

Medication Guidelines

Medications will be given at school when a parent specifically makes a request and the parent and physician complete and sign the **STUDENT MEDICATION REQUEST RELEASE**

AGREEMENT / PHYSICIAN'S ORDER FOR MEDICATION (available on the school website or a hard copy available at the front desk). A prescription labeled bottle is required including "Over the Counter" medications such as Tylenol, Advil and cough drops. All medications (OTC & prescribed) must be in original containers (OTCs must be unopened).

Whenever possible, children should be given needed medication by their parents at home. Denver Public Schools encourages parents to work with their doctors to prescribe dosages that can be given at home rather than at school.

However, if children must receive medication during the school day, it must be given by a registered nurse or someone under the direction and supervision of the nurse. The State Board of Nursing requires certain procedures be adhered to when a child must take medication at school, whether it is prescription or nonprescription medication.

- Students may carry and self-administer their own inhalers (for asthma) and epi pens (for severe allergic reactions) if authorized in writing to do so by the physician, parents and nurse. The school nurse must concur that the child can safely self-administer his/her own medications. There is a separate Self-Carry Medication Request Release form and Self-carry Contract.
- The school must also have a physician's signed statement, which matches instructions on the medicine container, and the signed parent permission statement. This requirement applies to both prescription and nonprescription medications. This statement should also include the purpose of the medication, the length of time it needs to be administered at school, and the possible side effects (see medication release form)
- Prescription medication must be in its original pharmacy-labeled container, which clearly shows the name of the prescribing physician, the child's name, the name of the medication, the time it is to be administered and the dosage. Nonprescription medications must also be in their original container. They must also meet prescription label requirements.
- Parents are responsible for bringing the child's medication to the school (do not send medication with the student)
- Dosages, which require a tablet or pill to be split, must be split by the pharmacist. School staff may not split tablets or pills.
- If the dosage requirement changes, a new permission form must be completed and the medication container label must match the new instructions.

ALL DOCUMENTS MUST HAVE THE EXACT (SAME) INSTRUCTIONS (doctor, parent and label). THERE CAN BE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THESE GUIDELINES!

Thank you for following these guidelines set forth by district policy for the safety of your student and all students.