

Northgate School District

Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Copy of Food Allergy Management
Code	209.1
Status	Second Reading
Adopted	September 17, 2012
Last Revised	October 21, 2019

Purpose

The Board is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for students with severe or life-threatening food allergies and shall establish policy to address food allergy management in district schools in order to:

1. Reduce and/or eliminate the likelihood of severe or potentially life-threatening allergic reactions.
2. Ensure a rapid and effective response in the case of a severe or potentially life-threatening allergic reaction.
3. Protect the rights of students by providing them, through necessary accommodations when required, the opportunity to participate fully in all school programs and activities, including classroom parties and field trips.

The focus of food allergy management shall be on prevention, education, awareness, communication and emergency response.

Authority

The Board adopts this policy in accordance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations, and the guidelines established jointly by the PA Department of Education and PA Department of Health on managing severe or life-threatening food allergies in the schools.[\[1\]](#)

Definitions

Food allergy - an abnormal, adverse reaction to a food that is triggered by the body's immune system.

Medical Plans of Care - written documents individualized for a particular student with a severe or life-threatening food allergy to address the student's needs throughout the school day, including:

1. **Emergency Care Plan (ECP)** - a medical plan of care based on the information provided in the student's Individualized Healthcare Plan (IHP) and distributed to all school personnel who have responsibilities for the student which specifically describes how to recognize a food allergy emergency and what to do when signs or symptoms of these conditions are observed.
2. **Individualized Healthcare Plan (IHP)** - a medical plan of care that provides written directions for school health personnel to follow in meeting the individual student's healthcare needs. The plan describes functional problem areas, sets goals for overcoming problems, and lists

tasks/interventions to meet the goals. The IHP shall include a Food Allergy Medical Management Plan developed by a student's personal healthcare team and family, which shall outline the student's prescribed healthcare regimen and be signed by the student's board-certified allergist, family physician, physician assistant or certified registered nurse practitioner.

3. **Related Services Component in Individualized Education Program (IEP)** - that part of an IEP for a student receiving special education and related services which includes reference to development and implementation of an IHP and ECP for students with a documented severe or life-threatening food allergy as well as identifying the medical accommodations, educational aids and services to address the student's needs.[2]
4. **Section 504 Service Agreement** - a medical plan of care which references development and implementation of an IHP and ECP as well as other accommodations, educational aids and services a student with a documented severe or life-threatening food allergy requires in order to have equal access to educational programs, nonacademic services and extracurricular activities as students without food allergies.[3]

Guidelines

Prior to enrollment in the district or immediately after diagnosis of a food allergy, appropriate medical plans of care such as an ECP, IHP, Section 504 Service Agreement and/or IEP shall be developed for each student identified with a food allergy. Plans shall be developed by the school nurse, in collaboration with the student's healthcare provider, the student's parents/guardians, district or school nutrition staff, the student, if appropriate, and any other appropriate persons.

Where a medical plan of care is developed, it should carefully describe the plan for coverage and care of a student during the school day as well as during school-sponsored activities which take place while the student is under school jurisdiction during or outside of school hours. Medical plans of care shall include a component which provides information to the school nutrition service regarding each student with documented severe or life-threatening food allergies.

Medical plans of care should include both preventative measures to help avoid accidental exposure to allergens and emergency measures in case of exposure, including administration of emergency medication.[4][5]

A complete set of a student's current medical plans of care related to food allergies shall be maintained by the school nurse. Information or copies of the different components of a student's medical plans of care shall be provided to appropriate personnel who may be involved in implementation of the medical plans of care.

Outside food may only be brought into the schools by school employees or approved adults with prior approval. School staff **providing food in their classrooms as part of a lesson or as a snack** must obtain prior administrative approval by following the district procedures. **Approved adults, such as the building PTO's, booster organizations and community partners, can apply to bring in food for consumption during the school day or during afterschool activities** using the district form for administrative approval. This form must be submitted at least 2 weeks prior to the event and is subject to administrative approval.

Accommodating Students With Disabling Special Dietary Needs

Students with food allergies may be identified, evaluated and determined to be disabled, in which case the district shall make appropriate accommodations, substitutions or modifications in accordance with the student's medical plans of care.[2][3]

The district must provide reasonable accommodations, substitutions or modifications for students with disabling dietary needs. The student's physician shall determine and document if the student has a disabling dietary need. Examples of a disability under this policy would include metabolic conditions (e.g., diabetes), severe food allergies or cerebral palsy.

