

Epinephrine Auto-Injectors (Epi-Pens) at School

Two options are available for the student who needs to have epinephrine auto-injector at school:

Option #1: Student will be allowed to carry his/her own epinephrine auto-injector medication and use it without supervision (with physician approval).

With this option, the medication is immediately accessible in school and at after-school activities. It is STRONGLY recommended that a second supply of the medication be provided by the parent/guardian to be kept in the health office where it will be available in the event that the student forgets the medication or the medication has expired. Students must agree to tell an adult staff member when he/she thinks he/she may need the auto-injector and any time the auto-injector is used so that the emergency response system is activated by call 9-1-1. The student can then be monitored for further reaction. To utilize this option, please complete the Allergy Action Plan packet available in the district Health Offices. These forms need to be returned to the health office with an preferably with an extra supply of medication. The student will then be called to the health office to demonstrate knowledge and correct usage techniques for the medication to the school nurse.

Option #2: The student comes to the health office where medication is kept and administered or used under supervision or medication is taken to the student's location by trained school personnel for adult administration, monitoring, and emergency response system activation.

With this option, we can ensure that the medication is used correctly, in the proper amount, the administration of medication will be documented, and the parent/guardian(s) will be notified. To utilize this option, the student's physician and parent/guardian must complete and sign the Illinois Food Allergy Emergency Action Plan and Treatment Authorization. Please also complete the School District #126 Allergy History Form. These forms are available in the Health Office of each district school. These forms and properly labeled medication should be returned to the health office. All medications brought to school must meet the requirements as outlined in the school district's medication administration policy located in the student handbooks.

Please call if you have any questions.

District Health Office

(708) 371-3080 Ext. 3509