

Da Vinci Schools

Board Policy and Procedures

LIFE THREATENING ALLERGIES BOARD POLICY

For students with life-threatening allergies, Da Vinci Schools will take all appropriate and reasonable steps to minimize exposure and provide a safe, positive educational environment.

The Chief Executive Officer or designee shall develop guidelines for the care of students with life threatening allergies. Such guidelines shall include, but are not limited to, strategies for identifying students at risk for allergic reactions, avoidance measures, education of staff regarding typical symptoms, and actions to be taken in the event of a severe allergic reaction.

Parents/guardians shall be responsible for notifying the Chief Executive Officer or designee, in writing, regarding any food allergies or other special dietary needs of their child in accordance with administrative regulation.

The Da Vinci Schools cannot guarantee an allergy-free environment. Because each student's allergy and situation is different, an individualized plan of action may be created for some students. When a student's food or other allergy substantially limits one or more major life activities, his/her parents/guardians shall be informed of the district's obligation to evaluate the student to determine if he/she requires accommodations pursuant to Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act. The student shall be evaluated in accordance with law and the procedures specified in AR 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504. If that process results in the development of a Section 504 plan, the district shall provide the accommodations and/or aids and services identified in the plan.

If a student's diet restrictions and needed services are addressed in an individualized education program (IEP), the Chief Executive Officer or designee shall ensure compliance with the IEP including any necessary food substitutions.

Students shall not be excluded from school activities nor otherwise discriminated against, harassed, intimidated, or bullied because of their allergy.

Any complaint of alleged noncompliance with this policy shall be addressed through appropriate district complaint procedures.

The district's food services program may, but is not required to, accommodate individual student preferences or diets that are not supported by a statement from the student's health care provider.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

234.1 Prohibition against discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying

49407 Liability for treatment

49408 Emergency information

49414 Emergency epinephrine auto-injectors

49423 Administration of prescribed medication for student

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

600-611 Administering medication to students

15562 Reimbursement for meals, substitutions

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

701-795a Rehabilitation Act, including:

794 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

1751-1769h National School Lunch Program

1771-1791 Child nutrition, especially:

1773 School Breakfast Program

12101-12213 Americans with Disabilities Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 7

210.1-210.31 National School Lunch Program

220.1-220.21 National School Breakfast Program

225.16 Meal programs, individual substitutions

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Training Standards for the Administration of Epinephrine Auto-Injectors, December 2004

FOOD ALLERGY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

School Guidelines for Managing Students with Food Allergies

NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS

Legal and Practical Issues Relating to Accommodating Students with Peanut Allergies, Inquiry and Analysis, April 2009

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PUBLICATIONS

Accommodating Children with Special Dietary Needs in the School Nutrition Programs: Guidance for School Food Service Staff, 2001

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS

Dear Colleague Letter and Questions and Answers on ADA Amendments Act of 2008 for Students with Disabilities Attending Public Elementary and Secondary Schools, January 2012

LIFE THREATENING ALLERGIES PROCEDURES

Procedures for the management of student allergies will include:

1. The parent/guardian will provide the school nurse with written physician documentation of the life-threatening allergy, instructions, and current medications.
2. The school nurse, in conjunction with the student's parent/guardian and the physician, will prepare a Food Allergy Action Plan. A photo of the student will be included on the written form. The school nurse will review the plan with the parent/guardian annually, or as changes in the student's medical condition or environment occurs. The school nurse and/or building principal is responsible for notifying classroom teachers and food service personnel as well as anyone who works directly with the students with life-threatening or disabling allergies. Copies of the Food Allergy Action Plan will be kept in the school office, and with the school nurse.
3. The Food Allergy Action Plan will be distributed and reviewed with all school staff at the beginning of each school year. Instruction will include preventative and emergency procedures for life-threatening allergic reactions. Training may include the administration of epinephrine.
4. Information regarding life-threatening food allergies and school procedures will be included in the student handbook or in a letter sent home by the teacher/school nurse.
5. School newsletters will contain information on the risks of peanut/tree nuts where appropriate and may discourage foods being brought to school containing peanuts and tree nuts.
6. Parents will be encouraged to preview menus in order to select safe foods their child may eat. In addition, parents of the child with allergies are responsible for providing a supply of safe snacks for their child when requested. These snacks should be stored separately from other snacks, to prevent cross-contamination.
7. Parents should instruct their children in how to avoid contact with substances to which they are allergic.

8. Prescribed medications, including epinephrine, should be kept in close proximity to students at risk of anaphylaxis, and in all cases where it is administered, 911 will be called and the student must be sent to the hospital immediately.

10. Teachers are encouraged to set up meetings with parents of children with allergies to discuss procedures and precautions.

See Anaphylaxis policy for details on provision of Emergency medications.

Approved and Adopted by the Da Vinci Schools Board on November 20, 2019

Approved and Adopted by the Da Vinci Schools: L.A. County Board on November 26, 2019