Students who fall under this provision must have a written medical statement signed by a licensed physician, which shall be included with the student's IHP. The medical statement must identify: [6]

1. The student's special dietary disability.
2. An explanation of why the disability restricts the student's diet.
3. The major life activity(ies) affected by the disability.
4. The food(s) to be omitted from the student's diet.
5. The food or choice of foods that must be provided as the substitute.

Accommodating Students With Nondisabling Special Dietary Needs

The district may, at its discretion, make appropriate accommodations, substitutions or modifications for students who have a special dietary need but who do not meet the definition of disability, such as a food intolerance or allergy that does not cause a reaction that meets the definition of a disability. The decision to accommodate such a student shall be made on a case-by-case basis.

Students who fall under this provision must have a written medical statement signed by a physician, physician assistant or certified registered nurse practitioner identifying the following:

1. The medical or other special dietary condition which restricts the student's diet.
2. The food(s) to be omitted from the student's diet.
3. The food or choice of foods to be substituted.

Confidentiality

The district shall maintain the confidentiality of students with food allergies, to the extent appropriate and as requested by the student's parents/guardians. District staff shall maintain the confidentiality of student records as required by law, regulations and Board policy.[7][8][9]

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee, in coordination with the school nurse, school nutrition services staff, and other pertinent staff, shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy or adopt as administrative regulations the suggested guidelines developed by the Pennsylvania Departments of Education and Health and National School Boards Association (NSBA) guidance on managing severe or life-threatening food allergies in district schools, including all classrooms and instructional areas, school cafeterias, outdoor activity areas, on school buses, during field trips, and during school activities held before the school day and after the school day.[10][11][12][13]

Administrative regulations should address the following components:

1. Identification of students with food allergies and provision of school health services.[14]
2. Development and implementation of individual written management plans.
3. Medication protocols, including methods of storage, access and administration.[4][5]
4. Development of a comprehensive and coordinated approach to creating a healthy school environment.[11]
5. Communication and confidentiality.[7][8][9]
6. Emergency response.[15]

7. Professional development and training for school personnel.

8. Awareness education for students.

9. Awareness education and resources for parents/guardians.

10. Monitoring and evaluation.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians, staff and the public about the district's food allergy management policy by publishing such in handbooks and newsletters, on the district's website, and through posted notices and other efficient methods.

Legal

[1. 24 P.S. 1422.3](#)

2. Pol. 113

3. Pol. 103.1

4. Pol. 210

5. Pol. 210.1

[6. 7 CFR 15b.40](#)

7. Pol. 113.4

8. Pol. 209

9. Pol. 216

10. Pol. 121

11. Pol. 246

12. Pol. 808

13. Pol. 810

14. Pol. 146

15. Pol. 805

[24 P.S. 1422.1](#)

[22 PA Code 12.41](#)

[20 U.S.C. 1232g](#)

[20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq](#)

[29 U.S.C. 794](#)

[42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq](#)

[7 CFR Part 15](#)

[28 CFR Part 35](#)

[34 CFR Part 99](#)

[34 CFR Part 104](#)

[34 CFR Part 300](#)

Pol. 103

Safe at Schools and Ready to Learn: A Comprehensive Policy Guide for Protecting Students with Life-Threatening Food Allergies – National School Boards Association

Pennsylvania Guidelines for Management of Food Allergies in Schools: Recommendations and Resource Guide for School Personnel – Pennsylvania Departments of Education and Health

Northgate School District

Book	Policy Manual
Section	600 Finances
Title	Copy of Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation
Code	610
Status	First Reading
Adopted	September 15, 2008
Last Revised	June 20, 2022
Prior Revised Dates	01/20/2014

Authority

It is the policy of the Board to obtain competitive bids and price quotations for products and services where such bids or quotations are required by law or may result in monetary savings to the school district.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

Guidelines

The amounts contained in this policy regarding competitive bid and price quotation requirements are subject to adjustments based on the Consumer Price Index.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)

Competitive Bids

When seeking competitive bids, the Board shall advertise once a week for three (3) weeks in not less than two (2) newspapers of general circulation.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

After due public notice advertising for competitive bids, the Board shall be authorized to:

