

Sec. 1. STANDARDS FOR ADMINISTERING MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

All medications administered to students shall be FDA-approved pharmaceuticals administered within their approved dosage and within standards of acceptable medical regimen. Research pharmaceuticals may be administered if they are a part of a University Institutional Review Board-approved protocol. Intravenous (IV) medications and treatments shall not be administered by Life School personnel.

Sec. 2. AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL

Life School employees shall not give any student prescription medication, nonprescription medication, herbal substances, or dietary supplements of any type, except as provided below. Employees authorized by the Superintendent may administer to students:

a) *Administering Prescription Medication*

Prescription medication upon written request to administer the medication from the student's parent, guardian, or other person having legal control of the student. When administering prescription medication, the medication must be administered either:

1. From a container that appears to be from the original container and properly labeled; or
2. From a properly labeled unit dosage container filled by a registered nurse from a container that appears to be the original container and to be properly labeled.

All prescription medications shall have been prescribed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in the United States. All medications shall have been manufactured in the United States.

Texas Department of State Health Services Guide to Medication Administration in the School Setting

b) *Administering Nonprescription Medication*

i. Nonprescription Medication Administered upon Parent Request

When properly labeled and in the original container; nonprescription medication may be administered by authorized Life School personnel upon a parent's written request, or if required by the individualized education program ("IEP") or Section 504 plan of a student with disabilities.

ii. Nonprescription Medication Administered on Emergency Basis

Authorized Life School personnel may administer nonprescription medication on an emergency basis and consistent with protocols established by the District Nurse, or in accordance with standards discussed in this Policy.

Parental consent is not required for the administration of nonprescription medication on an emergency basis under this policy, but a parent or guardian may provide written notice to a campus principal or designee if conditions exist in which their child should not receive nonprescription medication at school.

c) *Herbal Substances or Dietary Supplements*

Herbal substances or dietary supplements may be administered by authorized Life School personnel **only if** required by the IEP or Section 504 plan of a student with disabilities.

d) *Provision of Medication Off-Campus at School-Sponsored Events*

For any Life School student attending a field trip or off-campus school-sponsored event, any prescription medication that Life School is required to administer under this policy shall be sent with the student's teacher or another staff member trained in the proper administration of medication and who has been authorized to administer medication by the Superintendent and/or the Nurse, along with instructions on the administration of the medication.

In addition to trained and authorized Life School teacher(s) and/or nurse(s), a licensed physician in Texas, a registered nurse licensed in Texas, or a vocational nurse licensed in Texas may serve as a Life School volunteer to administer prescription and non-prescription medication in accordance with this policy when on field trips and/or off-campus or on school-sponsored events. Prior to being allowed to do so, such individuals must meet with the school nurse for instruction and training on administration of medication for applicable students.

Nonprescription medication(s) generally are not administered by Life School during field trips and/or off-campus or on school-sponsored events.

In the event of an emergency medical situation involving a Life School student for which no Life School employee was previously aware and that occurs during a field trip and/or during an off-campus, school-sponsored event when no school nurse is present, emergency medical services shall immediately be notified by any Life School employee in attendance.

Sec. 3. PSYCHOTROPICS

Except as permitted by Education Code 38.016, a Life School employee shall not:

1. Recommend to a student, parent that the student use a psychotropic drug;
2. Suggest a particular diagnosis; or

3. Exclude the student from a class or a school-related activity because of the parent’s refusal to consent to psychiatric evaluation or examination or treatment of the student.

Education Code 38.016.

Sec. 4. OPIOID ANTAGONIST MEDICATION

a) *General Guidelines*

The Board authorizes purchase of Opioid Antagonist Medication for use in a manner consistent with this policy and determines that such purchases are necessary in the conduct of the public school.

Life School’s policy concerning the maintenance, administration, and disposal of opioid antagonists will apply only to campuses serving students in grades 7-12. *Education Code 38.222(b).*

Life School personnel and school volunteers who are authorized and trained may administer an opioid antagonist to a person who is reasonably believed to be experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose. *Education Code 38.222(c)(1).*

Such authorized and trained school employees and volunteers may administer the opioid antagonist medication at a Life School hosted, school-sponsored event taking place on a Life School campus in accordance with this policy and applicable administrative regulations.

