

**Asthma Management**

The Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) desires to provide support systems for students with asthma in order to reduce school absences, help ensure that such students receive appropriate intervention if symptoms occur at school, and enable them to participate in the educational program and school activities to the extent possible.

The County Superintendent or designee shall involve school nurses, other health professionals, school administrators, and health educators in the development of strategies to help provide a healthy and safe school environment for students with asthma. S/he may also involve school health councils or committees and other interested persons to ensure that SCOE's strategies are coordinated with other school health programs and practices.

SCOE strategies shall include, but not be limited to, procedures for identifying and addressing individual student needs, providing effective professional development on asthma symptoms and staff responsibilities, and identifying and reducing environmental factors at schools that may trigger and/or worsen asthma symptoms.

**Identification of Students with Asthma**

When registering their child for school and annually thereafter, parents/guardians of all students shall be requested to notify the principal or designee, in writing, if their child has been diagnosed with asthma, has recently experienced symptoms or has a history of asthma, and/or is at risk for potentially severe asthma attacks. Parents/guardians are also encouraged to provide such notification at any time during the school year that their child is so diagnosed.

Students' medical information will be kept in a secure location and maintain the confidentiality of student health records in accordance with law governing student records. Parents/guardians shall provide authorization for the limited release of medical information related to their child's health records in order for SCOE to provide support services or to respond in an emergency. A copy of a student's health record shall be provided to the school nurse, if any. The principal or designee shall also notify the student's teacher(s), coach(es), bus driver, and any other staff with responsibility for direct supervision of the student.

**Individualized Asthma Management**

The Superintendent or designee shall request the parents/guardians of each student identified with asthma submit an annual asthma action plan developed by the student's health care provider in partnership with the student and his/her parents/guardians. The action plan shall include, but not be limited to, information regarding the student's symptoms and severity, asthma triggers, necessary medications, and parent/guardian's authorization for the health care provider's disclosure of health information to SCOE. Parents/guardians shall be requested to submit an updated plan each school year or whenever there are changes in the student's health condition or treatment.

For students identified as disabled pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, necessary accommodations and services shall be identified as part of the student's 504 services plan or individualized education program (IEP), as appropriate.

Any student who needs to take prescribed medication during the school day may be assisted by a school nurse or designated school personnel or allowed to carry and self-administer inhaled asthma medication provided that SCOE receives written statements from the student's physician and parent/guardian in accordance with Education Code 49423.1 and Policy 5141.21 – Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions. Parents/guardians shall be requested to provide quick relief medication to be administered in accordance with the student's asthma action plan.

**Policy 5141.23 (Continued)**

Students shall be encouraged to notify their teacher, coach, or other staff when they experience symptoms such as breathing difficulties and/or need to alter their physical activity level. A student experiencing symptoms shall be encouraged to use his/her quick relief medication. The student shall be supervised on school grounds by a responsible adult until s/he is no longer experiencing symptoms and/or his/her parent/guardian has been contacted.

Upon request by the student or his/her parents/guardians, the Superintendent or designee may provide information about available medical resources, including school-based health services as appropriate.

Emergency Response

In case of emergency, staff shall call 911 and administer, or assist the student in the administration of, quick relief medication as authorized in the student's asthma action plan, Section 504 services plan, or IEP. Staff shall contact the student's parent/guardian or other person identified as an emergency contact and shall supervise the student until his/her care has been assumed by a health professional, parent/guardian, or designated emergency contact.

Education and Support Services

Staff shall be provided professional development which includes information about symptoms and common triggers of asthma, ways to reduce acute symptoms, and emergency response procedures. The professional development shall be provided by a school nurse, other qualified health professional, an educator who has received appropriate training, or an outside consultant or organization.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide each school site with information regarding emergency management of asthma to post in easily accessible locations.

Environmental Assessment

The Superintendent or designee may periodically conduct an environmental assessment to identify and reduce the presence of common asthma triggers in the school environment, including, but not limited to, pesticides, chemical pollutants, mold, and animal and dust mite allergens.

The Superintendent or designee shall communicate with each school principal when local health advisories are issued for high ozone days or poor outdoor air quality so that outdoor physical activities may be curtailed as necessary.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 48210-48216 Persons excluded
- 49407 Liability for treatment
- 49408 Emergency information
- 49414.5 Providing school personnel with voluntary emergency training
- 49423-49423.1 Administration of prescribed medication for student
- 49423.5 Specialized health care services
- 49426 School nurses
- 49480 Continuing medication regimen; notice
- 51880-51921 Comprehensive health education

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

- 600-611 Administering medication to students

OFFICE OF THE SOLANO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

**Policy 5141.23 (Continued)**

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232g Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974  
1400-1482 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

794 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

280g Children's asthma treatment grant program

Policy Cross-Reference:

0410 Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities  
1220 Citizen Advisory Committees  
3513.3 Tobacco-Free Schools  
3514 Environmental Safety  
3514.2 Integrated Pest Management  
3517 Facilities Inspection  
3530 Risk Management/Insurance  
4119.23 Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information  
4131 Staff Development  
5022 Student and Family Privacy Rights  
5030 Student Wellness  
5125 Student Records  
5141 Health Care and Emergencies  
5141.21 Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions  
5141.24 Specialized Health Care Services  
5141.27 Food Allergies/Special Dietary Needs  
5141.3 Health Examinations  
5141.32 Health Screening for School Entry  
5141.6 Student Health and Social Services  
5145.6 Parental Notifications  
6142.7 Physical Education  
6145 Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities  
6145.2 Athletic Competition  
6159 Individualized Education Program  
6163.2 Animals at School  
6164.6 Identification and Education Under Section 504