if the district does not have a qualified supervisor of health, shall obtain a prescription for epinephrine auto-injectors for each school from an authorized physician and surgeon. Such prescription may be filled by local or mail order pharmacies or epinephrine auto-injector manufacturers. Elementary schools shall, at a minimum, be provided one adult (regular) epinephrine auto-injector and one junior epinephrine auto-injector, and for middle schools and high schools, if there are no pupils who require a junior epinephrine-auto-injector, one regular epinephrine auto-injector. (Education Code [49414](#))

If an epinephrine auto-injector is used, the school nurse or other qualified supervisor of health shall restock the epinephrine auto-injector as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than two weeks after it is

used. In addition, epinephrine auto-injectors shall be restocked before their expiration date. (Education Code [49414](#))

Information regarding defense and indemnification provided by the district for any and all civil liability for volunteers administering epinephrine auto-injectors shall be provided to each volunteer and retained in his/her personnel file. (Education Code [49414](#))

(cf. [4112.6/4212.6/4312.6](#) - Personnel Files)

A school may accept gifts, grants, and donations from any source for the support of the school in carrying out the requirements of Education Code [49414](#), including, but not limited to the acceptance of epinephrine auto-injectors from a manufacturer or wholesaler. (Education Code [49414](#))

(cf. [3290](#) - Gifts, Grants and Bequests)

(cf. [3580](#) - District Records)

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain records regarding the acquisition and disposition of epinephrine auto-injectors for a period of three years from the date the records were created (Business and Professions Code [4119.2](#))

Additional Requirements for Management of Epileptic Seizures

In addition to applicable provisions in the sections above, the Superintendent or designee shall make arrangements for assisting student with epilepsy who may suffer a seizure at school. Such arrangements shall include the following: (Education Code [49414.7](#); 5 CCR [620-627](#))

1. Services or Accommodations: Whenever a parent/guardian requests that a nonmedical district employee be trained to provide emergency medical assistance to his/her child, the parent/guardian shall be notified that the child may qualify for services or accommodations pursuant to 10 UCS 1400-1482, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or 20 USC 794, Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973. (Section 504)

(cf. [6159](#) - Individualized Education Program)

(cf. [6164.4](#) - Identification and Evaluation of Individuals for Special Education)

(cf. [6164.6](#) - Identification and Education Under Section 504)

The Superintendent or designee shall assist the parent/guardian to explore that option and shall encourage him/her to adopt the option if the student is determined to be eligible for such service or accommodation.

If the student's parent/guardian refuses to have him/her assessed for services or accommodations under IDEA or Section 504, the Superintendent or designee may develop an individualized health plan, seizure action plan, or other appropriate health plan designed to acknowledge and prepare for the student's health care needs in school.

2. Request for Volunteers: The Superintendent or designee shall distribute an electronic notice to school staff no more than twice per school year per student whose parent/guardian has requested provision of

emergency medical assistance pursuant to Education Code [49414.7](#). The notice shall be in bold print and, in accordance with Education Code [49414.7](#), shall contain a description of the request for a volunteer school employee, the training that such volunteer school employee will receive, the voluntary nature of the program, and the timelines for the volunteer school employee to rescind his/her offer. No other means of soliciting volunteer school employees shall be conducted.

(cf. [4112.9/4212.9/4312.9](#) - Employee Notifications)

3. Training any employee who volunteers

- a. Recognition and treatment of different types of seizures
- b. Administration of an emergency antiseizure medication
- c. Basic emergency follow-up procedures, including, but not limited to, a requirement for the principal or designee to call the emergency 911 telephone number and to contact the student's parent/guardian, but not necessarily to transport the student to an emergency room.
- d. Techniques and procedures to ensure student privacy

(cf. [4131](#) - Staff Development)

(cf. [4231](#) - Staff Development)

(cf. [4331](#) - Staff Development)

(cf. [5022](#) - Student and Family Privacy Rights)

A trained employee shall be retrained annually to administer emergency antiseizure medication.

4. Notification of Administration: The Superintendent or designee shall establish a process for notifying the credentialed school nurse, or the Superintendent or designee as applicable, whenever an employee administers an emergency antiseizure medication to a student at a school site

5. Supervision of Volunteers: Volunteer school employees shall be supervised by a licensed health care professional in accordance with 5 CCR [627](#)

Emergency Medication for Opioid Overdose

The district may elect to make emergency naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist available at schools for the purpose of providing emergency medical aid to persons suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering, from an opioid overdose. In determining whether to make this medication available, the Superintendent or designee shall evaluate the emergency medical response time to the school and determine whether initiating emergency medical services is an acceptable alternative to providing an opioid antagonist and training personnel to administer the medication. (Education Code 49414.3)

When available at the school site, the school nurse shall provide emergency naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist for emergency medical aid to any person exhibiting potentially life-

threatening symptoms of an opioid overdose at school or a school activity. Other designated personnel who have volunteered and have received training may administer such medication when a school nurse or physician is unavailable, and shall only administer the medication by nasal spray or auto-injector. (Education Code 49414.3)

At least once per school year, the Superintendent or designee shall distribute to all staff a notice requesting volunteers to be trained to administer naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist, describing the training that the volunteer will receive, and explaining the right of the volunteer to rescind the offer to volunteer at any time, including after receiving training. The notice shall also include a statement that no benefit will be granted to or withheld from any employee based on the offer to volunteer and that there will be no retaliation against any employee for rescinding the offer to volunteer. (Education Code 49414.3)

The principal or designee may designate one or more volunteer employees to receive initial and annual refresher training, based on standards adopted by the SPI, regarding the storage and emergency use of naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist. The training shall be provided at no cost to the employee, conducted during regular working hours, and be provided by a school nurse or other qualified person designated by an authorizing physician and surgeon. Written materials provided during the training shall be retained at the school for reference. (Education Code 49414.3)

A school nurse, other qualified supervisor of health, or, if the district does not have a qualified supervisor of health, a district administrator shall obtain a prescription for naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist for each school from an authorized physician and surgeon. Such prescription may be filled by local or mail order pharmacies or manufacturers. (Education Code 49414.3)

If the medication is used, the school nurse, other qualified supervisor of health, or district administrator, as applicable, shall restock the medication as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than two weeks after it is used. In addition, the medication shall be restocked before its expiration date. (Education Code 49414.3)

Information regarding defense and indemnification provided by the district for any and all civil liability for volunteers administering naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist for emergency aid shall be provided to each volunteer and retained in the employee's personnel file. (Education Code 49414.3)

A school may accept gifts, grants, and donations from any source for the support of the school in carrying out the requirements of Education Code 49414.3, including, but not limited to, the acceptance of the naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist from a manufacturer or wholesaler. (Education Code 49414.3)

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain records regarding the acquisition and disposition of naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist for a period of three years from the date the records were created. (Business and Professions Code 4119.8)

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