



"It Starts With Us."

Mobile County PUBLIC SCHOOLS

P. O. Box 180069 • Mobile, AL 36618 • www.mcps.com

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MCPSS Policy for Medications at School

The goal of Mobile County Public Schools Health Services Department is to assist students in maintaining an optimal state of wellness, thus enhancing the educational experience. Medication administration is a small but integral part of maintaining student wellness during school hours.

Parent Responsibilities:

- The parent/guardian must provide the ALSDE (Alabama State Department of Education) Prescriber/Parent Authorization (PPA) correctly and completely filled out. This includes all required signatures.
- The parent/guardian must provide the medication in a correctly labeled prescription bottle/container with ALSDE Prescriber/Parent Authorization (PPA).
- If at any time the medication changes during the course of the school year, the parent/guardian must provide a new ALSDE Prescriber/Parent Authorization (PPA) from the prescriber.
- The parent/guardian should provide a list of side effects for the medication.
- The parent/guardian should give the first dose of a new medication at home in case of a possible allergic reaction.
- **ONLY** the parent/guardian or other designated adult (18 and older) may bring the medication to school nurse or designated medication assistant. **Medication should not be sent with the student.**
- The parent/guardian or designated adult (18 or older) will be required to pick up the medication at the end of the school year or it will be destroyed. **Medication cannot remain at the school over the summer break.**
- The parent/guardian may request that students may self-medicate and self-carry **EMERGENCY OR RESCUE MEDICATIONS ONLY** when they have met the criteria for self-medication according to Mobile County Public School's Policy. The School Nurse/Parent/Student will complete the Self-Medication Agreement. **The school nurse reserves the right to deny the privilege to self-carry to any student based on their assessment and individual nursing judgement.**
- Students who have met the criteria for self-medication and have medication on their person should not share medication with other students. All self-carried medication must remain in the original labelled container.
- The parents will make sure that the student knows where the emergency medication is kept and will make sure they bring it to school every day.

School Responsibilities:

- The School Nurse and the Principal shall designate specific personnel to distribute medication at the school in the event that the nurse is not available. These personnel will be required to complete the ALSDE medication class and pass the exit exam.
- The designated personnel will follow the medication policy and refer to the school nurse in the case of ANY questions.



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- The School Nurse/Medication Assistant will refuse to administer medication when there is a discrepancy. (i.e., label different from PPA, label is unclear or torn). This medication will not be administered at school until the discrepancy is cleared up.
- The School Nurse/Medication Assistant will count all controlled substances in front of the parent/guardian at the time they are received. Parent/guardian and School Nurse will be required to sign the back of the Medication Administration Record (MAR).

Student Responsibilities:

- Students may not deliver medications to school. (See above)
- Students may self-medicate **EMERGENCY / RESCUE MEDICATIONS ONLY** when they have met the criteria for self-medication according to Mobile County Public School's Policy.
- Students who have met the criteria for self-medication and have medication on their person should not share medication with other students. All self-carried medication must remain in the original labelled container.
- Students will notify the School Nurse / School personnel at the onset of any distress or allergic reaction. The student will know where the emergency medication is kept and will make sure they bring it to school every day.

Over The Counter Medication:

- Over the counter medication (ex. Ibuprofen, Tylenol, etc.) is permitted.
- Must be accompanied by a Physician signed PPA.
- Must be in a new, unopened container.
- Must have specific instructions for use (ex. 2 every 4-6 hours as needed for pain)
- Parent/Guardian must deliver medication to school as with above meds. Medication should not be sent with student.