

*V. Ch...  
J. G...  
Principal*



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
PO Box 500  
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

CHERRY HILL SCHOOLS  
RECEIVED

AUG - 9 2005

OFFICE OF  
SUPERINTENDENT

RICHARD J. CODEY  
Acting Governor

WILLIAM L. LIBRERA  
Commissioner

*cc: All  
Ed. Attys  
[Signature]*

August 8, 2005

To: Chief School Administrators  
Charter School Lead Persons

From: Isaac R. Bryant, Assistant Commissioner  
Division of Student Services

Subject: Self-Administration of Medication for a Potentially Life-Threatening  
Illness

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) has received a number of inquiries regarding the self-administration of medication for students that suffer from a potentially life-threatening illness. In an effort to determine the appropriate guidance to districts in response to this permissive function under N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.3, the NJDOE has consulted with a host of stakeholders including the Department of Health and Senior Services and the New Jersey State School Nurse's Association in order to develop a criterion for districts that are faced with this issue.

As such, the NJDOE will permit districts to allow for the self-administration of medication for students under the following conditions:

- The student suffers from a life-threatening illness as verified by his/her medical home;
- The medical home has certified that the medication *must* be administered during the school day;
- The medical home, parent, and the student have agreed that the student is capable of self-administration;
- The school physician and school nurse agree that the student is capable of self-administration;
- The parent, nurse and student, in the development of the individualized healthcare plan, agree to how the medication is pre-measured, labeled and carried to ensure that the student only carries the quantity necessary for a prescribed time;
- The student's ability to self-administer is documented in the individualized healthcare plan; and
- The student's medication, if ingested by someone other than the student will not cause severe illness or death.



We hope that this will assist you in the development and/or refinement of the required school district policy for the administration of medication as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.3.

If you have any additional questions, please contact the Office of Program Support Services at (609) 984-6498.

IRB/SM/lpb SASCHOOL HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES UNIT\Code and Legislative Information\Other\Self administration policy letter to districts.doc

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