

SEC. 1. PURPOSE OF POLICY.

The purpose of this policy is to outline medical treatment, responsiveness, and care available to IDEA students for preventative and emergency services while at IDEA schools.

Sec. 2. ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION.

Medication should be administered at home whenever possible. If necessary, medication can be administered at school under the following circumstances:

- All Action/Care Plans must be submitted with a Medication Consent form. Medication consent forms must be completed and signed by a physician and parent. No verbal or telephone consent will be taken.
- New permission forms must be re-submitted each school year and are necessary for any medication order changes.
- Over-the-counter medication (OTC) forms must be filled out and signed by parent/guardian annually. No OTC medication(s) will be administered without written consent.
- Prescription medication must be in the original container with the pharmacy (U.S.A. only) label. The container must have a proper label with the patient's name, the medicine's name, and the dosage.
- Medication will be kept in a secure place in the health clinic during school hours. No medication shall be held in classrooms or backpacks at any time. Any medications brought in by students or found in a student's possession will be taken to the health clinic and remain in the clinic until a parent signs the consent form or picks up the medication.
- The medication and the signed permission forms must be brought to the school by the parent and delivered to the school Health Aide/Nurse). Students are not to be sent to campus with medications.
- It is the parent's responsibility to deliver the medication to the school health clinic and have the medication picked up at the end of the year. Medication not picked up by the end of the year will be discarded.
- When the medication is almost completed, please promptly send the refill to school.
- If your child is taken off medication and will no longer receive it at school, or if the prescription otherwise changes, please provide a dated, written note with updated prescription information of such changes as soon as possible. If medication is not picked up from the school office within ten (10) days, it will be appropriately disposed of.
- Medication that is expired or has a listed discard date will not be administered to students past the indicated date.
- The first dose of any new medication shall not be administered at school due to the possibility of an allergic reaction.

Sec 2.1 AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES.

Employees authorized by IDEA to administer prescription medication include: School Health Aide/Nurse, school personnel, and anyone designated by School Health Aide/Nurse or campus administration.

SEC 2.1.1 Medical Services by School Personnel.

F.S 1006.062. Nonmedical district school board personnel shall not be allowed to perform invasive medical services that require special medical knowledge, nursing judgment, and nursing assessment, including, but not limited to:

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- Sterile catheterization.
- Nasogastric tube feeding.
- Cleaning and maintaining a tracheostomy and deep suctioning of a tracheostomy.

Nonmedical assistive personnel shall be allowed to perform health-related services upon successful completion of child-specific training by a registered nurse, APRN, physician, or physician assistant. All procedures shall be monitored periodically by a nurse, APRN, physician assistant, or physician, including, but not limited to:

- Intermittent clean catheterization.
- Gastrostomy tube feeding.
- Monitoring blood glucose.
- Administering emergency injectable medication

Sec 2.2 SELF-ADMINISTRATION OF PRESCRIPTION MEDICINE.

A student may be permitted to self-administer medication only for potentially life-threatening illnesses such as diabetes, allergies, asthma, and cystic fibrosis. Guidelines for this process are based on F.S. 1002.20(3) (h)-(k). The health aide of each campus shall ensure that a student that meets the above requirements may possess and self-administer prescription medication if the student has physician's orders and parent permission. The medication must have been prescribed for the student and be in an original container with a prescription label. If a student experiences a severe allergic reaction, the health aide or supervising adult is authorized to administer the appropriate anaphylaxis drug. A student may self-administer the drug if he/she meets the requirements below.

Before a student may be allowed to self-administer asthma, anaphylaxis, diabetes, or cystic fibrosis medication, the parent must provide:

- signed, written parent authorization for the student to self-administer the prescription medicine while on school property or at a school-related activity; and
- a written statement signed by the child's physician or provider that states the diagnosis and that the student is capable of self-administering the prescription medication;
- the name and purpose of the medicine;
- the prescribed dosage of the medicine;
- the time(s) at which or circumstances under which the medicine may be administered; and
- the period for which the medicine is prescribed.

Written authorizations to self-administer should be updated annually unless otherwise indicated by the student's physician.

Sec 2.3 PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATION.

An employee may not:

- Recommend that a student use a psychotropic drug;
- Suggest any particular diagnosis; or
- Preclude a student from attending class or participating in a school related activity if the parent refuses to consent to the administration of a psychotropic drug to a student or to a psychiatric evaluation or examination of the student.

This does not prevent an employee from:

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- Making an appropriate referral under the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act;
- Recommending that a child be evaluated by an appropriate medical practitioner if the employee is a registered nurse, advanced nurse practitioner, physician, or certified/credentialed mental health professional;
- Discussing any aspect of a student's behavior or academic progress with the student's parent/guardian or another IDEA employee.

