



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

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STATE SUPERINTENDENT

July 3, 2014

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents and  
Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Kyle L. Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent *KG*

SUBJECT: Addendum to Model Policy and Guidelines for Responding to an  
Anaphylaxis Emergency at School

In December 2013, the Michigan legislature passed P.A. 187 of 2013 which directed that every public school be prepared to respond to an anaphylaxis emergency. Anaphylaxis is a severe, life-threatening allergic reaction that develops rapidly and is caused by a person's exposure to known—or previously unknown—allergens in the environment. The current treatment for anaphylaxis is the prompt and correct administration of epinephrine.

P.A. 187 of 2013 requires that beginning with the 2014–15 school year, every Michigan public school board must:

- Develop and implement policies that are consistent with the Michigan Department of Education's (MDE) medication administration guidelines;
- Ensure that at least two epinephrine auto-injector devices are placed in each school building;
- Ensure that school personnel are designated, trained, and authorized to use an epinephrine auto-injector; and,
- Annually collect and report data on the number of emergency uses of epinephrine.

In November 2002, MDE distributed the Model Policy and Guidelines for Administering Medications to Pupils at School to address the needs of students with known chronic diseases for which they have been prescribed treatment. To supplement those recommendations, an Addendum was developed to address situations in which students or staff members who were not previously aware of having an allergy suddenly develop a severe allergic reaction while at school. The Addendum is intended to assist schools in providing a safe environment for students in regard to anaphylaxis emergencies and to meet the requirements of P.A. 187 of 2013. It can be accessed at: [http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Epi\\_Addendum\\_6-18-14\\_461400\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Epi_Addendum_6-18-14_461400_7.pdf).

Questions may be directed to Linda Meeder in the Coordinated School Health and Safety Programs unit at (517) 241-6905 or [meederL@michigan.gov](mailto:meederL@michigan.gov).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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