

SEVERE FOOD ALLERGIES POLICY

In accord with RI Public Law, Chapter 08-086, the Chariho Regional School District adopts the Severe Food Allergies Policy to (1) provide a safe and healthy learning environment for students with food allergies, (2) reduce the likelihood of life-threatening allergic reactions, and (3) protect the rights of food allergic students to participate in all school activities.

The school nurse teacher shall develop an Individual Health Care Plan (IHCP) and an Emergency Health Care Plan (EHCP) for students identified as having severe food allergies. The plan shall be developed in consultation with (1) the student's health care provider, (2) parents/guardians of the student, and (3) the student, if appropriate. The plan shall be developed immediately upon notification, to include medical documentation, to the school nurse teacher and shall be shared with all appropriate staff, including food service and transportation providers. Upon identification of a student with any severe food allergy, a sign shall be prominently posted at the school's main entrance, office, and cafeteria, advising that there are students with allergies to identified foods, such as but not limited to, peanuts, fish, etc.

The IHCP shall include:

- Medical documentation as provided by the student's health care provider,
- Nursing assessment, intervention, and goals,
- List of staff members and service providers requiring notification, and
- Emergency protocol, which will include the identification of a person other than the school nurse teacher who has been trained to respond and is subject to the Good Samaritan provisions.

Depending on the nature and extent of the student's allergy, the IHCP may include, but is not limited to:

- Posting of additional signs,
- Prohibiting the sale and/or consumption of particular food items in the cafeteria or in particular classrooms,
- Designating special tables in the cafeteria,
- Educating and training of school personnel, students, and others about food allergies and medical emergencies, and/or
- Implementing particular cleaning and personal hygiene protocols.

Pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, the Rules and Regulations for School Health Programs, and other statutes and regulations, the confidentiality of students with food allergies shall be maintained to the extent appropriate and as requested by the student's parents/guardians.

The school physician shall prepare and update standing orders related to anaphylaxis on an annual basis, including written emergency protocols.

The IHCP will be reviewed annually or after any severe allergic reaction occurs at school or at a school-sponsored activity.

Adopted 10-14-08