



For Students with Asthma

Asthma is the most common chronic illness of childhood. Chicago has an especially high number of children with asthma, and children in some Chicago neighborhoods suffer more than others. All students, including those with asthma, should feel safe and supported at school.



Please use the forms in this packet to tell your school about your child's asthma. The school nurse or clerk may have additional forms to complete. Health forms must be updated each school year. They are reviewed by the school nurse and relevant CPS staff and kept on file for use during the school year.

The following must be turned in each school year:

- **Asthma Action Plan** — signed by a medical provider.
- **Request for Administration or Self-Administration of Medication**
- **Student's Medication** — Must be in original pharmacy container with pharmacy label.

If your child has a chronic health condition, follow these four steps:

Annual Chronic Condition Reporting & Verification Process

- 1 Complete the necessary forms.**
Access forms at cps.edu/medicalforms.
- 2 Have your medical provider complete and sign the forms.**
For assistance with accessing or using medical benefits, please contact us at 773-553-KIDS or visit cps.edu/cfbu.
- 3 Bring the signed forms and the student's medication (with prescription labels) to your school for review by the school nurse.**
- 4 Contact your school nurse to set up a 504 plan.**
A 504 Plan is a legal document that ensures that the student is safe and supported at school.

- Any student with asthma, food allergies, diabetes, or any other chronic condition can have a Section 504 Plan so they are supported during the school day.
- A 504 Plan provides the needed changes the school must make to help your child succeed in school.
- For more information, contact the Office of Student Health and Wellness at cps.edu/oshw or 773-553-KIDS (5437).



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Frequently Asked Questions About Asthma Care at School

Why is it important to tell the school about my child's asthma?

- Your child's asthma may flare up at school. Knowing their medical history helps staff know what to do if there is an emergency during the school day.
- The information lets the school know what medicine your child may need, so staff can be ready to help if necessary.

Are school staff able to help a student manage their asthma?

Yes. School staff complete a training every year on asthma awareness, including how to recognize and handle asthma emergencies.

Can a student self-manage their asthma?

Yes. CPS students are allowed to carry and use their own "quick-relief" or "rescue" asthma medicine if written parent permission and a prescription label and medication is provided to the school.

What is the school's asthma emergency response?

- In the event a student is experiencing respiratory distress and does not have an Asthma Action Plan/504/IEP, or has an Asthma Action Plan/504/IEP but for whatever reason does not have access to their inhaler, the stock inhaler will be administered. Albuterol in the form of an HFA inhaler is stocked at ALL CPS and Charter schools.
- If the medication is not working, 911 will be called. Parents will be called after 911.

What if a student has an asthma attack but has no plan on file?

The school will follow CPS's stock inhaler protocol in the event a student without an Asthma Action Plan has an asthma attack. If symptoms do not resolve, 911 will be called. Parents will always be notified if their student is treated with the stock inhaler and/or if 911 is called.

Does the student need a Section 504 Plan?

- A Section 504 Plan must be offered. Speak to your child's school nurse and medical provider to know what is needed.
- A 504 Plan does not mean the student has a disability. The 504 Plan will outline any needed changes a school must make so your student is safe at school.

I would like more information about asthma care in school:

- Read the CPS Asthma Policy at cps.edu/sites/cps-policy-rules/policies/700/704/704-12/.
- Visit the Office of Student Health and Wellness website at cps.edu/oshw.
- Talk to your child's school nurse.
- Contact the Office of Student Health and Wellness at oshw@cps.edu.