

Mississinewa Community Schools

Life-Threatening Food Allergies Management Plan

Mississinewa Community Schools (MCS) is committed to the safety and health of all students and employees. MCS understands the increasing prevalence of Life-Threatening Allergies (LTA) among school populations. While MCS cannot guarantee an allergen-free environment for students with life-threatening allergies, the district will work diligently with parents, students and physicians, to minimize exposure through ingestion of the allergen, will prepare for allergic reactions through education, and will respond quickly to an emergency that may arise despite precautions.

The goals for allergy management include:

- To define a formal process for identifying, managing, and ensuring continuity of care for students with life-threatening allergies across all transitions (PreK-12).
- To maintain the health and protect the safety of children who have life-threatening allergies in ways that are developmentally appropriate, promote self-advocacy and competence in self-care and provide appropriate educational opportunities.
- To ensure that interventions and individual health care plans for students with life-threatening allergies are based on medically accurate information and evidence-based practices.

I. Management

1. Upon notification by a parent/ legal guardian (hereafter, parent) that a student with a LTA will be attending MCS, the school nurse will send the parent the following documents:
 - a. Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Emergency Care Plan (this must be signed by the physician and must specify the exact food allergen and full treatment for exposure)
 - b. MCS Health Services Medical Information Sheet
 - c. MCS Health Services Medication Administration Form

Due to online registration it is essential for parents/ guardians to initiate 1:1 contact with the school nurse regarding LTA's.

Upon receipt of the above completed documents, the School Nurse shall notify the Director of Child Nutrition of the diet restriction and shall send a copy of the documents to the Director of Child Nutrition, who will then add the student's LTA to the school's Point Of Sale system and notify the school's cafeteria manager.

2. MCS recognizes the need to help the allergic child avoid foods to which the child is allergic and establish emergency procedures to treat allergic reactions that may occur. In some cases, a student's disability may prevent him/her from eating meals prepared for the schools general population.

- a. Substitutions to the regular meal will be made for students who are unable to eat school meals because of their disabilities, when that need is certified in writing by a physician. Meal service shall be provided in the most integrated setting appropriate to the needs of the disabled student. Parents shall provide the student's meals until they have met with the School Nurse and Director of Child Nutrition to make a meal plan restricting the allergen(s).
 - b. The nature of the student's disability, the reason the disability prevents the student from eating the regular school meals, including foods omitted from the student's diet, indication of the major life activity affected by the disability, the specific diet prescription along with the substitution(s) needed will be specifically described in a statement signed by a licensed physician. The district, in compliance with the USDA Child Nutrition Division guidelines, will provide substitute meals to food-allergic students based upon the physician's signed statement.
3. An Individualized Emergency Care Plan (ECP) shall be developed and implemented for students that are identified with food allergies. In addition, the district recognizes that students with documented life-threatening food allergies may be considered disabled and eligible for coverage under The Disabilities Act and Public Law 93-112 and Section 504 of The Rehabilitation Act of 1973. A clearly-defined "504 Accommodation Plan" shall be developed and implemented for all such identified students if it has been properly demonstrated that the child's impairment is such that it substantially limits one or more major life activities, (i.e., the disability must significantly affect major life function) and necessary accommodations must be made to ensure full participation of identified student activities. Such plan shall be signed by the appropriate staff, the parent of the student and the student's physician.
4. The ECP shall serve as the emergency action plan at school, and shall be given to school staff as deemed appropriate by the school nurse, for the safety of the student during the school day. The nurse and/or Director of Child Nutrition shall develop appropriate education for the training of teachers, instructional assistants, cafeteria staff, office staff, custodial staff, transportation staff and other staff who may be in contact with the student during the course of the school day. Annual instruction may include:
 - a. Methods to reduce exposure through ingestion
 - b. Recognition and prompt treatment of the student's allergic response
 - c. Demonstration and successful performance of epinephrine administration

5. The ECP with associated medications and actions shall be updated annually. Parents are responsible for notifying the school in the event of changes or updates to their student's allergies. Diet restrictions may be removed or altered only with written orders from the provider.

Life-Threatening Food Allergy Plan updated, reviewed and approved: February 2017

Superintendent: _____ Date: _____

Assistant Superintendent: _____ Date: _____

Director of Child Nutrition: _____ Date: _____

School Nurse: _____ Date: _____

School Board Member: _____ Date: _____

Addendum/ Changes to LTA Management Plan

Date: _____ Initials: _____

Date: _____ Initials: _____