

Issue Date	May 20, 2020
Revision Date	November 14, 2022
Review Year	2025

Background/Purpose

As per the *Protection of Students with Life-Threatening Allergies Act*, all school boards must establish and maintain an anaphylaxis policy in accordance with the legislation.

Aurora School will minimize the risk to students with severe, life-threatening allergies without depriving the severely allergic student of normal peer interactions or placing unreasonable restrictions on the activities of other students in the school.

Policy Statement:

Student health, well-being, and safety are the priority of Aurora Academic Charter School. This is a shared responsibility among the student, parents, the school, and health care providers.

This policy is designed to ensure that at-risk students are identified, strategies are in place to minimize the potential for accidental exposure, and staff and key volunteers are trained to respond in an emergency.

Definitions:

Allergen: a substance that provokes an allergic response, which may include bee or wasp venom, certain foods, latex and other chemicals.

Injector: a syringe and needle which contain a pre-measured dose of epinephrine or adrenaline and includes EpiPen™ and other pre-loaded auto-injectors.

Severe allergy: a severe allergic reaction or anaphylactic response to an allergen which, if left untreated, can lead to sudden death.

Allergy Aware: The school is not an “allergen-free” environment (ex. nuts, milk, etc.). The risk of exposure is always present. Instead, Aurora School mitigates risk to keep members of our school community safe.

Guidelines

1. Strategies that reduce the risk of exposure to anaphylactic causative agents in classrooms and school common areas include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. The principal shall ask parents who share a classroom or school bus with a student at risk of anaphylaxis to refrain from sending foods

Issue Date	May 20, 2020
Revision Date	November 14, 2022
Review Year	2025

containing the allergen to school.

- b. An adult shall supervise children in grades K-4 while eating. Children in these grades are not to trade or share their food, utensils, or containers. Children in older grades are also discouraged to share their food, utensils, or containers and are given information in order to guide their decision-making.
 - c. If/when parents/guardians provide food for a class on special occasions, they must ensure that the ingredients do not pose a threat to students at risk of anaphylaxis. The teacher will be responsible at the beginning of each year, and when information changes or is updated, for informing the families of the class of the presence of allergies in the class.
 - d. Parents of a student at risk of anaphylaxis shall collaborate with the principal to inform relevant supervisors of the condition.
 - e. The principal will be responsible for relocating or removing insect nests as appropriate.
 - f. Upon enrollment, parents and students are asked to supply information on life-threatening allergies the student may have, if any.
 - g. Each school must maintain a file for every student with an anaphylactic allergy, including any current treatments, copies of any prescriptions, instructions from health professionals and a current emergency contact list.
 - h. Each school must maintain a school-specific risk reduction plan in alignment with this policy.
2. Communication strategies that target the different participants in a school community will help to reduce fear and uncertainty while building capacity to respond to individuals with severe allergies, including but not limited to:
- a. All staff members (certified and non-certified) and bus drivers will be made aware that a child at risk of anaphylaxis is attending school or riding the bus. That child shall be identified before or immediately after registration at the school.
 - b. With the consent of the parent, the principal and the classroom teacher must ensure that the student's classmates and their families are

Issue Date	May 20, 2020
Revision Date	November 14, 2022
Review Year	2025

provided with information on severe allergies in a manner that is appropriate for the age and maturity level of the students and that strategies to reduce teasing and bullying are incorporated in this information.

- c. A general awareness and information package be sent home via newsletter to all parents informing them of allergies in their children's classroom so they can avoid sending foods or other products with those allergens.
3. Staff will receive mandatory regular training on dealing with life-threatening allergies.
 - a. Principals will ensure that all staff receive first aid training to learn how to recognize and respond to the signs of anaphylaxis. Standardized anaphylaxis training should be provided at least once a year, preferably around the start of the school year.
 - b. The entire school population will be educated regarding the seriousness of anaphylaxis and taught how to respond appropriately to an anaphylaxis emergency.
 4. Each school will maintain a minimum of one epinephrine auto-injector.
 5. Staff are pre-authorized to administer or supervise the administration of medication in response to an anaphylactic reaction if:
 - a. The information maintained in the student's file (Guideline 1.i. above) is current; and
 - b. Consent has been given by the parent or the student.
 6. In the event staff are not pre-authorized to do so, staff may administer an epinephrine auto-injector or other medication prescribed to a student for the treatment of an anaphylactic reaction if the staff has reason to believe that the student is experiencing an anaphylactic reaction.

Accountability

Superintendent.

References

Issue Date	May 20, 2020
Revision Date	November 14, 2022
Review Year	2025

Province of Alberta, Protection of Students with Life-Threatening Allergies Act,
Statutes of Alberta, 2019 Chapter P-30.6 AR 6102 - Anaphylaxis/Life Threatening
Allergies