



FOOD ALLERGIES:

If a student has a diagnosis of a food allergy and requires an Epinephrine Pen or other medication, the physician must fill out a medication administration form. Please review the law regarding Epinephrine auto-injector as well as the food allergy policy.

Epinephrine Auto-injector (ORC 3313.718)

In order for a student to possess and use an epinephrine auto-injector to treat anaphylaxis, he/she must have written approval from the student's physician and parent or other caretaker. The principal and/or school nurse must have received copies of these required written approvals.

The physician's written approval must specify the minimum following information:

1. The student's name and address
2. The names and dose of the medication contained in the auto-injector
3. The date the administration of the medication is to begin;
4. The date, if known, that the administration of the medication is to cease;
5. Acknowledgment that the prescriber has determined that the student is capable of possessing and using the auto-injector appropriately and has provided the student with training in the proper use of the auto-injector;
6. Circumstances in which the auto-injector should be used
7. Written instructions that outline procedures school employees should follow in the event that the student is unable to administer the anaphylaxis medication or the medication does not produce the expected relief from the student's anaphylaxis;
8. Any severe adverse reactions that may occur to the child using the autoinjector that should be reported to the prescriber;
9. Any severe adverse reactions that may occur to another child, for whom the autoinjector is not prescribed, should such a child receive a dose of the medication;
10. At least one emergency telephone number for contacting the prescriber in an emergency;
11. At least one emergency telephone number for contacting the parent, guardian, or other person having care or charge of the student in an emergency;
12. Any other special instructions from the prescriber.

The school principal or, if a school nurse is assigned to the student's school building, the school nurse has received a backup dose of the anaphylaxis medication from the parent, guardian, or other person having care or charge of the student or, if the student is not a minor, from the student. If these conditions are satisfied, the student may possess and use the auto-injector at school or at any activity, event, or program sponsored by or in which the student's school is a participant.

Whenever a student uses an auto-injector at school or at any activity, event, or program sponsored by or in which the student's school is a participant or whenever a school employee administers anaphylaxis medication to a student at such times, a school employee shall immediately request assistance from an emergency medical service provider.

*A school district, member of a school district board of education, or school district employee is not liable in damages in a civil action for injury, death, or loss to person or property allegedly arising from a district employee's prohibiting a student from or permitting a student to using an auto-injector because of the employee's good faith. Furthermore, when a school district is required by this section to permit a student to possess and use an auto-injector because the conditions of this section have been satisfied, the school district, any member of the school district board of education, or any school district employee is not liable in damages in a civil action for injury, death, or loss to person or property allegedly arising from the use of the auto-injector by a student for whom it was not prescribed. This section does not eliminate, limit, or reduce any other immunity or defense that a school district, member of a school district board of education, or school district employee may be entitled to under Chapter 2744. or any other provision of the Revised Code or under the common law of this state.

Food Allergy Policy

Because food allergies can be dangerous, even life threatening in some cases, the Franklin City School District has implemented the following district food allergy policy. Implementing these initiatives will help provide a safe educational environment for food-allergic students and help reduce the risk of accidental exposure to those foods in the school setting.

- **Family's Responsibility:**
- Notify the school of the child's allergies by listing the allergens on the annual emergency forms sent home for parents/guardians to complete.
- If the child has a severe allergy, the family will notify the building's school nurse before the start of school, or when an allergy is identified during the school year.
- If any medication or Epinephrine Pen is needed at school, the family will provide written medical documentation, medication authorizations, instructions, and the needed medications as directed by a medical practitioner to use hi case of an allergic exposure.
- Provide property labeled medications and replace medications after use or upon expiration.
- Encourage the child to wear some form of allergy alert identification while at school.
- Educate the child in the self-management of their food allergy including:

- Safe and unsafe foods
- Strategies for avoiding exposure to unsafe foods
- Signs and symptoms of allergic reactions
- How and when to tell an adult they may be having an allergy-related problem
- If age appropriate, how to read food labels to identify suspected food allergens
- Provide up to date emergency contact information throughout the school year.

School's Responsibility:

- The school nurse will be knowledgeable about applicable federal and state laws and district policies regarding food allergies
- The school nurse will review any health records that are submitted by parents and medical practitioners.
- The school nurse will notify the child's teachers, cafeteria staff, office staff and bus personnel of the child's medical allergies.
- If the child has a severe allergy, the school nurse will develop an emergency health plan for the child in accordance with practitioner and parental directions
- The school nurse will provide safe storage of all medications.
- The school nurse will train appropriate staff regarding medication administration, including correct technique for using an Epinephrine Pen.
- The School District will ensure that all classrooms and buses have communication devices to be able to call appropriate authorities in an emergency.
- School personnel will help family/student to monitor any food being provided for treats or special occasions for any potentially life threatening food allergy content.
- The School District will provide nut free tables to students with severe food allergies during lunch times upon parent request.
- Custodial staff will clean the nut free tables in accordance with the district annual training.
- The School District will post menus on the district website each month, and be distributed, or available to parents in the main office.
- The cafeteria staff will annually review procedures to prevent cross contamination in the school cafeterias.
- The School District is unable to guarantee that some foods have not been made in factories that could process nut products which may result in cross-contamination.

Legal References: ORC 3313.719

References: Adapted from: The Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Network. (2009). *School guidelines for managing students with food allergies*. Retrieved from: <http://www.foodallergy.org/school/guidelines/SchoolGuidelines.pdf>.

