

## Students

### Students with Special Health Care Needs

#### Accommodating Students with Food/Environmental Allergies or other–Special Dietary Needs (Food Allergy Management)

The focus of a District-wide Food/Environmental Allergy Management Plan shall be prevention, education, awareness, communication and emergency response. The management plan shall strike a balance between the health, social normalcy and safety needs of the individual student with life threatening food/environmental or other special dietary needs and the education, health and safety needs of all students. The District Food/Environmental Allergy Management Plan shall be the basis for the development of the procedural guidelines that will be implemented at the school level and provide for consistency across all schools within the district.

The goals for the District-wide Plan include:

1. To maintain the health and protect the safety of students who have life-threatening food/environmental allergies or other special dietary needs in ways that are developmentally appropriate, promote self-advocacy and competence in self-care and provide appropriate educational opportunities.
2. To ensure that interventions and individual health care plans for students with life-threatening food/environmental allergies or other special dietary needs are based on medically accurate information and evidence-based practices.
3. To define a formal process for identifying, managing, and ensuring continuity of care for students with life-threatening food/environmental allergies or other special dietary needs across all transitions. (Pre-K-Grade 12)

It is the policy of the Board of Education to follow the guidelines developed and promulgated by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and Department of Education for students within the District with life-threatening food/environmental allergies **or** other special dietary needs. Such guidelines include (1) education and training for school personnel on the management of students with life-threatening food/environmental allergies or other special dietary needs, including training related to the administration of medication with a cartridge injector and the provision of food or dietary supplements, (2) procedures for responding to life threatening allergic reactions to food, (3) a process for the development of individualized health care and food allergy action plans for every student with a life-threatening food allergy or other special dietary needs,

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and (4) protocols to prevent exposure to food allergies.

### Glycogen Storage Disease (GSD's)

GSD's are a genetically linked metabolic disorder that involves the enzymes regulating glycogen metabolism. The key to managing GSD is to maintain consistent levels of blood glucose through diet and treatment. An Individualized Health Care and Glycogen Storage Disease Action Plan shall be developed for every student diagnosed with GSD. Such plan shall include but not be limited to, the provision of food.

or dietary supplements by the school nurse or by any school employee approved by the school nurse, to a student with glycogen storage disease provided such plan does not prohibit a parent/guardian or a person they so designate, to provide food or dietary supplements on school grounds during the school day.

It is the Board's expectation that specific building-based guidelines/actions will take into account the health needs and well-being of all students without discrimination or isolation of any student. It is the Board's belief that education and open and informative communication are vital for the creation of an environment with reduced risks for all students and their families. In order to assist students with life-threatening allergies and glycogen storage disease to assume more individual responsibility for maintaining their safety, it is the policy of the Board that guidelines shift as students advance through the primary grades and through secondary school.

(cf. 5141 - Student Health Services)

(cf. 5141.21 - Administering Medication)

(cf. 5141.23 - Students with Special Health Care Needs)

(cf. 5141.3 - Health Assessments)

(cf. 5145.4 - Nondiscrimination)

Legal Reference: **Connecticut General Statutes**

10-15b Access of parent or guardian to student's records.

10-154a Professional communications between teacher or nurse and student.

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continued

10-207 Duties of medical advisors.

10-212a Administrations of medications in schools

10-212a Life-threatening food allergies; Guidelines; District plans, as amended by PA 12-198.

10-220i Transportation of students carrying cartridge injectors

52-557b Good Samaritan Law. Immunity from liability for emergency medical assistance, first aid or medication by injection

PA 05-104 An Act Concerning Food Allergies and the Prevention of Life-Threatening Incidents in Schools

PA 05-144 and 05-272 An Act Concerning the Emergency Use of Cartridge Injectors

The Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies section 10-212a through 10-212a-7. Administration of Medication by School Personnel

Guidelines for Managing Life Threatening Food Allergies in Connecticut Schools. Connecticut State Department of Education (2006).

Federal Legislation

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794 § 504; 34 C.F.R. § 104 et seq.)

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 (42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq.; 29C.F.R. § 1630 et seq.

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA)

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 1976 (IDEA) (20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq.); 34 C.F.R. § 300 et seq.

FCS Instruction 783-2, Revision 2, Meal substitution for medical or other special dietary reasons.

PA 04-155 AN Act Concerning the Use of Asthmatic Inhalers and Epinephrine Auto Injections while in School.

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BROOKFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Brookfield, Connecticut