

The School Health Bureau of the Public Health Division of the Arlington County Department of Human Services provides school health services. The mission of the School Health Bureau is to provide students and their families with preventive and early intervention services, which enable the student to learn to the best of his or her potential.

### **Administration Of Medication**

All Arlington Public Schools students shall adhere to specific requirements in the administration of medication. If it becomes necessary for a student to take medication, whether prescription or non-prescribed over-the-counter medication, during school hours, the parent must furnish the public health nurse with the medication, in a prescription bottle or original container if it is a non-prescribed over-the-counter medication, labeled with the child's name, medication name, dose and time of administration. As medication is used up or becomes out of date it must be replaced by parents. Such medication must be accompanied by properly filled out and signed paperwork such as the signed Authorization for Medication form and appropriate Care Plans (as required for conditions such as Asthma, Diabetes, Anaphylaxis, and others).

### **Student Possession of Medications**

1. Prescription Medication - Elementary, middle, and high school students may carry and self-administer selected medications as determined by a public health nurse on a case-by-case basis with written authorization from parents and physician. These typically include inhalers, insulin, and epinephrine. The school health nurse on a case-by-case basis shall handle requests for students to carry any other urgent medication.
2. Non-Prescribed Medication - High school student may carry and self-administer no more than two doses per day of non-prescribed over-the-counter medication with parent permission.

### **Medications Stored in the Clinic**

Selected prescription and non-prescribed medications provided by students with proper documentation may be stored in the clinic for administration to students by school health or trained and approved school staff as agreed upon by school health and Arlington Public Schools.

Arlington Public Schools will maintain at least four (4) doses of auto-injectable epinephrine (2 doses of 0.3 mg and 2 doses of 0.15 mg) in each school to be used in the event of a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction in a child previously unknown to have such a reaction. Epinephrine auto-injectors may be utilized by a public health nurse or employee of the school board who is authorized and trained in the administration of epinephrine to any student believed to be having an anaphylactic reaction on school premises during the academic day.

This "generic" epinephrine is not intended to replace, supersede or govern requirements that parents who have children attending Arlington Public Schools with known anaphylactic reactions must provide appropriate medication, permissions, and physician instructions.

### **Food Allergies And Other Agents**

School staff shall adhere to the established procedures promulgated by the Superintendent for the for Management of Students with Severe Allergies in the event that a student has a severe or life threatening allergic reaction to certain foods or other agents. Each student with a severe or life threatening allergic reaction shall have a medical plan developed by school health staff, school administrator or designee, parents, and relevant school staff. The plan shall be based on physician orders for the management of food allergies or agents.

School based practices and protocols must be consistent with Arlington County public health policy and procedures for handling severe allergies. In accordance with the Code of Virginia §22.1-274.2 and §54.1-3408, APS school based staff will stock non-student-specific Epi Pens and be trained in their use.

### **Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)**

It is the policy of the Arlington School Board to determine in a timely manner the appropriate instructional program and educational setting for students who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). The School Board recognizes its dual obligation to protect the rights of individual students infected with HIV and to provide a safe environment for students, staff, and the public. It is the intent of the School Board to follow the recommendations of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and of the Virginia Department of Health that most HIV-infected students be allowed to attend school and that decisions regarding school attendance be based on the medical condition of each student and the anticipated interaction with others in the school setting.

### **Tuberculosis Screening For Entry Into Arlington Public Schools**

Students entering Arlington Public Schools and pre-schools for the first time must provide written proof of a negative risk assessment for tuberculosis infection or the results of a Tuberculin Skin Test (TST) done within the 12 months prior to entry into school.

### **References**

Code of Virginia §8.01-225, Persons rendering emergency care  
Code of Virginia §22.1-270, Preschool Physical Examinations  
Code of Virginia §22.1-271.2 Immunization Requirements  
Code of Virginia §22.1-273 Sight and Hearing to be Tested  
Code of Virginia §54.1-3408, Professional use by practitioners  
School Health Policy Manual III-5.09 Pediculosis Prevention and Control Procedures  
Guidelines for Management of Food Allergies  
State Regulations on Self-Injection of Epinephrine 7/2005

### **Policy Adoption and Revision History**

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