

FAQ

Do licensed health care professionals (e.g. RN, LPN) have to complete medication aide training?

No, licensed healthcare professionals do not need medication training as this is a competency covered by their license.

Please note:

- A licensed healthcare professional is an individual whose scope of practice includes administration of medication and is licensed by the Department of Health and Human Services.
- Certified medication aides are not licensed, and therefore, must do medication aide training.

Who can administer medication aide training?

Licensed health care professionals designated by the school can train school staff to administer medication, and the school must retain written documentation of successful completion of the training. The healthcare professional may work for a health clinic, the local health department, or another facility outside of the school district.

Does a licensed professional (eg RN, LPN, MD) have to be on staff to provide oversight to medication administration in schools?

Nothing in the regulation requires a school to employ or use a school nurse or medication aide in order to be in compliance with the Medication Aide Act. This means teachers and other staff may give medication as long as they are trained to do so, and the training is documented.

Who can decide which school staff are allowed to give medication to students?

Per regulation, a licensed healthcare professional (e.g. nurse, doctor) can determine who may give medication at school. Staff must be trained by a licensed healthcare professional, and the school must keep written documentation of the training.

Who can sign the Rule 59 protocol for schools?

The protocol, which is a medication order, must be signed by a physician licensed to practice (MD, DO). This does not include a chiropractor. The protocol should be signed by a provider every year.

Can we send a student home with parents after the protocol is performed?

Any individual treated with epinephrine at school should be sent to a medical facility. The protocol states 911 should be called and the individual should be transferred.

Is the protocol mandated for before and after school programs and school events outside of regular classroom hours?

The regulation states the protocol is intended for school hours bell to bell and on official school days.

Can the school's Rule 59 medications be taken on field trips?

Yes, Rule 59 medications can be taken on field trips as long as one of the staff present can give medications. Schools can also opt to call 911 when away from the school building.

How should schools plan for tornado drills, recess and other times when students might not be in the building?

Schools should plan ahead for situations when someone may need the protocol and medications when outside of the classroom, health office or school building. It is advisable to have a grab-and-go bag with necessary equipment and medications for easy access.