

LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PROTOCOL FOR STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

Health Examinations

1. Each student, upon entering school in the State of Rhode Island, must show proof of immunizations in accordance with current rules and regulations set forth by the State, which are updated every year (RI 16-21-1 et seq).
2. Every student who has not been previously enrolled in a public or non-public school in this state shall have a medical history and physical examination completed. In addition, a second general health examination and health clearance will be required upon entry to the seventh (7th) grade. These examinations should be completed in the 12 months preceding the date of school entry, but no later than six (6) months after entry.
3. Said general health examinations shall be a complete, age-appropriate history and physical examination, assessing the health and well-being of the child and evaluating any challenges to the child's success in school and school-related activities.
4. These general health examinations shall be conducted by the student's family physician, a physician's assistant under the physician's supervision, or a certified registered nurse practitioner who may collaborate with the physician.
5. The Lincoln school system may require additional health examinations, health clearances, or screenings, to ensure the mental and physical health of each child to participate in classroom, athletic, or special activities sponsored or conducted by the school.
6. For students suspected or identified as having special health needs, referrals by a certified school nurse-teacher shall be made as specified in the *Regulations of the Board of Regents Governing the Special Education of Students with Disabilities*.

Medication Administration – Ref. RI 16-21-1 et seq

1. Except in case of an emergency, or as otherwise provided in law and school district policy, only certified school nurse-teachers or the child's parents are authorized to dispense medication to students in the schools.
2. Students requiring daily prescription medication during school hours must have a medication release form filled out and signed by the prescribing physician, co-signed by the parent/guardian and returned to the school nurse teacher. Medication must be in the original prescription labeled bottle.

3. Students requiring prescription medication for a short period of time (e.g. antibiotics) during school hours must bring the medication to school in the original prescription labeled bottle. A medication release form, which is in the Health office, or written permission from the parent/guardian must accompany the prescription along with the written order or a fax from the prescribing physician.
4. Elementary students (PreK-5) are not allowed to transport long or short-term medication to school. A parent/guardian or adult must do so. At the secondary level (6-12), a student may transport his/her own medication to school, but must deliver the medication to the school nurse-teacher upon arriving at school. The medication will be counted by the school nurse-teacher and documented and signed by both the student and the school nurse-teacher.
5. At the secondary level, students are required to have an over-the-counter medication release form on file in the Health office in order to receive such medication (e.g., Tylenol, Advil, Tums) during the school day. The school nurse-teacher will administer the medication in the Health office.
6. Inhalers and Epi pens may be self-administered and self carried at all grade levels only if the prescribing physician and parent give their permission in writing to the school nurse-teacher.
7. Relative to field trips at the elementary level, only inhalers and Epi pens can be self carried and self administered per written approval from physician and parent. At the secondary level, students will be allowed to self carry inhalers, Epi pens, and a day's supply of medication during an off-site activity. The secondary school nurse-teacher shall follow procedures to ensure that the student has only one dose of medication, in a properly labeled container.

Approved First Reading: November 20, 2023
Approved Second Reading:
Adopted: