



Guidelines Administration of Stock Epinephrine

in Consultation with the Wyoming Department of Health



Reference: W.S. 21-4-316 & W.S. 35-4-904

2026

Wyoming Department of Education

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Definitions

Department: Wyoming Department of Education (WDE).

Healthcare Provider: a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant who has prescriptive authority and is licensed to practice in the State of Wyoming.

School Nurse: a registered nurse licensed to practice nursing in Wyoming who is currently employed by a school district and serves in one or more schools.

Standing Order: a written order/document by a Healthcare Provider that authorizes specific medical action and includes the administration of selected medication.

Participating District: a district that has decided to participate in the requirements and benefits of W.S. 21-4-316.

Non-Participating District: a district board that has decided not to participate in the requirements and benefits of W.S. 21-4-316 and 35-4-904.

Assigned School Personnel: an employee, agent, or volunteer of a school designated by the school administrator who has completed the training required under W.S. 21-4-316 and 35-4-904 to provide or administer stock epinephrine.

Stock Epinephrine: medications used for the treatment of severe life-threatening allergies that schools or districts buy and keep on-site for emergency use.

Introductory Clarifications

The following clarifications reference W.S. 21-4-316 (a) and 35-4-904 (b).

- A district school board may elect to adopt and implement a policy to acquire, maintain, and dispense stock epinephrine. This action is optional. Under these guidelines, a district decision covers all district schools.
- Pursuant to Wyoming law, parents/guardians maintain the primary duty to provide prescribed epinephrine and an Individual Health Plan (IHP) for students with diagnosed life-threatening allergies. However, state guidelines for school stock epinephrine apply broadly to any severe allergic emergency. School stock epinephrine may be administered to any individual demonstrating symptoms of anaphylaxis, irrespective of whether the condition was previously diagnosed or if personal medication is present. Participating districts must ensure that emergency use of stock epinephrine is listed and accounted for in school and district crisis management plans.
- Under this statute reference, "a district board shall not be required to obtain a prescription to acquire, maintain, or dispense the schools within the district a supply of epinephrine under this section." Accordingly, a Standing Order by a health care provider may be required to facilitate purchase of emergency use epinephrine by a pharmacy and/or manufacturer (see the Appendix for sample forms).

Expectations of a Participating District Board

The following district expectations reference W.S. 21-4-316 (b) and W.S. 35-4-904 (b).

Implement a Plan:

Each participating public school district in the state of Wyoming shall implement, and thereafter maintain, a plan for the management of individuals with life-threatening allergies. The plan must comply with accepted evidence-based nursing professional best practices and the guidelines on the following pages. A non-participating district may elect to become a participating district at any time.

Timing:

A district's plan should be in place before epinephrine devices or methods are used.

Availability of the Plan:

The plan will be made available on the school district's website or through other practicable means. The school board will decide the methods of availability. The plan shall be updated as determined by the district's head school nurse. Websites shall carry the newest available version of the plan.

Expectations of Participating Schools and Districts

The following school and district expectations reference W.S. 21-4-316 (c) and 35-4-904 (b).

Identification of Life Threatening Allergies or Severe Allergic Reactions:

Epinephrine shall be administered immediately upon recognizing the clinical signs and symptoms of severe allergic reaction or anaphylaxis, regardless of the underlying cause or trigger. Symptoms requiring prompt administration include respiratory distress (wheezing, shortness of breath, throat tightness), swelling of the lips, tongue, or face, a sudden drop in blood pressure, or widespread hives.

Identification of Appropriate and Acceptable Epinephrine:

Any emergency-use epinephrine that is approved by the FDA is approved by the department. Appropriate dosages will be based on weight guidelines provided by the manufacturer, a pharmacist, a physician's directive, or a drug reference.

Note: The parent or legal guardian of a student with a known severe allergy as determined by a health care professional shall be responsible for supplying the school with the medication needed for treatment of food allergies or anaphylaxis or arranging for the student, if responsible and capable of self-administration, to self-carry. (See W.S. 21-4-310). However, if such a student presents with a severe allergic reaction and their personal epinephrine is not available, stock epinephrine may be used.

Education/Training for School Personnel on Management of Individuals with Life Threatening Allergies:

There are many training programs available, including ones from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Association of School Nurses (NASN), the American Heart Association (AHA), and others.

