

Anaphylaxis Policy/Elijah's Law

Anaphylaxis Policy with Individual Children Training- Caregivers and Staff

When a caregiver comes into the school to give the medical forms and child information sheet, the director/office staff will ask the caregiver if the child has allergies. If the child has allergies, they will receive a red health care allergy folder and we will go over all of the mandated forms in order for the child to come into the program. The director/office staff and the teachers will meet to review the health care forms and that include clear instructions of actions to take when an allergic reaction occurs, how and when to give the medications along with symptoms. Guardian and Bright Star staff will sign an acknowledgment form that they have received training from the guardian.

Health Care Forms/Medication Forms are given to the legal guardian when the guardian identifies their child with an allergy.

1. Guardian AND Health Care Practitioner AND BRIGHT STAR are to fill out FORM **6029**.
2. FORM **7006** Parent signature required.
3. Form **7002** (medication Form) must be filled out by physician and parent.
4. **FARE** form must be provided by their doctor.
5. Parent Acknowledgement letter must be signed by guardian.
6. **All forms must be renewed every 6 months.**

Training-Staff

All staff is mandated to take the Navigating Early Childhood and Food Allergies Training Video.

During twice yearly staff training, the director will review the Anaphylaxis Health Care Plan with the staff. This training will provide education to the staff on allergies/symptoms and steps to take in an emergency.

Staff will also be trained in Anaphylaxis Prevention, recognizing the symptoms and emergency care during the annual staff training.

Anaphylaxis Prevention

Anaphylaxis prevention through screening and identification of children with allergies

Recognizing the Symptoms of Anaphylaxis

Anaphylaxis is a multi-system allergic reaction. Symptoms of anaphylaxis usually involve more than one part of the body such as the skin, mouth, eyes, lungs, heart, gut and brain. Some symptoms include:

- Shortness of breath, wheezing, or coughing
- Pale or bluish skin, faintness, weak pulse, dizziness

- Tight or hoarse throat, trouble breathing or swallowing
- Significant swelling of the tongue or lips
- Many hives over the body, widespread redness
- Vomiting a lot, severe diarrhea

For a child with a known allergy, accidental exposure to an allergen is a great risk. The key to preventing a potentially serious reaction in a child with a known allergy is avoiding exposure to the relevant allergen. However, there are many children, who are not aware of an allergy until they are exposed to an allergen and have an anaphylactic reaction. Therefore we, as child care providers, have training and plans for avoiding accidental exposure to allergens and recognizing and treating allergic reactions and anaphylaxis children.

Anaphylaxis must be treated right away to provide the best chance for improvement and prevent serious, potentially life-threatening complications.

Emergency Steps to Follow for an Allergic /Anaphylaxis Emergency
For any allergic reaction-Administer Epi-Pen (if child has one)-
CALL 911, administer first aid, call parents and document
incident

Allergy and Anaphylaxis Emergency Policy

Individual Allergy and Anaphylaxis Emergency Plans for children known to have food or other allergies that include clear instructions of action to take when an allergic reaction occurs will be kept with the teacher in her clipboard and in the office. Epi-Pens will travel with the teacher and all other medications will be kept in the office in a locked cabinet. All forms along with the Health Care Policy for the school/camp will be kept in the office as well.

All forms will be renewed every 6 months. Families are given clear instructions when reviewing the plans, and they are also in the Family Handbook which the guardians signs. Failure to renew forms may result in immediate dismissal from Bright Star Academy/Camp.

Strategies to reduce risk of exposure to allergic triggers-

Bright Star Academy is a peanut and tree nut school. All children bring in their own meals and snack, which reduces the exposure to allergens that a child may be allergic to. Bright Star Academy has children wash their hands before they eat and when they return from outside, as well as with any visible dirt/debris. These strategies will help eliminate exposure to allergens. Bright Star Academy staff also discusses allergies with the children and uses child friendly language that supports the children.

Communication plan for intake of information among staff regarding children with food/other allergies-

Director will meet with guardian and the child's teacher to discuss the child's needs/health care plan and how to give medication. They will go through the symptoms, side effects, strategies to reduce allergens and the emergency care plan. Upon enrollment, the director and/or office staff will alert all staff with contact with the child with allergies. Allergies will be posted in the back of the classroom door and a sign on the front of the class door will read it a " A Child in this class has Severe allergies.....".

Annual notification to parents of Anaphylaxis plan-

Bright Star Academy's Allergy/Anaphylaxis plan will be in the Family Handbook given to each family before school begins. The plan will also be on our website at Brightstarschoolandcamp.com

Training Staff For Elijah's Law

Overview For Staff

Elijah's Law is named after a 3 year- old-child that passed away after a grilled cheese was given to him in day care despite the daycare given the information that he had a severe dairy allergy. Elijah went in to anaphylaxis shock, 911 was not called and his family was not told what he was given to eat.

Elijah's Law sets policies and guidelines for child care centers to prevent anaphylaxis and what to do during an anaphylaxis emergency.

Purpose of Training

During the training, we will become familiar with the most common cause of anaphylaxis, outside of the hospital setting, which is food allergies. We will identify the most common food allergies in infants and children. We will then learn to recognize the signs of anaphylaxis and the steps to take during an anaphylaxis emergency. Staff will be required to take a video training and Training certificates for videos and acknowledgement of training will be kept on site in the office.

Food Allergies

The most common food allergies for children are: eggs, milk, peanuts, tree nuts, soy, wheat, fish and shellfish.

Other causes of Anaphylaxis include:

Insect bites, dogs, cats, medications, and latex.

Storage of Medication

Epi-Pens are kept in a First Aid bag and kept with the teacher . The teacher travels throughout the building with the Epi-Pens.

All other medication is clearly labeled and kept in individually labeled storage bins with the child's medical care plan attached. Medication that needs to be refrigerated is kept in the office refrigerator, separated from food.

First Aid Kits

First Aid Kits are kept in the office (designated Health space) outside in the playground and in each class in the emergency backpacks as well as the Shelter in Place area. When staff uses an item from the kits they refill it with items.

Administration of Epi-Pen

Epi- Pen will be administered by a staff member that is certified to give the Epi-Pen. After Epi-Pen is administered first aid will be given as needed and 911 will be called. The Medication Log will be filled out as well as an incident report in the injury book. The Epi-Pen will go to the hospital with the child and staff member and the office will call the guardian. All medical forms will also accompany the child to the hospital.

Emergency Follow Up Procedures

An incident report will be filled out and given to the guardian. The Director will report the incident to OCFS. A note from a physician will be needed for the child to return to school. The director will also follow up with the guardian for any additional health care plans.

