

**NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY
AGGIE ACADEMY**

STUDENT HEALTH CARE POLICY

I. Introduction

The North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University Aggie Academy ("the school") adopts this policy on student health for the betterment of the health and welfare of all its students. It is a goal of the Aggie Academy to aid students in the development and maintenance of good physical and mental health.

A. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 116-239.8(b)(9), Aggie Academy will meet the same health and safety standards required of any North Carolina local school administrative unit.

B. While students and parents are primarily responsible for student health, North Carolina law places certain duties and responsibilities upon public school personnel. Those duties include:

- (1) To screen and observe pupils in order to detect health problems;
- (2) To provide medical care to students in accordance with N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-375.1 and State Board of Education policy;
- (3) To administer any drugs or medication prescribed by a health care provider upon written request of a parent;
- (4) To give emergency health care when reasonable apparent circumstances indicate any delay would seriously worsen the physical condition or endanger the life of the pupil; and
- (5) To perform any other first aid or life-saving techniques in which the employee has been trained in a program approved by the State Board of Education.

C. A **part-time** registered nurse shall be available to Aggie Academy for assessment, care planning and the on-going evaluation of students.

II. Policy Scope

This policy shall apply to all students of Aggie Academy. For purposes of this policy, every reference to "parent" shall include a parent, legal guardian, or other custodian having charge or control of a student attending Aggie Academy.

III. Immunizations, Physical Examinations & Screenings

A. Immunization

- (1) No child shall attend Aggie Academy unless a certificate of immunization indicating the child has received the immunizations required by N.C. Gen. Stat. § 130A-152 is presented to the school by the child's parent. A parent enrolling a child

for the first time in Aggie Academy is required to provide a certificate of immunization on the child's first day of attendance.

- (2) If a certificate of immunization is not presented on or before the first day of school, the Principal shall present a notice of deficiency to the parent. The parent shall have thirty (30) calendar days from the first day of attendance to present the required certificate of immunization for the child or to obtain the required immunization for the child.
- (3) If the administration of vaccine in a series of doses given at medically approved intervals requires a period in excess of thirty (30) calendar days, additional days upon certification by a physician may be allowed to obtain the required immunization.
- (4) If the required certificate of immunization or other proof of immunization is not presented upon termination of thirty (30) calendar days from the child's first day of attendance, the Principal shall not permit the child to attend the school until the required certificate of immunization has been presented.
- (5) The school shall file an annual immunization report with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction by November 1 of each year. The report shall be filed on forms prepared by the Department of Public Instruction and shall state the number of children attending the school or facility, the number of children without the required immunization within thirty (30) calendar days of their first attendance, the number of children who received a medical exemption, and the number of children who received a religious exemption.
- (6) If a physician licensed to practice medicine in North Carolina certifies that a required immunization is or may be detrimental to a child's health due to the presence of one of the contraindications adopted by the Commission for Public Health, the child shall not be required to receive the specified immunization as long as the contraindication persists. The State Health Director may, upon request by a physician licensed to practice medicine in North Carolina, grant a medical exemption to a required immunization for a contraindication not on the list adopted by the Commission for Public Health.
- (7) If the bona fide religious beliefs of a parent are contrary to the immunization requirements contained in this Policy, the child shall be exempt from the requirements. Upon submission of a written statement of the bona fide religious beliefs and opposition to the immunization requirements, the child may attend Aggie Academy without presenting a certificate of immunization.

B. Health Assessment

- (1) Every child that is new to North Carolina Public Schools, in grades K-12, is required to have a North Carolina Health Assessment Transmittal Form completed by a health care provider and submitted to the school within 30 calendar days of a child's first day of attendance.

C. Post-Enrollment Physical

(1) Any school official who observes or detects in a student signs or symptoms of a physical or mental health problem may request the student's parent have the student examined by a health care professional. If the parent refuses and the problem continues to exist, the appropriate school official shall contact the Department of Social Services.

