

EPINEPHRINE AUTO-INJECTORS IN SCHOOLS

Anaphylaxis is a potentially life-threatening hypersensitivity to a substance. The reaction can occur within seconds or minutes of encountering an allergic trigger, including but not limited to an insect sting, food allergy, drug reaction (e.g., antibiotics, aspirin and non-steroidal inflammatory drugs), and exercise.

California Education Code (EC) Section 49414, as amended by Senate Bill 1266, effective January 1, 2015, requires school districts to provide emergency epinephrine auto-injectors to school nurses or trained personnel who have volunteered, and provides that school nurses or trained personnel who have volunteered may use epinephrine auto-injectors to provide emergency medical aid to persons suffering or reasonably believed to be suffering from an anaphylactic reaction.

[California Department of Education information on Epinephrine Auto-injectors](#)

As you conclude your current school year and begin to prepare for the upcoming one, please be aware of the following requirements:

1. All schools must stock at least one (1) epinephrine auto-injector pen **and** one (1) epinephrine auto-injector pen junior at **each** school.
 - a. Please review the expiration dates of existing stock and properly dispose of expired injectors in a Sharps Bio Hazard refuse container at that site.
 - b. Annual orders or replenishment orders, at no cost to the district, can be placed at [EpiPen 4 Schools](#) or by contacting Jennifer McCain at jmccain@sia-jpa.org.
 - c. **NOTE:** You can order additional supplies for athletics, field trips or first aid kits as needed from the [EpiPen 4 Schools](#) program at a discounted cost.
2. EC Section 49414(d) allows each public and private elementary and secondary school in the state to designate one or more school personnel on a voluntary basis to receive initial and annual refresher training, based on the [minimum training standards](#) developed by the SSPI, regarding the storage and emergency use of an epinephrine auto-injector from the school nurse or other qualified person designated by an authorizing physician and surgeon.
3. EC Section 49414(f) states that a school district, county office of education, or charter school shall distribute a notice at least once per school year to all staff that contains the following information:
 - a. A description of the volunteer request stating that the request is for volunteers to be trained to administer an epinephrine auto-injector to a person if the person is suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering, from anaphylaxis, as specified in subdivision (b).
 - b. A description of the training that the volunteer will receive pursuant to subdivision (d).

[Resources](#)