Sec. 3. DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS.

An IDEA employee commits a Class C misdemeanor offense if the employee:

1. Knowingly sells, markets, or distributes a dietary supplement that contains performance enhancing compounds to a primary or secondary education student with whom the employee has contact as part of the employee's school duties; or
2. Knowingly endorses or suggests the ingestion, intranasal application, or inhalation of a dietary supplement that contains performance enhancing compounds by a primary or secondary education student with whom the employee has contact as part of the employee's school duties.

Education Code 38.011(a), (c).

Sec. 4. PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION AND SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS.

An IDEA employee is prohibited from requiring a child to obtain a prescription for a substance covered under the federal Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) as a condition of attending school, receiving an evaluation for special education, or receiving special education and related services. An employee is not prohibited from consulting or sharing classroom-based observations with parents or guardians regarding a student's academic and functional performance, behavior in the classroom or school, or the need for evaluation for special education or related services.

20 U.S.C. 1412(a)(25).

Sec. 5. ACCIDENTS INVOLVING STUDENTS.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish emergency procedures to ensure appropriate attention for a student injured at school. IDEA shall maintain records on all accidents requiring the attention of a medical doctor.

Sec 5.1. Student Toileting & Extra Clothing.

Toilet training is a process that varies from age to age and ability to ability. Children are typically toilet trained between the ages of 2 and 3 years old. Therefore, most children entering IDEA's kindergarten program are able to toilet themselves with minimal supervision, including proper wiping.

IDEA strongly advises that all parents provide a change of clothing in case of an accident. The clothing will be kept in the child's backpack until needed.

If a child soils his/herself during the school day, staff will call the child's parent/guardian to inform them of the incident. If the child has no change of clothes, staff will ask the parent/guardian to bring a change of clothes to the school.

Sec. 6. EMERGENCY TREATMENT.

If a student has a serious or life-threatening injury or illness, the parent/guardian will be contacted, and emergency medical services (EMS) may be dispatched regardless of parent/guardian consent. The school

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will make every effort to contact the parent/legal guardian. If the school is unable to contact the parent/legal guardian, every effort will be made to notify other persons listed on the emergency card.

Sec 6.1 Emergency Medical Treatment Cost Responsibility.

IDEA Public Schools and IDEA staff will not be responsible for any cost involved if the student needs emergency medical care. The health services team may share the student's healthcare information in the case of accident, serious illness, or emergency. Parents are asked each year to provide updated emergency contacts and health history. It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to notify the campus of any changes during the year.

Sec 6.2 Emergency Treatment Forms.

Each year, students and parents shall complete and sign a form that provides emergency information and authorizes school officials to obtain emergency medical treatment, as provided by law.

SEC. 7. MEDICAL EVALUATIONS AND SCREENINGS.

Sec 7.1 Dyslexia and related disorders

From time to time, students may be tested and, where appropriate, treated for dyslexia and related disorders in accordance with programs, rules and standards approved by the state. The program approved by the state must include at least one screening for each student in kindergarten through third grade. Parents will be notified should IDEA determine a need to identify or assess their student for dyslexia and related disorders.

Additionally, pursuant to F.S. §1003.57, IDEA will not wait until an evaluation has been conducted to provide appropriate, evidence-based interventions for a student whose parent submits documentation from a professional, licensed under chapter 490, which demonstrates that the student has been diagnosed with dyslexia. Such interventions must be initiated by IDEA upon receipt of documentation and based on the student's specific areas of difficulty as identified by the licensed professional.

SEC. 8. HEALTH EXAMINATIONS

The purpose of health screenings is to aid in the detection of school-age children who have or are at risk for developing health disorders. Students in certain grade levels identified by state regulations shall be screened for vision, hearing, spinal and growth and development conditions annually. A student may be screened using photo screening to detect vision disorders. For students who do not pass the health screenings, parents will be provided with a written referral.

Exemption: A parent/guardian who declines participation in the health screenings provided by IDEA for reasons of religious tenets, practices, or reasons of consciousness must submit in writing a request for exemption to the Principal or designee.

SEC. 9. IMMUNIZATIONS.

The State of Florida requires that every child in the state be immunized against vaccine preventable diseases caused by infectious agents in accordance with an established immunization schedule. Form DH 680, Florida Certification of Immunization, must be used to document receipt of immunizations for entry and attendance in Florida schools. IDEA shall ensure compliance with immunization laws and regulations and complies with laws and regulations regarding reportable diseases.

Sec 9.1 Temporary Medical Exemption.

