

# POLICY

## BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Related Entries: Policy JEC

Responsible Office: ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

### STUDENTS WITH ANAPHYLACTIC ALLERGIES

#### A. PURPOSE

To reduce the risk to students with anaphylactic allergies in compliance with § 7-426.1 of the Education Article, *Annotated Code of Maryland*.

#### B. ISSUE

The Board of Education recognizes there are students in Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) whose allergic reactions to certain anaphylactic-causative agents such as foods, insects, etc. could be life threatening and require immediate medical response by using auto-injector epinephrine (Epi-Pen). This policy authorizes appropriate personnel to prepare and respond to anaphylactic challenges, including emergencies.

#### C. POSITION

1. AACPS shall comply with the Maryland State School Health Service Guidelines issued jointly by the Maryland State Department of Education and the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to reduce the risk of exposure to anaphylactic causative agents in classrooms and common areas.
2. School administrators, staff, and the school health professional shall identify those students who attend their schools and are at risk of having an anaphylactic reaction to a known allergen. Appropriate staff members shall be made aware of the student's allergy, and work with the school health professional to ensure they can recognize the symptoms of an anaphylactic reaction, the location of and access to the student's Epi-Pen, whether or not the student is able to self-administer, and receive instruction on the proper procedure to follow in administering the Epi-Pen.
3. The administration of epinephrine to a student who is experiencing an anaphylactic allergic reaction, in consultation with a school health professional, may be necessary to prevent a fatal reaction. Appropriate personnel shall be notified in advance of a student with an anaphylactic allergy and receive training to recognize the symptoms of an allergic reaction and what to do if a reaction occurs, including the injection of an Epi-Pen if the student is not able to self-administer. School principals shall determine who should be prepared to respond

and ensure, in concert with the Central Office and school health professional, that they are trained properly and in accordance with the regulations.

**D. IMPLEMENTATION**

The Superintendent is authorized to develop regulations to implement this policy.

*Policy History:* Adopted 2/2/2011.

*Note previous policy history:* None.