Approved training programs are certified by content rather than by name. Programs that stand approved by the department to be used in conjunction with these guidelines shall include, but not necessarily be limited to:

- Clear objectives.
- A formal curriculum.
- Approval by the head district nurse.
- Training delivered annually.
- A hands-on training component, including demonstration/handling of the epinephrine delivery devices or methods.
- Attendance shall be taken and records kept for seven (7) years. Each attendee shall confirm completion of the training. (See Sections 7, 8, and 9 of these guidelines.)

Local School Boards will determine if selected school personnel can refuse training within their district.

Procedures for Responding to Life Threatening Allergies:

For each Wyoming district, the specific procedure for responding to life-threatening allergies shall be written by the head district nurse and may include, as appropriate, input from:

- Individual school nurses.
- Professional experience in handling prior students' needs.
- District crisis management plan.
- Best practices from the CDC.
- Best practices from the NASN.

The procedures for responding to life-threatening allergies shall be ratified by the local school board or its designee.

Process for Development of Individualized Health Care and Allergy Action Plans:

A process for the development of an individualized health care and allergy action plan shall be developed for every student with a known life-threatening allergy. Note: After a student experiences a previously undiagnosed allergic reaction, a care plan needs to be developed for that student.

This process will necessitate the school nurse to:

- Establish which students have known cases of severe life-threatening allergies.
- Make every effort to consult with the parents or guardians of the student.
- Make every effort to consult with a health care provider licensed with prescriptive authority, wherever possible.
- Assemble the individualized plans with all consultations, environmental factors, medical history, and other factors that may be unique to the case.

Protocols to Prevent Exposure to Allergens:

An individual designated by the local school board shall develop the "Preventing Exposure to Allergens" protocol for their district and submit it to the board for ratification. Corrections or modifications will occur at the local level.

Requirements for Each School to Keep a Record:

Each school must keep a record of each incident that involves a life-threatening allergy or the administration of stock epinephrine. This record can be hardcopy or electronic. It is recommended that each district office be kept informed of the school incidents.

Requirement to List Those Who Have Been Trained:

Under these guidelines, each school or district office must maintain a list of employees who have been assigned and trained to administer stock epinephrine

Requirement to Confirm Training Completion:

Assigned personnel must confirm training completion to their school nurse by signing and dating a training completion notice formulated/chosen by each district.

Coverage for Nurses and Trained Personnel

The following guideline paragraphs reference W.S. 21-4-316 (d) and 35-4-906.

Removal of Liability:

Schools and school personnel trained to administer available stock epinephrine shall not be liable (regarding actions that may constitute ordinary negligence) for damages for any injuries that result from:

- Administration of epinephrine.
- Self-administration of epinephrine.
- A failure to administer epinephrine.

This immunity applies regardless of whether authorization was provided by a student's parent or guardian, or by a student's health care provider. The immunity is also extended to the:

- District board.
- School nurses.
- Employees.
- Agents and volunteers.
- Authorized health care provider.
- Individual entity that conducts training.

Note: This immunity does not apply to acts or omissions constituting gross, willful, or wanton negligence.

Appendix

Standing Order for Stock Epinephrine Auto-Injectors For School Use Incident to W.S. 21-4-316: Sample Form

Incident to Wyo. Stat. § 21-4-316 - A treatment plan shall be effective only for the school year in which it is approved.

School Year: _____

Prescribing Healthcare Provider

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Issued to:

District: _____ Effective Date: _____

Address: _____

Stock Epinephrine Quantities Authorized:

- _____ 0.15mg Auto-Inj
- _____ 0.30mg Auto-Inj.
- _____ 1 mg Nasal Spray
- _____ 2 mg Nasal Spray

Directions for Administration:

This medication should be administered as required to any individual displaying symptoms of anaphylaxis. All usage must comply with local district regulations and protocols regarding school-supplied emergency stock epinephrine for severe allergic reactions pursuant to W.S. 21-4-316 and 35-4-904.

Note: In smaller school districts where a nurse may not be present and emergency services face potential response delays, designated school staff members are authorized to administer epinephrine.

Healthcare Provider Name: _____

Healthcare Provider Signature: _____

Date Issued: _____ Phone: _____