1. Purchase furniture, equipment, school supplies and appliances costing a base amount of \$**22,500** or more, unless exempt by law.[\[2\]](#)
2. Contract for construction, reconstruction, repairs, maintenance or work on any school building or property having a total cost or value of more than \$**22,500**, unless exempt by law.[\[1\]](#)

The Board prohibits the practice of splitting purchases to avoid advertising and bidding requirements.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

With kind, quality and material being equal, the bid of the lowest responsible bidder meeting bid specifications shall be accepted upon resolution of the Board, unless the Board chooses to reject all bids.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

The Board recognizes that emergencies may occur when imminent danger exists to persons or property or continuance of existing school classes is threatened, and time for bidding cannot be provided because

of the need for immediate action. Bidding decisions in the event of such emergencies shall be made in accordance with existing legal requirements.[1]

Electronic Bidding

The Board shall receive bids electronically for competitive contracts, except for construction and design services, in compliance with applicable laws and Board policy.[4][5]

The district shall electronically maintain the confidentiality of the bid until the bid opening.[5]

Competitive Electronic Auction Bidding

The Board shall adopt a resolution approving the use of competitive electronic auction bidding for contracts for supplies or services, but not for construction or design services.[4][6]

An invitation for bids shall be issued and shall include:[6]

1. Procurement description.
2. All contractual terms, when practical.
3. Conditions applicable to procurement, including a notice that bids will be received in an electronic auction manner.

Public notice and advertisement of the invitation for bids shall be given in the manner required for non-electronic bidding.

Bids shall be accepted electronically at the time and in the manner designated in the invitation for bids.

During the auction, bidders shall be able to review their bid rank or the low bid price, and may reduce their bid prices during the auction.

At the conclusion of the auction, the record of the bid prices received and the name of each bidder shall be open to public inspection.

After the auction period has expired, the district shall grant in writing withdrawal of a bid when the bidder requests relief and presents credible evidence of a clerical mistake due to reasons permitted by law, within the time period established by the district.

The contract shall be awarded within sixty (60) days of the auction by written notice to the lowest responsible bidder, or all bids may be rejected. Extensions of the award date may be made by written, mutual consent of both parties.

Price Quotations

Unless exempt by law, at least three (3) written or telephonic price quotations shall be requested by the Board for:[1][2]

1. Furniture, equipment, school supplies and appliances costing a base amount of more than **\$12,200** but less than **\$22,500**. [2]
2. All contracts for construction, reconstruction, repairs, maintenance or work on any school building or property, having a total cost or value of more than **\$12,200** but less than **\$22,500**. [1]

If it is not possible to obtain three (3) quotations, a memorandum must be kept on file showing that fewer than three (3) qualified vendors exist in the market area. The written price quotations, written records of telephonic price quotations and memoranda shall be kept on file for three (3) years.

Work Performed by District Maintenance Personnel

The Board may authorize district maintenance personnel to perform construction, reconstruction, repairs or work having a total cost or value of less than \$**12,200**.[\[1\]](#)

Delegation of Responsibility

The Board may grant the Board Secretary or Purchasing Agent the authority to purchase supplies and award contracts in the amount and manner designated by applicable law.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

Legal

1. [24 P.S. 751](#)
2. [24 P.S. 807.1](#)
3. [24 P.S. 120](#)
4. [62 Pa. C.S.A. 4602](#)
5. [62 Pa. C.S.A. 4603](#)
6. [62 Pa. C.S.A. 4604](#)
- [62 Pa. C.S.A. 4601 et seq](#)

Northgate School District

Book	Policy Manual
Section	600 Finances
Title	Copy of Purchases Budgeted
Code	611
Status	First Reading
Adopted	September 15, 2008
Last Revised	June 20, 2022
Prior Revised Dates	01/20/2014

Authority

It is the policy of the Board that when funds are available all purchases contemplated within the current budget and not subject to bid shall be made in a manner that ensures the best interests of the district.

[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

Delegation of Responsibility

All purchases that are within budgetary limits may be made upon authorization of the Business Manager, and/or Superintendent, unless the contemplated purchase is for more than \$**22,500**, in which case prior approval by the Board is required.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)

All purchase order requests must be referred to the Purchasing Agent, department head, building principal, and business manager who shall check whether the proposed purchase is subject to bid; whether sufficient funds exist in the budget; and whether the material might be available elsewhere in the district.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)

Legal	1. 24 P.S. 751
	2. 24 P.S. 807.1
	3. 24 P.S. 609
	24 P.S. 508