

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

All students entering grades Pre-K through 12 of Alabama's public or private schools are required by law to provide the appropriate Alabama Certificate of Immunization to the school. This documentation is necessary to ensure that our students are protected against vaccine-preventable diseases. All immunization records must be kept up to date. Parents or guardians will be notified when certificates expire.

MEDICATION

All medications to be administered at school will be brought to the school office by the parent or guardian and safeguarded in a locked area as designated by the principal and school nurse. The **State Department of Education School Medication Prescriber/Parent Authorization form (PPA)** must be completed for any medication administered in the school setting. **No** medication will be administered at school until this authorization form has been properly completed and signed.

- The parent/guardian or a designated responsible adult shall deliver all medication to be administered during the school day to the school nurse or personnel designated by the school nurse. **Medications should never be brought to school by the student. This is to ensure the safety of all students.**
- Prescription medications must be in the original container with a current pharmacy prescription label attached. The Prescriber/Parent Authorization form (PPA) must be completed and signed by the physician and the parent/guardian.
- Nonprescription medications must be provided by the parent in a new, unopened, sealed container identifying the medication name, dosage, and manufacturer's labeling. The Prescriber/Parent Authorization form (PPA) must be completed and signed by the parent/guardian. Manufacturer's dosing guidelines will be followed.
- Nonprescription medication prescribed in excess of the manufacturer's recommended dosage will require completion of the Prescriber/Parent Authorization form signed by the physician and the parent/guardian.
- The parent/guardian shall give the first dose of a new medication at home in case of a possible allergic reaction.
- The parent/guardian must provide the school with a new Parent/Prescriber Authorization (PPA) if the medication orders or dosage are changed during the school year. Only the prescriber (MD, NP, PA) can change a medication order (dose, frequency, time, etc.). Changes to the medication orders by a parent/guardian will not be accepted.
- The parent or guardian will be notified when their child's medication becomes out of date. Expired medications will not be given at school. Expired medications will need to be picked up by the parent/guardian or will be disposed of by school personnel after 14 days.
- The parent/guardian shall pick up a student's medication at the end of the school year. Medications left at school after the course of administration or at the end of the school year will be disposed of by the school nurse. No medications will be kept at school over the summer.
- No aspirin or aspirin containing medication (salicylate) will be given to children or teenagers under the age of 18 years of age, unless prescribed by a physician.
- Natural remedies, herbs, and nutritional supplements may not be administered by school personnel without an explicit order from an authorized prescriber that includes parent authorization and verification that the product is safe to administer to children in the prescribed dosage with reasonable information regarding therapeutic and untoward effects.

- Student self-administration of medication for a documented chronic health condition will be authorized if conducted in compliance with the State Department of Education, Alabama Board of Nursing, and the Colbert County Board of Education guidelines. The school nurse will verify all orders before students are allowed to carry and self-administer their medications.
- Colbert County Schools follows the Alabama Board of Nursing and State Department of Education guidelines for the administration of medications to students.

COLD AND FLU SEASON

We are seeing more and more students in the nurse office with communicable diseases. Below is a list of Colbert County Schools **NEW** policy regarding exclusion periods for sick children as well as some preventative tips. Please adhere to these guidelines and make note of the suggested habits. Let's work together to keep our school, community, and our homes as healthy as possible!

Exclusion Periods:

Please do **NOT** send your child to school if he/she has or has had:

- Fever over 100.0 within the last 24 hours (must be fever free without medication).
- Vomiting or diarrhea within the last 24 hours.
- Continuous coughing not relieved with cough medicine.
- Strep Throat. They may return 24 hours after starting antibiotics.
- Please remember to notify the School Nurse or front Office if your child has a contagious illness.
- Please check with the School Nurse or your doctor about other illnesses.

Helpful Tips for Staying Healthy:

- Frequent hand washing is the BEST way to prevent and combat the spread of germs. Wash hands often with soap and water or hand sanitizer.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or use an elbow or arm if no tissue is available.
- Do not share drinks, food, and unwashed utensils.
- Get plenty of rest, eat healthy foods, and drink lots of water and healthy drinks.
- Avoid people that are sick and stay home when you are sick.
- Disinfect surfaces that are prone to germs.

For more information, visit www.flu.gov or call 1-800-CDC-INFO for the most current information about the flu. Thank you for the consideration of others when your student might be contagious.

STUDENTS WITH SEVERE HEALTH PROBLEMS

Students with potential life threatening illnesses or conditions, (such as asthma, seizures, severe allergic reactions, hemophilia, diabetes, cardiac conditions, or any other condition the doctor recognizes as life threatening), should have a emergency health care plan on file at the school. Parents should notify the teacher or school nurse if an emergency plan is needed. The school nurse will meet with the parent to develop the emergency health care plan.

**STUDENT
ACCIDENT
INSURANCE
PROGRAMS**

All students may purchase low-cost student accident insurance from Guarantee Trust Life Insurance Company. The insurance program is a service to the students and may be participated in by all students on a voluntary basis.

The Board may require a student in certain curricular or extracurricular areas to participate in the school accident insurance program or file with the school principal a notarized statement from the student's parent that said student is protected adequately against accidents that may occur while participating in said activities. Insurance is also made available for all students participating in athletics sponsored by the school. The student athlete shall pay his or her own insurance. No student athlete shall be allowed to participate in practice or games prior to providing written evidence of purchase of the school-sponsored insurance plan or the notarized parental statement form as noted above. (File: 6.58)