

Students with Special Dietary Needs/Allergies (Food Allergy Management)

The focus of the Oxford Public Schools' Food Allergy Management Plan shall be prevention, education, awareness, communication and emergency response. The management plan shall strike a balance between the health, social normalcy and safety needs of the individual student with life-threatening food allergies and the education, health and safety needs of all students. The Food Allergy Management Plan shall be the basis for policies and practices implemented at the school level and provide for consistency across all schools within the district.

The goals for the Districtwide Plan include:

1. To maintain the health and protect the safety of children who have life-threatening food allergies in ways that are developmentally appropriate, promote self-advocacy and competence in self-care and provide appropriate educational opportunities.
2. To ensure that interventions and individual health care plans for students with life-threatening food allergies are based on medically accurate information and evidence-based practices.
3. To define a formal process for identifying, managing, and ensuring continuity of care for students with life-threatening food allergies across all transitions. (Pre-K-Grade 12).

It is the policy of the Oxford Board of Education to follow the guidelines developed and promulgated by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and Department of Education for students within the District with life-threatening food allergies. Such guidelines include: (1) education and training for school personnel on the management of students with life-threatening food allergies, including training related to the administration of medication with a cartridge injector; (2) procedures for responding to life-threatening allergic reactions to food; (3) a process for the development of individualized health care and food allergy action plans for every student with a life-threatening food allergy; and (4) protocols to prevent exposure to food allergens.

It is the Board's expectation that specific building-based guidelines/actions will take into account the health needs and well-being of all children without discrimination or isolation of any child. It is the Board's belief that education and open and informative communication are vital for the creation of an environment with reduced risks for all students and their families. In order to assist children with life-threatening allergies to assume more individual responsibility for maintaining their safety as they grow, it is the policy of the Board that guidelines shift as children advance through the primary grades and through secondary school.

Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes
10-212c

PA 05-104 An Act Concerning Food Allergies and the Prevention
of Life-Threatening Incidents in Schools

Federal Legislation

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794 §
504; 34 C.F.R. § 104 *et seq.*)
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 (42 U.S.C. §
12101 *et seq.*; 29 C.F.R. § 1630 *et seq.*)

Policy Adopted:

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