For purposes of this policy, an “opioid-related drug overdose” means a condition, evidenced by symptoms such as extreme physical illness, decreased level of consciousness, constriction of the pupils, respiratory depression, or coma, that a layperson would reasonably believe to be the result of the consumption or use of an opioid. *Health and Safety Code 483.101.*

b) *Prescription for Opioid Antagonists*

A physician or person who has been delegated prescriptive authority under Chapter 157, Occupations Code, may prescribe opioid antagonists in the name of Life School. A physician or other person who prescribes opioid antagonists shall provide Life School with a standing order for the administration of an opioid antagonist to a person reasonably believed to be experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose. The standing order is not required to be patient-specific, and the opioid antagonist may be administered to a person without a previously established physician-patient relationship.

A standing order under this policy must contain:

- 1) The name and signature of the prescribing physician or other person;

- 2) The name of the school to which the order is issued;
- 3) The quantity of opioid antagonists to be obtained and maintained under the order; and
- 4) The date of issue.

A pharmacist may dispense an opioid antagonist to Life School without requiring the name or any other identifying information relating to the user.

Education Code 38.225.

c) *Maintenance and Availability*

Opioid antagonist medication shall be stored in secure locations accessible by designated and trained employees, and in accordance with the drug manufacturer's instructions. Opioid antagonist medication shall be made readily available to designated employees who have completed the required training to administer in the event of suspected drug overdose. All designated and properly trained employees shall be made aware of the exact location of the opioid antagonist medication.

The District Nurse or designee shall regularly inventory and verify opioid antagonist medication supply, and maintain records thereof, in accordance with the established internal procedures and manufacturer recommendations. Expired, damaged, or used opioid antagonist medication shall be disposed of in accordance with established medical waste disposal procedures.

Life School shall require that each school campus subject to Section 4 of this policy have one or more school personnel or volunteers authorized and trained to administer an opioid antagonist present during regular school hours.

Education Code 38.222(b).

d) *Training Requirements*

Before any school employee or volunteer may have custody of or administer an opioid antagonist medication under this policy, the employee must successfully complete an annual training program provided by Life School. A list of employees who successfully complete such training shall be maintained, updated, and kept in Life School's Central Office.

Trainings provided by Life School must:

- 1) Include information on:
 - a. Recognizing the signs and symptoms of an opioid-related drug overdose;
 - b. Administering an opioid antagonist;
 - c. Implementing emergency procedures, if necessary, after administering an opioid antagonist; and
 - d. Properly disposing of used or expired opioid antagonists;

- 2) Be provided in a formal training session or through online education; and
- 3) Be provided in accordance with Life School’s policy on professional development, as applicable.

Education Code 38.224.

e) *Required Reporting*

Not later than the 10th business day after the date a school personnel member or school volunteer administers an opioid antagonist in accordance with this policy, Life School shall report the information described below to:

- 1) The Board of Directors;
- 2) The physician or other person who prescribed the opioid antagonist; and
- 3) The Commissioner of State Health Services.

The report must include the following information:

- 1) The age of the person who received the administration of the opioid antagonist;
- 2) Whether the person who received the administration of the opioid antagonist was a student, a school personnel member or school volunteer, or a visitor;
- 3) The physical location where the opioid antagonist was administered;
- 4) The number of doses of opioid antagonist administered;
- 5) The title of the person who administered the opioid antagonist; and
- 6) Any other information required by the commissioner of education.

Education Code 38.223.

f) *Immunity from Liability*

A person who in good faith takes, or fails to take, any action under Section 4 of this policy or under Subchapter E-1, Chapter 38 of the Education Code, is immune from civil or criminal liability or disciplinary action resulting from that action or failure to act. *Education Code 38.227.*

g) *Gifts, Grants, and Donations*

Life School may accept gifts, grants, donations, and federal and local funds to implement Section 4 of this policy. *Tex. Educ. Code 38.226.*

h) *Administrative Regulations*

The Superintendent or designee shall adopt administrative regulations to assist with the implementation of Section 4 of this policy. Such regulations shall establish the number of opioid

antagonists that must be available at each campus at any given time and require that the supply of opioid antagonists at each school campus must be stored in a secure location and be easily accessible to school personnel and school volunteers authorized and trained to administer an opioid antagonist. *Education Code 38.222(c)(3), (4)*.

Sec. 5. EPINEPHRINE AUTO INJECTORS

a) *General Guidelines*

The Board authorizes purchase of unassigned epinephrine auto-injectors in a manner consistent with this Policy and determines that such purchases are necessary in the conduct of the public school.

