

BIG HORN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER ONE
Box 688
Cowley Wyoming 82420
POLICIES AND REGULATIONS
FILE: EFA-R

FOOD ALLERGIES

**SCHOOL GUIDELINES FOR
MANAGING STUDENTS WITH FOOD ALLERGIES**

FOOD allergies can be life threatening. The risk of accidental exposure to foods can be reduced in the school setting if schools work with students, parents, and physicians to minimize risks and provide a safe educational environment for food-allergic students.

FAMILY'S RESPONSIBILITY

- Notify the school of the child's allergies.
- Work with the school team to develop a plan that accommodates the child's needs throughout the school including in the classroom, in the cafeteria, in after-care programs, during school-sponsored activities, and on the school bus, as well as a Food Allergy Action Plan.
- Provide written medical documentation, instructions, and medications as directed by a physician, using the Food Allergy Action Plan as a guide. Include a photo of the child on written form.
- Provide properly labeled medications and replace medications after use or upon expiration.
- Educate the child in the self-management of their food allergy including:
 - Safe and unsafe food
 - Strategies for avoiding exposure to unsafe food
 - Symptoms of allergic reactions
 - How and when to tell an adult they may be having a allergy-related problem
 - How to read food labels (age appropriate)
- Review policies/procedures with the school staff, the child's, and the child (if age appropriate) after a reaction has occurred.
- Provide emergency contact information.

SCHOOL'S RESPONSIBILITY

- Be knowledgeable about and follow applicable federal laws including ADA, IDEA, Section 504, and FERPA and any state laws or district policies that apply.
- Review the health records submitted by parents and physicians.
- Include food-allergic students in school activities. Students should not be excluded from school activities solely based on their food allergy.
- Identify a core team of, but not limited to, school nurse, teacher, principal, school food service and nutrition manager/director, and counselor (if available) to work with parents and the student (age appropriate) to establish a prevention plan. Changes to the prevention plan to promote food allergy management should be made with core team participation.
- Assure that all staff who interact with the student on a regular basis understands food allergy, can recognize symptoms, knows what to do in an emergency, and works with other school staff to eliminate the use of food allergens in the allergic student's meals, educational tools, arts and crafts projects, or incentives.
- Practice the Food Allergy Action Plans before an allergic reaction occurs to assure the efficiency/effectiveness of the plans.
- Coordinate with the school nurse to be sure medications are appropriately stored, and be sure that an emergency kit is available that contains a physician's standing order for epinephrine. Ensure medications are kept in an easily accessible secure location central to designated school personnel, not in locked cupboards or drawers. Students should be allowed to carry their own epinephrine, if age appropriated after approval from the student's physician/clinic, parent and school nurse, and allowed by state or local regulations.
- Designate school personnel who are properly trained to administer medications in accordance with the State Nursing and Good Samaritan Laws governing the administration of emergency medications. (Only nurse)
- Review polices/prevention plan with the core team members, parents/guardians, student (age appropriate), and physician after a reaction has occurred.
- Recommend that all buses have communication devices in case of an emergency.

- Discuss field trips with the family of the food-allergic child to decide appropriate strategies for managing the food allergy.
- Follow federal/state/district laws and regulations regarding sharing medical information about the student.

STUDENTS RESPONSIBILITY

- Should not trade food with others.
- Should not eat anything with unknown ingredients or known to contain any allergen.
- Should be proactive in the care and management of their food allergies and reactions based on their developmental level.
- Should notify an adult immediately if they eat something they believe may contain the food to which they are allergic.

Adopted: 9/9/2010

