

**Regulation 507.02-R(1): Administration of Medication to Students**

**Status:** DRAFT - 1st  
Reading

**Original Adopted Date:** 12/01/2008 | **Last Revised Date:** 02/26/2024 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 02/26/2024

**Dallas Center-Grimes Community Schools Health Service**

Students shall be absent from school when:

- The illness prevents the student from participating comfortably in activities as observed by the school staff.
- The illness results in a greater need for care than the school staff determine they can provide without compromising their ability to care for other students
- The student has the following conditions, unless a health professional determines the student's condition does not require exclusion:
  - The student appears severely ill—could include lethargy, lack of responsiveness, irritability, persistent crying, difficult breathing, or quickly spreading rash
  - Fever (temperature above 100.4 in association with the other signs of illness such as headache, behavior change, sore throat, coughing, sneezing, rash, vomiting or diarrhea).

**Note:** Exclusion from school for any temperature of 100.4 will be for a minimum of 24 hours fever free without the use of fever reducing medication.

- Screenings:
  - Vision screening is required for all students before they enter Kindergarten and 3rd grade. Parents will provide documentation of the screening to the school nurse. Screening will be done in the fall for the K and 3rd grade students for which documentation is not on file and on all referred students at any time throughout the year.
  - <https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/programs-and-services/family-health/title-v-child-adolescent-health/child-vision-screening>
  - <https://educate.iowa.gov/pk-12/student-services/specialized-support/health/requirements>
  - Dental screening is required prior to entering Kindergarten and 9th grade. Authorized providers for kindergarten include dentists, dental hygienists, physicians, physician assistants, advanced registered nurse practitioners, and registered nurses. Authorized providers for ninth grade include dentists and dental hygienists.
  - Hearing screening will be done during school by AEA audiologist and audiometrist. Grade levels tested will be determined by AEA staff yearly. on all students in grades K-2 and grade 5 and on all referred students. This will be done during school by AEA audiologists and audiometrists.
  - <https://www.heartlandaea.org/special-education/special-education-services/hearing>
- Prescription Medications
  - Medication administration will rigidly adhere to the Code of Iowa.
  - Administration of prescribed medication during the school day will be dispensed by trained school personnel. In addition, the following guidelines must be met.
    - Written permission by parents/guardian
    - Medicine is in the original prescription container which shall be labeled with:
      - Name of person to whom medicine is prescribed
      - Name of medicine
      - Amount of medicine in container
      - Directions for use
      - Name of physician
      - Name and address of pharmacy
      - Date of prescription
      - **Note:** When medicine is to be administered at school, physicians and pharmacists are asked to provide a separate, labeled container for school.
- Self-Administration of Medications
  - Certain medications that require ongoing professional health judgment may be self-administered with oversight from the school health care practitioner. Competency must be demonstrated by a health care professional and written parent permission must be filed.
  - By law, students with asthma or other airway constricting diseases may self-administer their medication upon approval of their parents and prescribing physician regardless of competency. A written form will be on file (507.2E1). The school district and its employees are to incur no liability, except for gross

negligence, as a result of any injury arising from self-administration of medication or use of an epinephrine auto-injector by the student.

- Over the Counter Medications
  - Any administration of over-the-counter medication during the school day will be dispensed by trained school personnel. In addition, the following guidelines must be met.
    - Written permission by parents/guardian
    - Medicine is in the original container
- Over-the-counter medication will be administered in accordance to the July 12, 1985 Iowa State Board of Nursing Declaratory Ruling:
  - The Iowa Board of Nursing has determined that the Code of Iowa and the Iowa Administrative code do not forbid administration of over-the-counter medication by a registered nurse.
  - The registered nurse, using education and experience, may determine that the use of over-the-counter medications, ordered by a parent, is the appropriate care for some children. Thus, the registered nurse may follow a parent's direction to give such medication.
  - However, the registered nurse may use professional judgement that an over-the counter medication sent by the parent to be administered at school, may be detrimental to the child. In this case, the registered nurse will contact the parent by phone to discuss this decision, and request that the parent follows up with the child's doctor for further guidance.
- In keeping with the standard (Declaratory No 81 by Iowa Board of Nursing November 21, 1995 Administration of Natural Remedies and Supplements to School Children at the Request of Their Parents or Guardians by Registered School Nurses During the School Day)
  - School health care practitioner may not administer natural remedies and supplements to school children at the request of their parents or guardians, during the school day, when the nurse is unable to determine the appropriateness; safety; possible side effects, or toxic effects of the substance; the appropriate dose for a child of a specific age, weight and body surface area; and treatment of overdose.
- All head injuries shall be reported to the school health care practitioner and the parents.
- The school district and its health service will comply with the Iowa Immunization law.

Signature _____	Date _____	Signature _____
_____	Date _____	Signature _____
Date _____		

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**I.A.C. Iowa Administrative Code**

281 I.A.C. 14

655 I.A.C. 6

**Description**

[Special Health Services](#)

[Nursing](#)

**I.C. Iowa Code**

Iowa Code § 124

Iowa Code § 147.107

Iowa Code § 152

Iowa Code § 155A.4

Iowa Code § 280.16

Iowa Code § 280.23

**Description**

[Controlled Substances](#)

[Drug Dispensing/Supplying](#)

[Nursing](#)

[Dispensing/Distributing Prescription Drugs - Exceptions](#)

[Asthma - epi-pens](#)

[Student Health Services](#)

**Cross References**

603.03

**Description**

[Special Education](#)

**Cross References**

603.03-R(1)

607.02

804.05

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[Special Education](#)

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[Stock Epinephrine Auto-Injector Supply](#)