For purposes of this policy, the term “epinephrine auto-injector” means a disposable medical drug delivery device that contains a premeasured single dose of epinephrine that is intended to be used to treat anaphylaxis.

Life School authorizes school personnel and volunteers who are authorized and trained to administer an epinephrine auto-injector to a person who is reasonably believed to be experiencing anaphylaxis on a Life School campus. *Education Code 28.208(b)*.

Life School must ensure that each campus has one or more personnel or volunteers authorized and trained to administer an epinephrine auto-injector present during all hours a campus is open. *Education Code 38.208(d)*.

A Life School campus shall be considered “open” during regular on-campus school hours and when school personnel are physically on site for a Life School hosted, school-sponsored event taking place at a Life School campus.

The supply of epinephrine auto-injectors at each campus must be stored in a secure location and be easily accessible to school personnel and volunteers authorized and trained to administer an epinephrine auto-injector. *Education Code 38.208(e)*.

Life School employees and volunteers may not be subject to any penalty or disciplinary action for refusing to administer or receive training to administer epinephrine auto-injectors. *Education Code 38.208(d-2)*.

b) *Prescription of Epinephrine Auto-Injectors*

A physician or person who has been delegated prescriptive authority under Chapter 157, Occupations Code, may prescribe epinephrine auto-injectors in the name of Life School. A physician or other person who prescribes epinephrine auto-injectors shall provide Life School with a standing order for the administration of, as applicable, an epinephrine auto-injector to a person

reasonably believed to be experiencing anaphylaxis.

The standing order is not required to be patient-specific, and the epinephrine auto-injector may be administered to a person without a previously established physician-patient relationship.

The standing order must contain:

- 1) The name and signature of the prescribing physician or other person;
- 2) The name of the school to which the order is issued;
- 3) As applicable, the quantity of epinephrine auto-injectors to be obtained and maintained under the order; and
- 4) The date of issue.

A pharmacist may dispense an epinephrine auto-injector without requiring the name of any other identifying information relating to the user.

Education Code 38.211.

c) *Required Reporting*

Not later than the 10th business day after the date a school personnel member or school volunteer administers an epinephrine auto-injector in accordance with Section 5 of this policy, Life School shall report the information described below to:

- 1) The Board of Directors;
- 2) The physician or other person who prescribed the epinephrine auto-injector to Life School; and
- 3) The Commissioner of State Health Services.

The report required under this section must include the following information:

- 1) The age of the person who received the administration of the epinephrine auto-injector;
- 2) Whether the person who received the administration of the epinephrine auto-injector was a student, a school personnel member or school volunteer, or a visitor;
- 3) The physical location where the epinephrine auto-injector was administered;
- 4) The number of doses of epinephrine auto-injector administered;
- 5) The title of the person who administered the epinephrine auto-injector; and
- 6) Any other information required by the Commissioner of Education.

Education Code 38.209.

d) *Training Requirements*

Life School is responsible for training school personnel and school volunteers in the administration of an epinephrine auto-injector. The training must include information on:

- 1) Recognizing the signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis;
- 2) Administering an epinephrine auto-injector;
- 3) Implementing emergency procedures, if necessary, after administering an epinephrine auto-injector; and
- 4) Properly disposing of used or expired epinephrine auto-injectors.

Training required under this section must be provided:

- 1) In a formal training session or through online education; and
- 2) In accordance with Life School’s policy on professional development.

Life School shall maintain records on the training required under this section.

Education Code 38.210(a), (b), (c).

e) *Notice to Parents*

Life School shall provide written notice of the school’s policy on the administration of epinephrine auto-injectors to parents of each student enrolled in Life School. Such notice must be provided before the start of each school year. *Education Code 38.212.*

f) *Gifts, Grants, and Donations*

Life School may accept gifts, grants, donations, and federal and local funds to implement Section 5 of this policy. *Tex. Educ. Code 38.226.*

g) *Immunity from Liability*

A person who in good faith takes, or fails to take, any action under Section 5 of this policy or under Subchapter E, Chapter 38 of the Education Code, is immune from civil or criminal liability or disciplinary action resulting from that action or failure to act. *Education Code 38.215.*

Sec. 6. ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS REQUIRED

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to manage the implementation of this policy in accordance with law and best practices disseminated by medical professionals, law enforcement, state and federal health agencies, and other credible health organizations. The administrative regulations shall address administering the authorized medication, training requirements for authorized staff, the process for the acquisition or purchase

of the authorized medication, and the maintenance, expiration, disposal, and availability of the authorized medication at each campus.