

POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to establish a safe environment for students with severe, potentially life-threatening allergies.

The District will provide the opportunity for students with severe allergies to participate in all school programs and activities through the use of communication, prevention strategies, and emergency preparedness identified in an individual plan.

BACKGROUND

Allergic reactions can span a wide range of severity of symptoms. The most severe and potentially life threatening reaction is anaphylaxis. This policy and procedure is to be used for students who are at risk for anaphylaxis.

PURPOSE

Independent School District 110 (ISD 110) recognizes that students with life-threatening allergies (LTAs) require reasonable accommodations necessary to ensure access to available education and education related benefits. The purpose of this policy is to provide a safe environment for students with severe, potentially life-threatening allergies.

This policy does not attempt to address all types of allergies. Only those allergies which are a potential for anaphylaxis are considered in this policy. ISD 110 cannot guarantee to provide an allergen-free environment for all students with LTAs, or prevent any harm to students in emergencies. The goal is to minimize the risk of exposure to allergens that pose a threat to students with LTAs, prepare for any allergic reactions, and respond appropriately to any allergy emergencies that arise.

Procedures will be established to ensure that the health needs of all students will be met in the least restrictive environment possible. In order to assist students with developing the skills necessary to participate in all educational programs, the district will work with parents and students to allow the student to gradually assume more responsibility for maintaining their safety as they advance from elementary to secondary school. The guidelines established include district-wide emergency plans, implementation of action plans, Individual Health Plans (ICP) if needed and training programs for personnel.

DEFINITIONS

Anaphylaxis is a potentially life-threatening medical condition occurring in allergic individuals after exposure to their specific allergens. Anaphylaxis refers to a collection of symptoms affecting multiple systems in the body, the most dangerous of which are breathing difficulties and a drop in blood pressure or shock, which are potentially fatal.

The following are the most common life-threatening allergens and may cause anaphylaxis:

- Food; (*below eight major food allergens*)
 1. Cow's milk
 2. Eggs
 3. Peanuts
 4. Tree Nuts
 5. Soy
 6. Shellfish
 7. Fish
 8. Wheat
- Animal/insect; (*below four major allergens*)
 1. Yellow Jackets
 2. Bees
 3. Wasps
 4. Hornets
- Substance(s) including medications and latex

Policy Adopted: November 2008

Waconia Public Schools ISD No. 110
Waconia, MN