

Old Capitol Building
PO Box 47200
Olympia, WA 98504-7200

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Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
Chris Reykdal, Superintendent

August 28, 2025

(X) Action Item

BULLETIN NO. 043-25 STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND SUPPORT

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents
School District Superintendents
School District Health Services

FROM: Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: HB 1709 – Care of Students with Adrenal Insufficiency

CONTACT: Annie Hetzel, MSN, RN, NCSN – School Health Services Consultant
360-725-6049, annie.hetzel@k12.wa.us

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND

In 2025, the legislature passed [SHB 1709](#), adding a new section legislature passed SHB 1709, adding a new section to [RCW 28A.210](#) and authorizing Parent Designated Adults (PDAs) to provide care for students with adrenal insufficiency (AI) in schools and authorizing Parent Designated Adults (PDAs) to provide care for students with adrenal insufficiency (AI) in schools. The law makes provisions for liability protections for school districts, district employees, agents, or PDAs who act in good faith and in compliance with student individual health plans.

SHB 1709 requires school districts to:

- Adopt policies governing the care of students with adrenal insufficiency. These policies may be incorporated into existing policies for students with health conditions or those concerning PDAs.
- Provide individual health plans (IHPs) and emergency care plans (ECPs) for students with adrenal insufficiency; distribute these to appropriate staff based on student needs and staff level of contact with the student. IHPs must be updated annually.
- Obtain parent requests and instructions.
- Obtain orders from licensed health professionals prescribing within their scope of authority for monitoring and treatment of adrenal insufficiency at school.
- Provide storage of medical equipment and medication provided by parent or guardian.
- Provide exceptions to school policies necessary to accommodate the needs of students with adrenal insufficiency per the individual health plan.

- Have on file legal documents required for PDAs to provide care.

The administration of medication must comply with [RCW 28A.210.260](#) (Public and private schools—Administration of medication—Conditions.)

Parents of a child with AI who assign a PDA to care for their child will provide authorization for procedures consistent with the IHP.

Parent Designated Adult

"Parent-designated adult" means an adult who:

- May be an employee of the district.
- Is authorized by the parents of a child with adrenal insufficiency to provide care for the child consistent with the child's individual health plan;
- Volunteers for the designation;
- Receives additional training selected by the parents; and
- Provides care for the child consistent with the child's individual health plan.

PDAs must:

- Complete training in proper procedures selected by the child's parent or guardian to care for the child, including administration of emergency injections consistent with IHP. Training may be provided by an organization that offers training for staff or caretakers of children with AI.
- District employees who volunteer file a voluntary written, current, and unexpired letter of intent stating their willingness to be a PDA without coercion from employer.

Resources

The law does not make provisions for a model policy, guidance, or resources from Washington state agencies. School districts should consult legal counsel if considering implementing the use of PDAs for care of students with adrenal insufficiency.

Some existing resources that may be helpful include the following*:

- [SHB 1709 session Law](#), effective date July 27, 2025
- Registered Nurse Delegation in School Settings: Kindergarten–Twelve (K-12) Grades, Public and Private Schools [NCQAC Advisory Opinion NCAO 15.01](#)
- [Guidelines for Medication Administration in Schools](#)
- [Adrenal Insufficiency Toolkit for School Nurses - Oregon School Nurses Association](#)
- [SKILLS CHECKLIST SOLU-CORTEF INJECTION.docx](#)
- [Pediatric Adrenal Insufficiency - National Adrenal Diseases Foundation](#)
- [Videos - National Adrenal Diseases Foundation](#)

*OSPI provides these resources for information only and does not endorse or mandate any materials included. School districts must be aware of differences in Nurse Practice Acts and laws governing care of students in schools in Washington state compared to external state and national resources and references.

INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

For questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Annie Hetzel, MSN, RN, NCSN – School Health Services Consultant, at 360-529-7663 or email annie.hetzel@k12.wa.us. The OSPI [Telecommunication Relay Services](#) number is 711 or 1-800-833-6384.

This bulletin is also available on the [Bulletins](#) page of the OSPI website.

Susan Lathrop
Interim Chief Education Officer

Anna Marie Dufault
Assistant Superintendent
Student Engagement and Support

Dixie Grunenfelder
Executive Director
Student Engagement and Support

CR: -mmh

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