

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY

The online version of this policy is official.
Therefore, all printed versions of this
document are unofficial copies.

Students with Life-Threatening Allergies

Life-threatening allergies (LTAs) present increased challenges in schools. The occurrence of severe allergic reactions has been rising at an alarming rate, especially regarding food. Allergic reactions can result from a variety of causes and can span a wide range of severity of symptoms from mild to life threatening. Symptoms typically occur within minutes to two hours after contact with the allergen, but in rare instances may occur up to four hours later.

One of the more severe and potentially life-threatening reaction is anaphylaxis. Anaphylaxis is a sudden, severe, potentially fatal, systemic allergic reaction that can involve various areas of the body. The most common causes of anaphylaxis in children include allergies to:

- Foods (most commonly peanuts, tree nuts, milk, eggs, soy, wheat, fish, and shellfish)
- Insect stings (yellow jackets, bees, wasps and hornets)
- Medications
- Latex

Students with and without LTAs are protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). The state and district are required to protect any sensitive personally identifiable information from unconsented disclosure. These students may have rights under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) to receive specialized or general instruction, health and other related services, and accommodations that help them remain in school and not be retained in grade.

Clarksville-Montgomery County School System cannot guarantee to provide an allergen-free environment for all students with LTAs or prevent any harm to students in emergencies. Recognizing that the risk of accidental exposure to allergens can be reduced in the school setting, the district is committed to:

1. Working cooperatively with students (when developmentally appropriate), parents/guardians, and physicians to minimize the risk of exposure to allergens that pose a threat to students
2. Educate all members of the school community
3. Maintain and regularly update a systemwide protocol for responding to students with LTAs needs, and
4. Plan for the individual needs of students with LTAs.

While the medical and health-related needs are unique for each child, the intention of this policy is to establish a set of consistent, systemic practices within Clarksville-Montgomery County School System. The district will define a formal process for identifying and managing care for students with LTAs, particularly students with food allergies, in classrooms and programs including but not limited to food service/cafeteria, school buses, field trips and before and after school activities funded by the district. This process shall be outlined in the *Life-Threatening Allergy Protocol (HEA-G012)*.

File Maintenance

- Individualized Health Plan–Student Cumulative File; Student’s Electronic Medical Record

Associated Documents: INS-A067 - Section 504 Administrative Policy

INS-A016 – Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying

[HEA-A013](#) – Individualized Healthcare Plan (IHP) Guidelines

[HEA-A007](#) – Emergency Medication Administration

HEA-F038 – Life-Threatening Allergy Individual Health Care Plan

HEA-F038_Packet – Life-Threatening Allergy Individual Health Care Plan

HEA-F094 – Medication Administration Skills Checklist

HEA-F097 – Emergency Medication on School Buses

[HEA-G010](#) – School Nurse Monthly Responsibilities

HEA-G012 – Life-Threatening Allergy Protocol

HEA-P011 – First Aid and Emergency Procedures

OSM-F067 - Allergy Injections Agreement

STS-A002 - Student Attendance

T.C.A. §49-50-1602(f)

Guidelines for Use of Health Care Professionals and Health Care Procedures in a School Setting (Tennessee Department of Education and Tennessee Department of Health, 2019)

Revision History:

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Rev.</u>	<u>Description of Revision:</u>
3/1/21	IR	Initial Release

*****End of Policy*****