



Department of Health Recognized Epinephrine Auto-injector Programs for School Personnel

Act 195 of 2014 allows school entities (school districts, intermediate units, charter schools, cyber charter schools and area vocational-technical schools) to train school employees in the recognition of anaphylaxis and administration of epinephrine auto-injectors to students with known allergies and those believed in good faith to be having an anaphylactic reaction.

This document consists of Epinephrine Auto-injector Administration Programs that have been reviewed and approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Health for use by school employees. Valid Instructor cards representing any of the specifically approved courses are also acceptable.

Approved programs can be in the form of in-person instruction or any form of “distributive education” such as video, DVD, CD-ROM, magazine, on-line, etc., but must include the following:

Overview of food allergies and anaphylaxis; signs and symptoms; activation of EMS (9-1-1); how to react and epinephrine auto-injector administration.

Practical/Psychomotor hands-on skills evaluation/examination administered by a current, appropriate instructor representing the approved program. (Some courses may require the instructor to be certified.)

Final Written/Cognitive Examination may be required for First Aid courses.

All approved programs must provide a course completion card and/or certificate indicating the specific course title and date of completion, to each individual candidate successfully completing the program.

Following the training, school personnel must follow-up with the school nurse or supplemental staff nurse for review of:

School policies/procedures; documentation; storage and maintenance of devices; notification of EMS and school nurse/administration; location of stock devices (if applicable); and individual student Emergency Care Plans.

Return demonstration of all appropriate devices (if not included as part of approved training).

Vendors seeking recognition for specific courses must request a review on letterhead and submit a copy of the materials utilized within their program to the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Division of School Health, Room 628, 625 Forster Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.

The following trainings are currently approved:

Provider- First Aid Courses	Course Name	Recommended Renewal
American Academy of Pediatrics and National Association of School Nurses	Pediatric First Aid for Caregivers and Teachers (PedFACTs)	2 years
American Heart Association	Heartsaver First Aid	2 years
American Red Cross	First Aid Course, must include the Anaphylaxis & Epinephrine Auto-Injector Course (HSSSFA504)	2 years
Emergency Care & Safety Institute (ECSI)	First Aid	2 years
EMS Safety Services	Safety Basic	2 years
National Safety Council (NSC)	First Aid; First Aid, CPR & AED; Advanced First Aid, CPR & AED	2 years
SafeSchools Training	First Aid	2 years

Provider- Epinephrine Only Module	Course Name	Recommended Renewal
American Red Cross	Anaphylaxis & epinephrine Auto-Injector Online Course (HSSSFA504)	2 years
Food Allergy Research & Education	How to C.A.R.E. for Students with Food Allergies	TBD
National Association of School Nurses	Saving Lives at School (Train the Trainer program for school nurses)	2 years
National Association of School Nurses	Get Trained (for school staff)	2 years
SafeSchools Training	Life Threatening Allergies & Medication and Administration: Epinephrine Autoinjectors	2 years