POLICY GROUP 3 – STUDENTS STUDENTS AT RISK FOR ANAPHYLAXIS AND SEIZURE MANAGEMENT PLANS

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Sec. 1. STUDENTS AT RISK FOR ANAPHYLAXIS

a) Welfare Plan

The Board shall adopt and implement a plan for the care of students with a diagnosed food allergy at risk for anaphylaxis based on "Guidelines for the Care of Students With Food Allergies At-Risk for Anaphylaxis," as developed by the Commissioner of State Health Services.

The Board shall annually review and, as necessary, revise its policy for the care of students with a diagnosed food allergy risk for anaphylaxis to ensure the policy is consistent with the most current version of the "Guidelines for the Care of Students With Food Allergies At-Risk for Anaphylaxis."

The adoption and implementation of such plan does not waive any liability or immunity of Life School or its officers or employees, or create any liability for or cause of action against Life School or its officers or employees.

b) Required Website Posting

Each school year, Life School shall post a summary of the "Guidelines for the Care of Students With Food Allergies At-Risk for Anaphylaxis" on the Life School website, including instructions on obtaining access to the complete guidelines document. The Life School website must be accessible by each enrolled student and a parent or guardian of each student.

Any forms used by Life School requesting information from a parent or guardian enrolling a child with a food allergy must include information to access on Life School's website a summary of the guidelines and instructions on obtaining access to the complete guidelines document.

Education Code 38.0151(b).

Sec. 2. FOOD ALLERGY MANAGEMENT

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement a student food allergy management plan for students at risk for anaphylaxis that incorporates the following components:

a) General Procedures

Procedures to limit the potential health risks to students with food allergies will include:

- 1. Specialized training for the employees responsible for the development, implementation, and monitoring of Life School's food allergy management plan;
- 2. Training for employees regarding signs and symptoms of food allergies and emergency response in the event of an anaphylactic reaction;
- 3. General strategies to reduce the risk of exposure to common food allergies;

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- 4. Methods for requesting and obtaining food allergy information from the parent of a student with a diagnosed food allergy; and
- 5. The annual review of Life School's food allergy management plan.

b) Students at Risk for Anaphylaxis

Procedures for the care of students with diagnosed food allergies who are at risk for anaphylaxis will include:

- 1. Development and implementation of food allergy action plans, emergency action plans, and Section 504 plans, as appropriate;
- 2. Training, as necessary, for employees, including strategies for reducing student risk of exposure to diagnosed allergens; and
- 3. Periodic review of general procedures to limit the potential health risks to students.

c) Distribution

The Superintendent shall distribute information regarding this policy and Life School's food allergy management plan annually in the Student Handbook. Information will also be made available at each Life School campus.

Sec. 3. SEIZURE MANAGEMENT AND TREATMENT PLANS

a) General Requirements

The parent or guardian of a student with a seizure disorder may seek care for the student's seizures while the student is at school or participating in a school activity by submitting to Life School a copy of a seizure management and treatment plan developed by the student's parent or guardian and the physician responsible for the student's seizure treatment. A seizure management plan must be submitted to and reviewed by Life School:

- 1. Before or at the beginning of the school year;
- 2. On enrollment of the student, if the student enrolls after the beginning of the school year; or
- 3. As soon as practicable following a diagnosis of a seizure disorder for the student.

Education Code 38.032(a).

i. Requirements for Seizure Management Plans Submitted before January 1, 2024

A seizure management and treatment plan must:



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- 1. Identify the health care services the student may receive at school or while participating in a school activity;
- 2. Evaluate the student's ability to manage and level of understanding of the student's seizures; and
- 3. Be signed by the student's parent or guardian and the physician responsible for the student's seizure treatment.

ii. Requirements for Seizure Management Plans Submitted after January 1, 2024

A seizure management and treatment plan must be submitted on the form adopted by the Texas Education Agency and provide the following:

- 1. The student's name and date of birth;
- 2. The names and contact information of the student's parent and the physician responsible for the student's seizure treatment, and at least one other emergency contact;
- 3. Any medical history significant to the student's seizure disorder;
- 4. The type, length, and frequency of the student's seizures;
- 5. A description of each type of seizure the student has experienced;
- 6. The student's seizure triggers or warning signs;
- 7. The student's ability to manage seizures and the student's level of understanding of the seizures:
- 8. The student's response after a seizure;
- 9. The basic first aid to be provided to the student during a seizure, including whether the student needs to leave the classroom after a seizure and the process for the student's return to the classroom, if applicable;
- 10. A description of what constitutes a seizure emergency for the student;
- 11. A description of seizure emergency protocol for school personnel to follow in the event of a seizure emergency for the student;
- 12. A treatment protocol for any medications or other procedures to be administered by school personnel to the student during school hours, including:
 - a. Each daily or emergency medication, including (i) the name and dosage of the medication and the time at which the medication is to be given; (ii) common side effects for the medication; and (iii) any special instructions regarding the medication; and
 - b. Whether the student has a vagus nerve stimulator and, if so, appropriate magnet use for the stimulator;
- 13. Any special considerations or precautions applicable to the students; and
- 14. The signature of the student's parent and the physician responsible for the student's seizure treatment.

Education Code 38.032(b).

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b) Seizure Recognition and Related First Aid

A school nurse employed by Life School must complete an online course of instruction for school nurses, approved by the Texas Education Agency, regarding managing students with seizure disorders that includes information about seizure recognition and related first aid. *Education Code* 38.033(a).

A Life School employee, other than a school nurse, whose duties at school include regular contact with students must complete an online course of instruction for school personnel, approved by the Texas Education Agency, regarding awareness of students with seizure disorders that includes information about seizure recognition and related first aid. *Education Code* 38.033(b).

c) Immunity Protections

The care of a student with a seizure disorder by a Life School employee under a seizure management plan is incident to or within the scope of the duties of the employee's position of employment and involves the exercise of judgment or discretion on the part of the employee for purposes of Education Code 22.0511. *Education Code 38.032(c)*.

The immunity from liability provided by Education Code 22.0511 applies to an action or failure to act by a Life School employee in administering a medication, assisting with self-administration, or otherwise providing for the care of a student under a seizure management plan submitted for the student. *Education Code* 38.032(d).

Schulman, Lopez, Hoffer & Adelstein, LLP