STUDENT MEDICATION

Students may require medication during the school day, at school-sponsored activities, on a school bus, or while on school property. Loudoun County Public School (LCPS) employees who have successfully completed Medication Administration training, and/or students that have parent permission and authorization by a licensed medical provider, may possess and administer certain medications in accordance with this policy and regulation. When possible, medication should be administered to students at home.

A. Prescription Medications and Supplies. Prescription medication may be possessed and administered to students by employees that have been trained and approved by LCPS. Students may also be allowed to possess and administer prescription medications as outlined in this policy.

1. Employee Possession and Administration of Prescription Medications. If a student must take a prescription medication at school, it may be possessed and/or administered by employees that have completed Medication Administration training and are authorized by LCPS, when:

   a. provided with a written order from an authorized licensed physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner or a dentist, as appropriate. The written order shall include:

      i. the name of the student,
      ii. the name and purpose of the medication,
      iii. the required dosage,
      iv. the route of the medication,
      v. the time the medicine is to be given,
      vi. possible side effects, and
      vii. the date the medication is to be discontinued

   b. written permission is provided by the student’s parent or guardian.

   c. the parent or guardian, of the student, delivers the medicine to the principal or principal’s designee in the original container. The parent is responsible for informing the principal or principal’s designee of any change in the student’s condition or any change of medication.
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2. **Stock Albuterol.** Effective January 1, 2022, in accordance with Code of Virginia 22.1-274.2, undesignated stock albuterol inhalers and valved holding chambers will be permitted in every school for the possession and administration of non-student specific albuterol to any student believed in good faith to be in need of such medication. Authorized personnel include any school nurse, student health specialist, person employed by the local health department who is assigned to the public school pursuant to an agreement between the local health department and the School Board, or other person employed by or contracted with the School Board to deliver health-related services and trained in the administration of albuterol inhalers and valved holding chambers.

3. **Student Self-Carry and Self-Administration of Prescription Medication.** Students that have medical documentation of a condition which requires access to a rescue inhaler, epinephrine, injectable insulin, or Glucagon, may be permitted to self-carry and self-administer these medications in accordance with this policy. Authorization to self-carry and self-administer medication must be renewed and approved each school year. Permission will be granted during the school day, at school sponsored activities, while on a school bus, or while on school property, when the following conditions are met:

   a. A written order from the student’s authorized licensed physician, licensed nurse practitioner, or physician’s assistant must be on file and must:

      i. identify the student,

      ii. state the diagnosis,

      iii. specify the name, route, and dosage of the medication and the frequency in which it is to be administered,

      iv. identify certain circumstances which may warrant the use of the medication, and

      v. provide approval for the student to possess and/or self-administer a rescue inhaler, auto-injectable epinephrine, insulin, or Glucagon that have been prescribed or authorized for the student.

   b. Written permission is provided by the student’s parent or guardian.

   c. The school nurse or resource nurse has developed an individual health care plan that includes an emergency action plan for any life-threatening conditions that require these medications, when appropriate.
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Permission to self-carry and/or self-administer may be limited, revised, or revoked by the principal or designee. Consultation with the student's parent will occur before any limitations, restrictions, or a school-based decision to revoke the student permission to self-carry and/or self-administer a rescue inhaler, epinephrine, injectable insulin, or glucagon, is enforced.

4. Injectable Prescription Medications and Diabetic Supplies. Authorized employees may administer injectable prescription medication, such as epinephrine, insulin, Glucagon, or Solu-cortef to students in accordance with this policy. Students may also be permitted to self-carry and/or self-administer epinephrine, insulin, or Glucagon in accordance with this policy.

a. Epinephrine:

i. Any LCPS employee who is trained in the administration of epinephrine may possess and administer epinephrine to any student believed to be having an anaphylactic reaction.

ii. Students that have a documented medical condition, parent permission and LCPS approval may self-carry and self-administer epinephrine.

iii. If epinephrine is administered, the principal, or designee, shall notify 911 and the student will be transported to the emergency room for follow up care. The parent/guardian will be notified of the administration and contact with emergency services. The student will not be allowed to remain at school or return to school on the day epinephrine is administered.

