

# Severe Allergies



Students attending Pickerington Local Schools who have been diagnosed with potentially life threatening allergies require special attention while at school. PLSD has developed board policy JHCF-P to address food allergies. The guidelines provided in that policy may be adapted in case of other life threatening allergies such as insect bites, medication reactions and latex allergies.

## Role of the School Nurse

- To collaborate with school personnel, health care professionals, students, and family members in order to develop appropriate management procedures
  - If requested by parents/guardians, an allergen-free table will be available for use during lunch periods
  - Parents/guardians should be notified in advance of any in-class events where food will be present.
  - On field trips, all food for the food-allergic student should be provided by the parents/guardians.
- To utilize the information provided to plan and implement interventions and to provide allergy and anaphylaxis related education and training to pertinent school staff
- To complete an Individualized Health Care Plan or Food Allergy Action Plan. These plans should be accessible to school staff
- To provide for the safety of students by educating and training school staff to assist in routine and emergency care whenever necessary. Training to include how to recognize the signs and symptoms of a severe allergic reaction, how to administer epinephrine or other emergency treatment, and calling 911 as soon as possible when an allergic reaction is suspected

## Role of the Parent

- To inform the school nurse of known allergy prior to the school year or with new diagnosis.
- To return the required medical forms to the School Nurse. Forms must be completed and signed by the healthcare provider in order to administer or self-carry any needed medication.
- To provide a safe alternate snack/treat to be kept in the classroom for their student.
- To work collaboratively with school staff to insure optimal health and safety for your child

## Role of the Student

The long-term goal for individuals with life threatening allergies is to be independent in the prevention and management of their allergies and allergic reactions based on their developmental level.

- Never share or trade food
- Do not eat anything with unknown ingredients or ingredients known to contain an offending allergen
- Wash hands before and after eating
- Notify an adult if suspected allergen exposure

## Attachment

Food Allergy Action Plan  
Insect Sting Reaction Record  
Epi-pen Authorization Form

## Web Links

The Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network  
[www.foodallergy.org](http://www.foodallergy.org)