

MEDICATION PROCEDURE INFORMATION

School system requirement for medication administration must be followed in order for students to take medication during school hours and school sponsored events.

1. Parents must provide a written authorization for **any** medicine to be administered. This includes over-the-counter medicine (including medicated cough drops), homeopathic medicine, and prescription medicine.
2. **The first dose of any new prescription must be given at home.**
3. The parent/guardian is responsible for obtaining a written the medication order. The attached medication form/physician's order is preferred. An authorized prescriber (physician, dentist, physician's assistant, nurse practitioner) may use office stationary or a prescription pad instead of completing the attached form. The authorized health care provider must sign the order form. Necessary information includes:

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| • Name of student | • Date order expires (Check box if order valid for summer school.) | • Authorized health care provider signature |
| • Date of medication order | • Time and frequency of medication | • Special instructions (including whether or not medication may be self-administered or carried by the student) |
| • Name of medication | • Diagnosis (Reason for administration of medication.) | |
| • Dosage and strength of medication | | |
| • Route of administration | | |

Note: PRN medications should have the **frequency** of repeat doses clearly indicated on the order.

4. Occasionally students may need to self-administer/carry medication such as inhalers or emergency medication. A written medication order, signed by an authorized health care provider, that specifically states that the student may self-administer/carry medication, must be on file in the health room for any student who carries medication throughout the school day.
5. **A new medication order is required for each new school year dated on or after July 1.**
6. The medication should be delivered to the school by the parent/guardian or, under special circumstances, an adult designated by the parent. Students should not transport medication to or from school.
7. All medication must be properly labeled and consistent with the medication order. Pharmacy containers and labeling are preferred; **a second labeled container can be obtained by asking the pharmacist.** Parents should label over-the-counter medication. Physician samples must be appropriately labeled by the physician or parent/guardian. The following information must be on the label:

• Name of the student	• Name of the Medication	• Dosage and strength of the medication
• Date of the medication order	• Route, time, and frequency of the medication	• Authorized health care provider name
8. Over the counter medications must be received in new, unopened containers and be clearly labeled with the student's name.
9. The school nurse must approve the medication order before the first does of medication can be administered at school.
10. The parent/guardian is responsible for submitting a new medication order form to the school each time there is a change of dose or time of administration or route of administration.
11. The parent must provide medication for as long as it is prescribed. All medication kept in the school will be stored in a locked area accessible only to authorized personnel.
12. Within one week after expiration of the effective date on physician's order, the parent/guardian must personally collect any unused portion of the medication. Medication not claimed within that period will be destroyed.
13. Expired medication cannot be given. The effective expiration date of a medication is the earlier of either the pharmacy labeled expiration date or the manufacturers expiration date.
14. Each student's confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible by school staff. At times, school personnel outside of the health services program may need to be made aware by health services staff that a student is receiving medication in order to monitor effectiveness, side effects, adverse reactions, or in response to other legitimate school related issues or responsibilities. Information will be shared on a need-to-know basis only.
15. Under no circumstances may any school staff administer **any** medication outside the procedures outlined in the Health Services Medication Administration Procedure.
16. The Howard County Public School System does not assume responsibility for medication administered outside of the Health Services Medication Administration Procedure.