

School Health

NEWS

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Kentucky Department of Education

Modifications to Accommodate Disabilities in School Meal Programs

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has issued updated guidance on accommodating disabilities in school meal programs. There are several notable changes since the guidance released in fall of 2001.

These changes would require changes or alterations in district policies, practices and procedures to accommodate the expanded definition of a disability.

Suggested steps for implementation and compliance:

1. Review the new guidance and requirements making necessary amendments to procedures for parents/guardians to request reasonable mod-



- ifications and notifications of their procedural rights.
2. Train school and food service staff on reasonable modification procedures and legal requirements.

3. Appoint the 504 Coordinator to ensure compliance.

4. Assemble a team to implement guidelines and render decisions on modification requests. (team should include: 504 coordinator, child nutrition director, school administrator, school nurse, possibly special education coordinator)

USDA Policy Memos/Guidance can be found on the Division of School and Community Nutri-

tion's [Guidance and Resources webpage](#).

Seizure Training Program currently under development

The Kentucky Department of Education is currently working with the Epilepsy Foundation of Kentuckiana on the development of a training plan for school staff that meets the requirements of [HB 147](#). Pursuant to the bill, all principals, guidance counselors and teachers must complete one hour of self-study of seizure disorder materials no later than July 1, 2019. At least one (1) hour of self-study review of seizure disorder materials shall be required for all principals, guidance counselors and teachers hired after July 1, 2019.

HB 147 amended KRS 158.838 as follows:

- Students with a seizure disorder diagnosis shall have a seizure action plan on file in the school nurse's office or school administrator's office.
- A "seizure action plan" means a written, individualized health plan designed to acknowledge and prepare for the health care needs of a student diagnosed with a seizure disorder that is prepared by the student's treating physician.
- Requires public school districts to have at least one school employee on duty at each school to administer "a seizure rescue medication or medication prescribed to treat seizure disorder symptoms approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)." (Note: Midazolam (intranasal Versed) is not approved by the FDA for the treatment of seizures and may not be delegated to unlicensed school personnel).
- Requires school personnel or volunteers responsible for the supervision or care of a student with a seizure disorder be given notice of the seizure action plan, the identity of the school employee or employees trained and the method by which the trained school employee or employees may be contacted in the event of an emergency.

For more information on training materials currently available for training unlicensed school personnel, please see the Epilepsy Foundation of Kentuckiana website. A template for a seizure action plan is also available at this site.

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2018 District Health Coordinator Conference scheduled

The Annual District Health Coordinators' Conference will be held September 11, 2018 at the Kentucky Department of Education, 300 Sower Boulevard in Frankfort, KY. Check in will begin at 8 a.m. and the conference will begin promptly at 8:30 a.m. and will end at noon. In addition to updates for the 2018-2019 school year, topics will include school safety and the importance of strong relationships between the school nurse and the principal. Effective Instructional Leadership Act (EILA) hours will be provided.

An optional afternoon session on building simple ad hoc reports and using the document tab in Infinite Campus Health will be held beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the same training room. Participants will need to bring a device with access to their district's Infinite

Campus website. They will also need access to their district ad hoc reporting and the state published folder in ad hoc reporting. Free WiFi will be provided.

Information for those participating:

- Parking – Limited visitor parking is available at the 300 Building on the far west side of the building. Parking is also open in the section in front of the building.
- Entrance – All visitors should enter through the main entrance located at the center of the building and check in at the security desk to receive a visitor's pass sticker.
- Visitor's pass – Visitors must wear their visitor's pass at all times while in the 300 Building. Please keep your visitor's pass on your person if you leave the

building and want to re-enter. If you should lose your visitor's pass, you will need to sign in again at the security desk.

- Lunch – Café 300, located on the first floor, serves breakfast from 7-9:30 a.m. and lunch from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. There are also several restaurants within a few miles of the building. Food and drinks can be brought into any of the on-site conference rooms or common areas. Microwave ovens are available.
- Accommodations – There are several hotels within a few miles of the building. The Hampton Inn, frequently offers discounts to state employees.

Both sessions are free of charge. For more information on the Infinite Campus Health session, click [here](#).

Kentucky TRAIN has a new look

The Kentucky Department of Public Health's online training system, Kentucky TRAIN (KY TRAIN), has been updated. It has been designed to make navigating through the site easier than the previous version. School nurses are encouraged to remind their district staff to keep a copy of their user name and password. Users who need assistance with signing in to KY TRAIN should call the KY TRAIN helpdesk at (502) 564-4990. The KY TRAIN webpage can be reached by clicking [here](#).

Reminder: Unlicensed school staff must have yearly training to administer medications in the school setting. The training may occur no earlier than July 1st of the upcoming school year.

Kentucky Department of Education publishes new webpage to better serve those with disabilities

The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) has recently launched a new webpage to meet Americans with Disabilities (ADA) requirements. This means KDE's webpage and any attached documents must be capable to be read by a screen reader. Please note our webpages have a different look and may not contain the same links as before. We will only provide links that are ADA Compliant.

Currently, KDE is in the process of simplifying the webpage by only posting the most up-to-date and relevant documents. The new design makes the pages easier to navigate and find correct links and documents. KDE is working diligently to have all documents ADA compliant by June 30, 2019. Please let KDE know if a document needs to be provided in an alternative format. We will make every effort to accommodate your request.



Summary of CDC I 305 Grant for Reducing Chronic Absences in Students with Chronic Health Conditions Results

The five year grant to six Kentucky pilot districts has concluded. The grant focused on reducing chronic absenteeism in students with asthma. The study included elementary and middle school students. It also required students have access to a full-time school nurse. The grant also required students who wanted to leave school early due to illness, be evaluated by a nurse before the parent/guardian was notified. A summary of the results of this grant has been forwarded to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and is provided below:

- Number of asthma inhalers for students at school doubled
- Number of Asthma Emergency Action Plans tripled
- Number of school staff trained how to recognize and treat asthma exacerbations tripled

- Number of school staff trained on administration of Epi Pens tripled
- All schools implemented a protocol to review Infinite Campus (IC) each month and analyze students with six or more absences who have a chronic health condition and implement strategies to reduce absences
- All school districts implemented protocols requiring school nurse evaluation prior to being sent home from school ill
- Number of students returning to class after health room visit increased from 83 percent to 96percent
- Total number of days absent fell from 11 days to 8 days.

If you are interested in more information, please email Karen Erwin: Karen.Erwin@education.ky.gov.

For more information on School Health Services, please visit:

<http://education.ky.gov/districts/SHS/Pages/default.aspx>

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