

School Interventions for Students with Diabetes

This informational page outlines the actions taken by the MCPS health services department. Please see the [CHECKLIST FOR PARENTS OF STUDENTS WITH DIABETES](#) to help understand *parent's responsibilities*.

Parent Communication

The school nurse:

- Contacts parents of students who require care and/or supervision of self-care prior to the start of the school year.
 - It is helpful if your child had a recent health care provider appointment and has a new DMMP.
 - If you will be unavailable until the first day of school, please leave the school nurse a message (406-728-2400 ex 10730 and have the updated DMMP faxed (406-329-5988).
- Will discuss "Section 504 Plans" with you upon initial knowledge of student having diabetes.
- Contacts you prior to annual 504 meetings for updates, concerns, goals, etc.
- Assists with developing 504 plans and adjusting as the student matures.
- Will ask you to sign an Authorization for the Release of Information form so that care provided is safe and well understood and that accommodations are appropriate.

Staff Communication and Training:

The school nurse:

- Enters a "health alert" in the school computer system. This informs and reminds assigned teachers a student on their roster has diabetes. Nurses add short individual notes as needed.
- Provides assigned classroom teachers written information that lists the symptoms of and actions to take for hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia.
- Directs the teacher to provide that written information to substitute teachers.
- Provides teachers links to American Diabetes Association *SAFE AT SCHOOL* videos for additional information.
- Provides written information to Beach Transportation Company at the start of the school year. This information lists the symptoms of and actions to take for hypoglycemia. This is *not* done if you have previously indicated that your child does not use school transportation.
- Provides in- person general diabetes instruction to teachers for specific students as needed. This is more common for younger and less independent students in PreK-5.
- Encourages in- person general diabetes instruction for middle and high school staff.
- Trains volunteer staff on glucagon administration when requested by parent.

Care and Supervision

The school nurse:

- Is available to help students with problem solving as needed. In the PreK-8 grade schools, Willard and Seeley Swan, nurses travel between schools to see students for scheduled visits but are available by phone. Sentinel, Big Sky and Hellgate nurses or health assistants are usually available in the health office.

- Advocates for students to check their blood glucose level and take insulin in the location that works best for them.
- Assists with storing additional supplies provided by parents.
- Administers glucagon if supplied by parent, an order is present and if needed. See above for staff training.
- Assists students with carbohydrate counting as needed using district information and other common resources.
- Provides direct care or supervision of student care for non-independent students. This includes common diabetes tasks such as blood glucose checks and administering insulin per pump or injections.
- Delegates staff to provide care or supervision of student care for non-independent students. Nursing delegation is on a case by case and on an as needed basis following the [Montana State Board of Nursing Delegation Rules](#).
- Develops health plans based on the student's DMMP (medical orders), standards of practice and input from student and parent.