(2) If an enrolled student exhibits a documented pattern of toileting accidents (i.e., daily, more than once a week; weekly for multiple weeks; etc.), the Principal may follow the steps for a post-enrollment physical as set forth in this section. The Principal shall provide written and verbal notice to the parent of the documented pattern of toileting accidents. From that point forward, unless the student has a documented disability that prevents the student from being toilet trained, the parent will be expected to come and change the student or pick up the student from school. In order to protect the health and safety of other students, the Principal, in the Principal's sole discretion, may preclude the student from the classroom, school bus, or other areas as appropriate. Any time missed by the student in this situation shall be considered an absence in accordance with the Attendance Policy.

D. Post-Enrollment Screenings

Aggie Academy will conduct periodic screenings of students:

(1) Vision Screenings should be conducted in first, third and fifth grades by school personnel and school volunteers trained by the nurse assigned to provide school nursing services to the school. Vision and hearing screening for the purposes of the School Assistance Team and Exceptional Children's (EC) process will be conducted by the school nurse upon request. Any student may be screened by school nurse upon request.

(2) Dental Screenings should be conducted in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and third and fifth grades and on all EC students in pre-kindergarten through fifth grade by dental hygienists employed by the Guilford County Health Department. Dental screenings on any student may also be conducted by the dental hygienist or the school nurse upon request.

IV. Administration of Medications and Medical Procedures

A. Aggie Academy discourages the use and administration of medication at school but realizes it may be sometimes necessary for the health of the student. All medications and medical procedures which may be taken or given outside school hours without adversely affecting the health of the student should not be administered at school during school hours. Reasonable efforts should be made by the parent to obtain permission from the child's health care provider to adjust the dosages of prescribed medication so such may be provided at home before and/or after school hours.

- B. When medication is to be administered in school, school personnel shall communicate with the student's parent about its administration in school and explain Aggie Academy's policy and its procedures for the administration of medications at school.
- C. In accordance with N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-375.1, Aggie Academy authorizes school personnel to administer prescription and over the counter medications upon receipt of the written authorization of the health care provider and the written authorization of the student's parents.
- D. The responsibilities of the parent are to:
 - (1) Provide the school with each different medication in a separate appropriately labeled container.
 - a. Prescription Medication shall be placed in a prescription container indicating the child's name, the name of the medication, the unit of dosage to be given, the number of dosage units, the time the medication is to be given, and how it is to be administered. (It is recommended the parent ask the pharmacist to provide two properly labeled containers – one for home and one for school).
 - b. Over the Counter Medication shall be placed in the original container labeled with the student's name, the name of the medication, the dosage to be given and the time and method of administration.
 - (2) Provide to the school the "Parent's Request and Physician's Information for Administration of Medication in the School" form and ensure the form is completed, signed by the health care provider and parent, and returned to the school. The health care provider may use another format (letter, computer printout, etc.) to authorize the administration of medication as long as all information requested in the form is provided.
 - (3) Provide new containers with appropriate labeling each time the child's medication changes, and to remove from the school grounds any medications discontinued by the child's health care professional.
 - (4) Remove all medications from school premises at the end of each school year. If not removed, the school will dispose of all medications in its possession two (2) weeks after the last day of school for students.
 - (5) Parents are encouraged to bring medications directly to the school office and avoid sending the medications to the school via the student.
 - (6) The authorization for administration of medication will be valid for only one (1) school year.
 - (7) No medication (either prescription or non-prescription) will be administered without written order from the health care provider and the signed consent of the parent.
 - (8) If the completed form is not received and it is necessary for the medication to be given, the parent may come to the school and administer the medication.
- E. A secure storage area will be provided at Aggie Academy for storage of medication. Exceptions may be made for medication requiring refrigeration. A staff member appointed by the Principal shall be responsible for this security and administration of

medication. An alternate person shall be identified to fill in when needed.