iv. At least two (2) doses of auto-injectable epinephrine will be maintained in each school.

v. A standing order is written to cover multiple people as opposed to individual specific orders which are written for one person. A standing order for stock epinephrine, written by an authorized medical provider, shall be secured to prescribe non-student specific epinephrine for the school division to be administered to any student believed to be having an anaphylactic reaction during the school day, at school-sponsored activities, or while on school property.
STUDENT MEDICATION

b. **Insulin, Glucagon and Diabetic Supplies:**

i. Any LCPS employee who has been trained in diabetes management is authorized by LCPS, and with parent or guardian permission, may administer insulin or Glucagon to any student with a medical diagnosis of diabetes.

ii. Students with a medical diagnosis of diabetes, documented approval and a diabetes medical management plan from the authorized licensed medical provider and with parent permission may self-carry insulin and Glucagon. Students may self-administer insulin.

iii. Students with a medical diagnosis of diabetes, documented approval, and a diabetes medical management plan from the authorized licensed medical provider and with parent permission may be permitted to self-check blood glucose levels and/or self-carry and use supplies during the school day, at school-sponsored activities, while on a school bus, or while on school property. Supplies may include an appropriate short-term supply of carbohydrates, syringes, an insulin pump and equipment for immediate treatment of high and low blood glucose levels.

c. **Solu-cortef:** When a medical order is on file, any LCPS employee who has received Solu-cortef training, is authorized by LCPS, and with parent or guardian written permission, may administer Solu-cortef to any student that is experiencing an adrenal crisis.

5. **Herbal/Alternative Medications.** Herbal, botanicals, dietary or nutritional supplements, homeopathic medicine, phytomedicinals, vitamins, minerals or alternative medications require a physician’s written authorization with dosage instructions, schedule of administration, reason for the medication, adverse reactions and potential medication interaction, as well as signed parental consent before the products can be administered by LCPS staff. This authorization does not permit the possession or use of marijuana or unregulated CBD or THC-A oil that does not meet the criteria in Section 6.

6. **Cannabidiol (CBD) Oil and Tetrahydrocannabinol Acid (THC-A) Oil.** School staff may administer CBD oil, THC-A oil, or oil based products in schools to a student who has been issued a valid written certification for the use of CBD or THC-A oil in accordance with Code of Virginia 54.1-3408.3.
STUDENT MEDICATION

Parents/guardians of the student must have the Student Form for Administration of CBD/THC-A Oil completed by both the practitioner recommending the use of the oil and the pharmacist dispensing the oil at the pharmaceutical processor. Once completed, the form must be provided to the school and is valid for 12 months. Any changes in dosage administration during the 12 months must be noted by the practitioner or the pharmacist at the pharmaceutical processor and provided to the school.

Parents/guardians must also provide the school with (1) a copy of the unexpired registration card issued to the student by the Virginia Board of Pharmacy, and (2) signed parental consent to administer pharmaceutically processed CBD or THC-A oil to their student while at school. In accordance with the LCPS Code of Student Conduct and the Code of Virginia 22.1-277, the School Board will not suspend or expel any student who holds a valid written certification for the use of cannabis oil issued by a practitioner in accordance with Code of Virginia 54.1-3408.3.B for the possession or use of such oil in accordance with the student’s individualized health plan and in compliance with school board policy.

7. Psychotropic Medication. Students may take psychotropic medication with a written order from an authorized licensed physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner. “Psychotropic medications” means those medications of which the prescribed intention is to alter the mental activity or state, including, but not limited to, antipsychotic, antidepressant, and anxiolytic medication and/or behavior-altering medication. Per this policy:

a. school personnel are prohibited from recommending the use of psychotropic medications for any student; however, school health staff, classroom teachers, or other school professionals may recommend that a student be evaluated by an appropriate medical practitioner and/or may consult with a medical practitioner who is serving the student, with the written consent of the student’s parent or guardian.

