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2025-2026 School Supply of Epinephrine Auto-injectors: Resources for Charter Schools

Each charter school is required under <u>G.S. 115C-375.2A</u> to provide a supply of emergency epinephrine auto-injectors on school property for use by trained school personnel. Compliance reporting is open in May, and the **required** components are addressed through the following questions:

- 1. Were there at least two emergency epinephrine auto-injectors maintained on each campus during the 2025-2026 school year?
- 2. Did at least one person receive training in the use of emergency epinephrine?
- 3. Who provided the required training?
- 4. Does the same person who received training in the use of emergency epinephrine possess a current certification card in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)?
- 5. Was epinephrine administered to any undiagnosed person during this school year? If yes, please indicate the number of times epinephrine was administered.

Action Steps for Charter School Staff NEW to § 115C-375.2A.

- 1. Initial Activities:
 - The principal or designee should contact the local health department related to training needs and prescription needs should be done very early in the school year/planning process.
 - The school principal should designate school personnel to receive training and required annual re-training.
 - The principal shall collaborate with the school nurse/personnel to develop a related Action Plan (procedure) for use of the injector in an emergency.
 - An Action Plan (procedure) should have the following components:
 - Include symptoms response, emergency service calls, parent/physician calls and follow up. A sample is available at: <u>Food Allergy Research and Education (FARE)</u>.
 - Establish a system for reporting auto-injector use and follow-up. A sample form is available at Report of Epi Administration Form.
 - Make decisions on storage location, "secure but unlocked and easily accessible"/expiration date monitoring/replacement process after use or expiration.
 - Assure completion of a cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification course for trained staff
 members and maintenance of training records. Certification courses should be available
 through local chapters of the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, and/or
 local hospitals or medical facilities.
 - Plan for availability for school–sponsored events on school property.
 - Consider creating a school policy as part of a medication policy. A sample is available at Comprehensive Anaphylaxis Policy.
 - Maintain records on training and related items on this list.
- 2. Train designated staff using a local school nurse (Registered Nurse) or a qualified representative of the local health department, as required by statute.
- 3. Acquire the prescription in the approved manner as stated in the legislation. Prescriptions are to be obtained from the local health department for each individual school.

- Consistent with general requirements of the North Carolina Pharmacy Practice Act, it would be appropriate to have either: (a) the individual school's name; or (b) the designated school nurse or other trained person's name on the prescription; or (c) both.
- As required by the North Carolina Pharmacy Practice Act, the epinephrine delivery systems must be appropriately labeled when dispensed to the designated school personnel. If requested when ordering from a 'free product' program, labeling of each individual prescription is possible, and needed.
- 4. When prescriptions are in place, fill through a pharmacy of choice, or a 'free product' program.

Action Steps for Charter Schools with <u>ESTABLISHED</u> Epinephrine Policies/Procedures

- 1. Refer to the above suggested action steps and to the legislation through section 8.23. § 115C-375.2A School Supply of Epinephrine delivery systems, as needed.
- 2. Statute language requires annual training/re-training.
- 3. The principal or designee should contact the local health department related to training needs and prescription needs should be done very early in the school year/planning process.
- 4. The Action Plan (procedure) should be reviewed to ensure completion of current cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification course for trained staff members and maintenance of training records.
- 5. In addition to the resources listed above, the local school system may be a source for sample forms regarding action steps, policy and reporting.
- 6. Epinephrine
 - Please be aware of the expiration dates on the epinephrine delivery system in place and replace them as necessary.
 - The way epinephrine delivery systems are dispensed is as a unit dose and should remain packaged in that manner. The NC Board of Pharmacy <u>FAQ</u> provides additional guidance regarding best practices related to epinephrine in the school setting.
 - Consider completing an annual review of the school implementation process to determine adjustments that might be needed.

School Health Consultants from the NCDHS Division of Public Health are available for assistance related to resources for health care needs in charter schools.

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