- F. When it is necessary for a special medical procedure to be done at school, it is the responsibility of the parent to:
 - (1) Provide to the school and maintain all necessary supplies and equipment.
 - (2) Provide the school with the form, "Parent Permission for Special Medical Procedures", and ensure the form is completed, signed by the health care provider and parent, and returned to the school. The health care provider may use another format (letter, computer printout, etc.) to authorize the administration of a special medical procedure as long as all information requested in form is provided.
 - (3) The Parent Permission for Special Medical Procedures will be valid for only one (1) school year.
 - (4) The school nurse will develop a plan of care and determine whether this is a procedure that can safely be delegated to non-nursing personnel. If the procedure can safely be delegated to non-nursing personnel, the Principal will assign the task to non-nursing personnel who have the availability to perform the procedure. The school nurse will then provide training assuring the person has the skill to safely perform the procedure and will provide continued supervision to all non-nursing personnel who perform a delegated procedure.

- G. A daily medication/procedure log shall be maintained by the designated individual for each student receiving medication and/or procedure. The individual shall record on the log the name of the medication, date, dosage, and time of each administration or date and time of a procedure. The log also shall reflect whether the medication/procedure was prescribed and whether it was "as scheduled" or "as needed."

- H. The school nurse will review the medication/procedure log and forms authorizing the administration of medications/procedures at school periodically and will serve as a consultant to the school. The medication/procedure log, parental authorization and health provider orders for medication/procedure will be filed in the student's cumulative folder at the end of each school year or upon transfer of the student from the school.

- I. Aggie Academy discourages students from bringing prescription and over the counter medications to school and administering such to themselves without the assistance of school officials. Students will not be allowed to possess or to self-administer prescription medications, other than asthma medications, diabetic medications, and/or medications for the treatment of anaphylactic reaction, except in cases of extreme health conditions properly documented in an individual health care plan developed by the school nurse in coordination with the student's health care provider. Aggie Academy and its employees are not responsible for the improper self-administration of over the counter or prescription drugs at school by students.

- V. Possession and Self-Administration of Asthma Medication by Student with Asthma or student Subject to Anaphylactic Reactions, or Both

A student with asthma or a student subject to anaphylactic reactions, or both, may possess and self-administer asthma or another prescribed medication on school property during the school day, at school-sponsored activities, or while in transit to or from school or school-sponsored events as provided by N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-375.2 and this Policy. As used in this policy, "asthma medication" means a medicine prescribed for the treatment of asthma or anaphylactic reactions and includes a prescribed asthma inhaler or epinephrine auto-injector.

- A. Pursuant to state law and this policy, the student's parent is required to provide to the school:
 - (1) Written authorization from the student's parent for the student to possess and self-administer asthma medication.
 - (2) A written statement from the student's health care provider verifying that the student has asthma or an allergy that could result in an anaphylactic reaction, or both, and that the health care provider prescribed medication for use on school property during the school day, at school-sponsored activities, or while in transit to or from school or school-sponsored events.
 - (3) A written statement from the student's health care provider who prescribed the asthma medication that the student understands, has been instructed in self-administration of the asthma medication, and has demonstrated the skill level necessary to use the asthma medication and any device that is necessary to administer the asthma medication.
 - (4) A written treatment plan and written emergency protocol formulated by the health care provider who prescribed the medicine for managing the student's asthma or anaphylaxis episodes and for medication use by the student.
 - (5) A statement provided by the school and signed by the student's parent acknowledging that Aggie Academy and its employees and agents are not liable for an injury arising from a student's possession and self-administration of asthma medication.
 - (6) Other requirements necessary to comply with State and federal laws.
- B. The student must demonstrate to the school nurse, or the nurse's designee, the skill level necessary to use the asthma medication and any device that is necessary to administer the medication.
- C. The student's parent shall provide to the school backup asthma medication that shall be kept at the student's school in a location to which the student has immediate access in the event of an asthma or anaphylaxis emergency.
- D. Information provided to a school by the student's parent shall be kept on file at the student's school in a location easily accessible in the event of an asthma or anaphylaxis emergency.
- E. If a student uses asthma medication prescribed for the student in a manner other than as prescribed and in violation Aggie Academy's Student Behavior Policy/Code of Conduct, a school administrator may impose on the student disciplinary action

according to the Student Behavior Policy/Code of Conduct,. A school administrator may not impose disciplinary action that limits or restricts the student's immediate access to the asthma medication.

