

Accommodating Students With Diabetes

Purpose

This policy sets forth the responsibilities, requirements and training of caregivers for students with diabetes.

Scope

This policy applies to all district staff and individuals responsible for the care of a diabetic student.

Policy

1. RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1.1. The district's licensed registered nurse ("school nurse") is appointed to:
 - (a) Consult and coordinate with the parents/guardians ("parents") and licensed healthcare providers of students with diabetes.
 - (b) Train and supervise the appropriate staff in the basic care of students with diabetes.
- 1.2. As an agent for the district, the school nurse will develop and follow an individual healthcare plan for each student with diabetes. Each individual healthcare plan will include an individual emergency plan element. The healthcare plans will be updated annually, and more frequently as needed.
- 1.3. In addition to adhering to the requirements of each individual healthcare plan, for the general care of students with diabetes, the district and/or the school nurse, will:
 - (a) Acquire necessary parent requests and instructions for treatment.
 - (b) Acquire monitoring and treatment orders from licensed healthcare providers prescribing within the scope of their licensed authority.
 - (c) Provide sufficient and secure storage for medical equipment and medication provided by the parent.
 - (d) Permit students with diabetes to perform blood glucose tests, administer insulin, and treat hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia, with easy access to the necessary supplies, equipment and medication necessary under their individual health care plan. This permission includes the option for students to carry on their person the prescribed medication, supplies, and equipment necessary to perform monitoring and treatment functions wherever they are on school grounds or at school sponsored events, in accordance with district policy and procedures concerning the administration of medication at school.
 - (e) Permit students with diabetes unrestricted access to necessary food and water on schedule and as needed, and unrestricted access to bathroom facilities. When food is served at school events, provision will be made for appropriate food to be available to students with diabetes.

- (f) Ensure students with diabetes will not miss meals because they are unable to pay for them. The charge for the meal will be billed to the parent or adult student and collected consistent with district policies. School meals will not be withheld from any student for disciplinary reasons.
- (g) Provide parents and healthcare providers of students with diabetes with a description of the student's school schedule to facilitate the timing of monitoring, treatment and food consumption.
- (h) Distribute each student's emergency care plan to appropriate staff based on the student's needs and the staff member's contact with the student.
- (i) Annually train all staff in the basic care and needs of students with diabetes, as needed.

2. DESIGNATION OF CAREGIVERS

- 2.1. The parent(s) of a student with diabetes may designate an adult to provide care for the student during school hours and activities, consistent with the student's individual healthcare plan.
 - 2.1.1. Parent-designated adults who are not school employees are required to show evidence of training from a nationally certified diabetes educator, and meet school district requirements for volunteers. Parent-designated adults will receive additional training from a parent-selected healthcare professional or expert in diabetic care to provide the care requested by the parent.
 - 2.2. At parent request, a school district employee may volunteer to be a parent-designated adult caregiver under this policy, but he/she will not be required to participate.
 - 2.2.1. To be eligible to serve as a caregiver, a parent-designated adult who is a school employee will file a written, current and unexpired letter of intent stating his/her voluntary willingness to be a parent-designated adult caregiver for the child.
 - 2.2.2. Parent-designated adults who are school employees are required to receive training in caring for students with diabetes from the school's registered nurse and a nationally certified diabetes educator.
 - 2.3. The school's registered nurse is not responsible for the supervision of procedures authorized by the parents and carried out by the parent-designated adult(s). Parent-designated adults (school employee and non-school employee) will be supervised by the parent. The care of a student by a Licensed Practical Nurse will be supervised by the school nurse in accordance with the legal scope of the nurse's practice.
3. The district, its employees, agents and parent-designated adults who act in good faith and in substantial compliance with a student's individual healthcare plan and the instructions of the student's healthcare provider will not be criminally or civilly liable for services provided under RCW 28A.210.330.

Related Procedures

3416P1-Medication at School

Policy Cross References

2162-Education of Students With Disabilities Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

3413-Life-Threatening Health Conditions

3416-Medication at School

Policy Legal References

42 U.S.C. 12101et seq. Americans with Disabilities Act

RCW 28A.210.330 – Students with diabetes – Individual health plans – Designation of professional to consult and coordinate with parents and health care provider – Training and supervision of school district personnel

Management Resources

3415F1-Section 504 Plan for Diabetic Student

Guidelines for Care of Students With Diabetes; Washington State Task Force for Students with Diabetes, May 2005

Policy History

Action:	Date:
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Revised	September 16, 2015
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