
SELF-ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION POLICY

Sage Oak Charter Schools (“SOCS” or “Charter School”) adopt this Self-Administration of Medication Policy to apply to students enrolled in SOCS.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the safe, accurate self-administration of medication to students during school hours in compliance with the California Education Code, legal mandates, and safe practice (Education Code (EC) sections 49423 and 49423.1; Americans with Disabilities Act section 504).

General Policy

All medications, including prescription and over-the-counter medication administered to students by themselves, shall require a signed "Authorization for Student to Self-Possess / Self-Administer Medication" form. The medication administration form must be signed by the legal parent/guardian and authorized prescriber and shall include: (1) student’s name; medication name; medication dosage, medication frequency and duration of treatment; possible side effects; and confirmation that the student is able to self-administer such medication. (2) consent authorizing designated school personnel to contact the physician should questions arise.

Procedure

In order for a student to self-possess and/or self-administer prescription and/or over-the-counter medication, the following criteria must be met:

1. The parent/guardian shall obtain a written statement from the physician, surgeon, or physician assistant detailing: the student’s name; medication name; medication dosage, medication frequency and duration of treatment; possible side effects; and confirmation that the student is able to self-administer such medication.
2. The parent/guardian shall complete this Authorization for Student to Self-Possess / Self-Administer Medication, providing consent for the student to self-possess/self-administer medication; allowing consent for designated school personnel to consult with the student’s physician if questions or concerns arise; and releasing the school, district, and school personnel from civil liability if the self-administering student suffers an adverse reaction as a result of self-administering medication pursuant to this paragraph.

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3. The written statements specified in this subdivision must be renewed annually and more frequently if the medication, dosage, frequency of administration, or reason for administration changes.

Liability Protection

Sage Oak Charter Schools and its personnel shall not be held liable for any adverse effects resulting from a student's self-administration of medication, provided that the medication was administered in accordance with the procedures outlined in this policy and the physician's instructions.

Additional Information

1. Self-possession means that under the direction of the physician, the student may carry medication on his/her person to allow for immediate and self-determined administration.
2. Self-administration means that the student can administer the medication in a manner directed by the physician without additional direction or supervision by school staff.
3. For medication other than inhalers/EpiPens, only that day's supply of medication is to be carried.
4. The student must carry a copy of this form in order to carry their medication. School administrators and appropriate teachers are informed on a need-to-know basis that the student is permitted to self-possess/self-administer medication.
5. In cases of emergency, such as a severe allergic reaction or asthma attack, students may self-administer epinephrine auto-injectors (EpiPens) or asthma inhalers without prior written authorization if their health is at immediate risk. School staff will follow EC § 49423.1 guidelines for emergency administration of these medications and will contact emergency medical services as necessary.
6. Sage Oak is protected by a Gov't. Code § 820.2 (immunity for discretionary acts) and requires parents to sign an indemnification/hold harmless waiver.