

## **Students**

### **Students With Specific Health Care Needs**

#### **Accommodating Students with Special Dietary Needs and Glycogen Storage Disease**

The purpose of this policy is to establish a safe environment for students with food allergies and to support parents regarding food allergy management. In accordance with applicable law, it is the policy of the Board of Education to provide all students, through necessary accommodations where required, the opportunity to participate fully in all school programs and activities.

The District will develop a Districtwide Food Allergy Management Plan to develop and implement guidelines for the care of students with food-allergies and glycogen storage disease. The Plan shall describe preventions, education, training, awareness, communication and emergency response guidelines. The management plan shall strike a balance between the health, social normalcy and safety needs of the individual student with life threatening food allergies and Glycogen Storage Disease and the education, health and safety needs of all students. The District Food Allergy Management Plan shall be the basis for the development of more specific procedural guidelines, including protocols, that will be implemented at the school level and provide for consistency across all schools within the district.

The goals for the Districtwide Management Plan will include:

1. To maintain the health and protect the safety of children who have life-threatening food allergies and glycogen storage disease 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 (IHCP) and Emergency Care Plan (ECP) for all students with life-threatening food allergies and glycogen storage disease are collaboratively developed and based on medically accurate information and evidence-based practices.
3. To define a formal process for identifying, managing, training and ensuring continuity of care for students with life-threatening food allergies and Glycogen Storage Disease 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 allergies and glycogen storage disease. Such guidelines include (1) education and training for school and other relevant personnel, on the management of students with life-threatening food allergies, including training related to the administration of medication with a cartridge injector to designated personnel, (2) procedures for responding to life-threatening allergic reactions to food, (3) a process for the development of individualized health care plans, food allergy action plans and emergency care plans for every students with a life--threatening food allergy (4) a process for the development of individualized health care and glycogen storage disease action plans for every student with glycogen storage disease and such

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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, (5) develop a communication plan for school personnel, families, students and relevant community partners.

It is the Board's expectation that specific building-based guidelines/actions will take into account the health needs and well-being of all children without discrimination or isolation of any child. 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 children with life-threatening allergies and glycogen storage disease to assume more individual responsibility for maintaining their safety as they grow, it is the policy of the Board that guidelines shift as children advance through the primary grades and through secondary school.

An Individualized Health Care Plan (IHCP) and an Emergency Care Plan (ECP) shall be developed and implemented for students that are identified with food allergies and glycogen storage disease. In addition, the Board recognizes that students with documented life-threatening food allergies may be considered disabled and eligible for coverage under The Disabilities Act and Public Law 93-112 and Section 504 of The Rehabilitation Act of 1973. A clearly-defined "504 Accommodation Plan" shall be developed and implemented for all such identified students if it has been properly demonstrated that the child's impairment is such that it substantially limits one or more major life activities, (i.e., the disability must significantly affect a major life function) and necessary accommodations must be made to ensure full participation of identified students in student activities. Such plan shall be signed by the appropriate staff, the parent/guardian of the student and the student's physician.

The District's plan for managing students with life-threatening food allergies shall be posted on the District's website (and/or on the website of each school within the District).

(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)

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**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.

10-207 Duties of medical advisors.

10-212a Administrations of medications in schools

10-212c Life threatening food allergies; Guidelines; district plans, as amended by P.A. 12-198)

10-212a(d) Administration of medications in schools by a paraprofessional.

10-220i Transportation of students carrying cartridge injectors

19a-900 Use of cartridge injectors by staff members of before or after school programs, day camp or day care facility.

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

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)

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##### **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)

Land v. Baptist Medical Center, 164F3d423 (8th Cir. 1999)

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

FCS Instruction783-2, Revision 2, Meal substitution for medical or other special dietary reasons.

P.A. 09-155 An Act Concerning the Use of Asthmatic Inhalers and Epinephrine Auto-Injectors While at School.

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NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
New Haven, Connecticut