B. Nonprescription Medications/Over the Counter. Nonprescription medications/Over the Counter (OTC) medications may only be taken by students under the supervision of employees that have been trained and approved by LCPS to administer nonprescription medication. OTC medications will only be administered per the instructions provided on the original container, unless the parent provides an authorized licensed medical provider’s written order with alternative directions. The medication will be administered when the following conditions are met:

1. The parents must deliver the medication directly to the principal, or designee, school nurse, or health clinic specialist.
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2. The medication must be in the original container with the name of the medicine and instructions.

3. Instructions must specify the name, route, and dosage of the medication and the frequency in which it is to be administered.

4. Signed and dated written permission or Authorization of Medication Administration form, from the parents or guardian, must be on file.

C. Permission to Possess or Administer Naloxone. School nurses and other school board employees may possess and administer naloxone or other opioid antagonist used for overdose reversal, provided that they have completed the necessary training program.

C.D. Permission to Possess or Administer Medication on Overnight and Foreign Field Trips. Students may be permitted to carry prescription or nonprescription medication on overnight and/or foreign field trips under the following circumstances:

1. Physician’s orders and written parental permission will be required for all prescription medication that is to be carried by the student or administered by staff members. Staff members must be trained and approved in accordance with this policy.

2. Over-the-counter medications may be carried and self-administered by the student or administered by school staff that have received Medication Administration training and with written parental permission (using the LCPS Authorization for Medication Administration form) and authorization by LCPS.

3. All paperwork for both over-the-counter and prescription medication is submitted to the school nurse for verification and completeness no later than two weeks prior to the departure date of the field trip.

Parents or guardians must supply both the over-the-counter medication and/or the prescription medication for the overnight or foreign field trip; medication will not be provided from the health office. The over-the-counter medication must be stored in the original manufacturer’s container with no more medication than is required for the duration of the field trip. The prescription medication must be stored in the pharmacy-dispensed and labeled prescription container with no more medication than what is required for the duration of the field trip.

D.E. Prohibited Behaviors. Sharing, borrowing, distributing, manufacturing or selling any medication is prohibited and the student may be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with Policy 8210.
STUDENT MEDICATION

E.F. Emergency Life-Saving Measures. The parent of any student who has a condition that would require emergency, lifesaving medication or other measures must inform the principal, or designee, of the condition and provide instructions from the licensed medical provider on measures to be taken, including administration of any medication. These instructions should cover measures to be taken when the medication is not immediately available.

F.G. Safekeeping of Medication. All medication must be kept by the school nurse, health clinic specialists, principal or designee in a secure, locked place known by and accessible to any authorized LCPS employee who may have to administer medication. LCPS stocks epinephrine in each school and will store and administer epinephrine as outlined in Regulation 8420. Emergency medication, maintained in the health office and including epinephrine, may be unlocked during the school day, but must be locked once the health office closes. Emergency medication maintained with the athletic trainer may be unlocked during the school day, but must be locked at the end of their workday.

G.H. Failure to Perform Non-Emergency Health-Related Services. With the exception of school administrative personnel and employees who have the specific duty to deliver health-related services and are required to administer medication, no licensed instructional employee, instructional aide, or clerical employee shall be disciplined, placed on probation, or dismissed on the basis of such employee’s refusal to (i) perform non-emergency health-related services for students or (ii) obtain training in the administration of insulin and glucagon. However, instructional aides and clerical employees may not refuse to dispense oral medications.

H.I. Employees Exempt from Liability. The Code of Virginia 8.01-225 provides civil protection for LCPS employees that have been authorized to provide emergency care or assistance while on school property or at a school-sponsored events.

No school nurse or health clinic specialist employed by LCPS, person employed by the local health department who is assigned to the public school pursuant to an agreement between the local health department and the School Board, or other person employed by or contracted with the School Board to deliver health-related services shall be prosecuted for the possession or distribution of Cannabidiol (CBD) oil or Tetrahydrocannabinol Acid (THC-A) oil for storing, dispensing, or administering CBD or THC-A oil, in accordance with a policy, to a student who has been issued a valid written certification for the use of CBD or THC-A oil and has provided a medication authorization form that has been completed by the parent/guardian and signed by the licensed practitioner.
STUDENT MEDICATION


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