A student may be enrolled with a temporary medical exemption if the student has an immunization record that indicates an immunization series is in progress. A child who has received as many immunizations as are medically indicated by a physician and is in the process of completing necessary immunizations, may attend kindergarten through grade 12 only if he/she presents a Temporary Medical Exemption (DH 680 Form, Part B). A Temporary Medical Exemption (Part B) is invalid without an expiration date. The expiration date is the date when the child is past due for their next immunization. The child must return to a physician or clinic before the expiration date to receive the immunizations needed. Once the expiration date has passed, the DH 680 Form, Part B is no longer valid, and the child must be excluded from school until the additional dose is administered. To remain enrolled, the student must complete the required subsequent doses in each vaccine series on schedule and as rapidly as is medically feasible and provide acceptable evidence of vaccination to the school. IDEA shall monitor the immunization status of temporary medical exemptions every 30 days to ensure continued compliance in completing the required doses of vaccination.

Sec 9.2 Temporary Exemption (Provisional).

An authorized school official issues temporary exemptions for a period not to exceed 30 days from the child's first day of school. Authorized school officials are determined by the local school board and may include the principal, school nurse, or other designated entity. These temporary exemptions are issued for the following situations:

- Students transferring interstate: A child who transfers into a Florida school from another state.
- Students transferring intrastate: A child who transfers into a new county to attend class.
- A homeless child;
- Juvenile justice;
- Active-duty military children with the armed forces of the United States. To claim exclusion for armed forces, the student must prove that he or she is serving on active duty with the armed forces of the United States.

Sec. 9.3 Exclusions from Immunization Requirements.

Exclusions from immunization requirements are allowable on an individual basis for medical reasons and reasons of conscience (including a religious belief). Permanent Medical Exemption A child who cannot receive one or more vaccines due to medical reasons, should be issued a Permanent Medical Exemption, provided the physician states in writing or in Florida SHOTS the medical basis based upon valid clinical reasoning or evidence, demonstrating the need for a permanent exemption. In addition, the following information on DH 680 Form, Part C, must be completed for the form to be acceptable. The physician must list the vaccine(s) that are contraindicated and provide valid, medical reasons in writing for each vaccine that is not administered on Part C.

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Sec. 9.4. Religious Exemption.

A request for a religious exemption from immunization requirements must be presented to the school on the Department of Health's Religious Exemption From Immunization form (DH 681 Form). The DH 681 Form is issued only by county health departments and only for a child who is not immunized because of his/her family's religious tenets or practices. If a parent requests such an exemption, then the county health department staff must use the current DH 681 Form available electronically in the Florida SHOTS, which the parent affirms a religious conflict exists. This form must be issued upon request. No other information should be solicited from the parent or guardian.

If the parent is seeking an exemption for more than one student in the family, a separate notice must be provided for each student. Students who have not received the required he for reasons of conscience, including religious beliefs, may be excluded from school in times of emergency or epidemic declared by the commissioner of public health.

Sec. 10. **TELEMEDICINE SERVICES.**

IDEA has partnered with a telemedicine provider to bring additional healthcare services to IDEA campuses. All students are eligible to participate in the services. The cost of services varies on health insurance status, and all billing is managed through the third-party provider.

The school is not responsible for any cost families may incur by participating.

For campuses utilizing telehealth services, parents can register their child for telehealth services at any time. The health aide and/or Licensed Practical Nurse will determine if the student's need warrants a telehealth appointment and will contact the student's parent before requesting a telehealth appointment. Parents can choose to join the telehealth appointment virtually. Health aides and/or Licensed Practical Nurses will follow delegated orders from the telehealth provider.

SEC. 11. **TRAINING AND UPDATES.**

IDEA shall properly train or ensure training is provided to IDEA officers and employees on the requirements of this policy and any administrative procedures adopted to implement this policy. Additionally, IDEA shall notify IDEA officers and employees of any changes to this policy and related requirements.

SEC. 12 **ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES.**

IDEA shall formally adopt administrative procedures as reasonably necessary to properly administer this policy and to adhere to applicable law and rule. In doing so, IDEA shall not adopt, and are prohibited from adopting, an administrative procedure that conflicts with applicable law or this policy. Accordingly, IDEA shall confer with the Board or legal counsel before deviating from the requirements set forth in this policy. In the event that a deviation from this policy becomes necessary, IDEA shall either recommend an amendment to this policy or the Board's approval of a specific deviation, including the purpose, scope and duration of the requested deviation.

SEC. 13. **DATE ADOPTED AND EFFECTIVE.**

As set forth in the pertinent minutes to the meeting of the Board, the Board amended this policy on June 26, 2024, and it became effective on June 26, 2024.

SEC. 14. RETENTION.

This policy shall be retained until superseded, expired, or discontinued and for five (5) years thereafter in accordance with state law.

BOARD APPROVED