- F. The requirement that permission granted for a student to possess and self-administer asthma medication shall be effective only for the same school and for 365 calendar days and must be renewed annually.
- G. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 116-239.8(b)(9) and N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-375.2, there shall be no liability on the part of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, Aggie Academy, or any of their trustees, officers, employees, designees, agents, volunteers, in civil damages to any party for any act authorized by this subsection, or for any omission relating to that act, unless that act or omission amounts to gross negligence, wanton conduct, or intentional wrong doing.
- H. Aggie Academy shall provide a supply of emergency epinephrine auto-injectors necessary to carry out the provisions of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-375.2A.

VI. Diabetes Care Plans

Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-375.3, Aggie Academy shall ensure the guidelines adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-12(31) for assisting students with diabetes are implemented for Aggie Academy students with diabetes. In particular, Aggie Academy shall require the implementation of the procedures set forth in those guidelines for the development and implementation of individual diabetes care plans. Aggie Academy also shall make available necessary information and staff development to teachers and school personnel in order to appropriately support and assist students with diabetes in accordance with their individual diabetes care plans.

VII. First Aid or Emergency Health Care

- A. The Principal shall request a minimum of two (2) staff members volunteer for training or periodic retraining in first aid and life-saving techniques.
- B. The Principal shall provide or facilitate training for the above staff volunteers in first aid and life-saving techniques on a periodic basis.
- C. All school personnel shall follow the procedures listed in the most current version of "North Carolina Emergency Guidelines For Schools" (published by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services) to handle student illnesses and injuries.
- D. In order to respond promptly and effectively to medical emergencies, the parents of Aggie Academy students shall be requested to provide the following information to their child's or children's school(s):
 - (1) A telephone number where they can be contacted during school hours;
 - (2) The name, address, and telephone number of their family doctor;

- (3) Their preference of hospitals, if any; and
 - (4) A description of any chronic medical condition(s) which affects their child's health.
- E. If a child has special or unique health problems, a specific emergency plan should be developed and placed in the child's cumulative folder. The emergency plan for the individual student should be written by the student's physician(s) in consultation with school staff. The plan should include medical directions for the immediate care of the child in the event of an emergency or life threatening incident. It is the parent's responsibility to assure that an emergency plan is developed for the child, and that written permission is given by the parent to institute measures when needed.

VIII. Liability of School Personnel

- A. Any Aggie Academy employee authorized to provide medical care to students in accordance with N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-375.1 shall not be liable in civil damages for any authorized act unless the act or omission amounts to gross negligence, wanton conduct, or intentional wrongdoing. Any person serving as a volunteer who has been authorized to act pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-375.1 shall not be liable in civil damages for any authorized act unless the act or omission amounts to gross negligence, wanton conduct, or intentional wrongdoing.
- B. To the extent provided under the Defense of State Employees Act, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143-300.2 *et seq.*, the State will provide a legal defense and liability coverage for Aggie Academy employees who, in the course and scope of their employment, in good faith and without malice or the reckless disregard for the welfare of a student, administer medication, provided first aid and/or provide emergency medical care for Aggie Academy.

IX. Concussion Monitoring: Return to Learn

Aggie Academy must appoint a team of people responsible for identifying a return-to-learn or play needs of a student who has suffered a concussion. The team must develop a plan for addressing the needs of the student including, but not limited to (i) guidelines for removal of a student from physical and mental activity when there is suspicion of a concussion, (ii) a notification procedure to educate staff regarding removal from learn or play, (iii) expectations regarding annual medical care update from parents, medical care plan/school accommodations in the event of concussion; and (iv) delineation of requirements for safe return-to-learn or play following a concussion.

Original Effective Date: August 29, 2022

Authority: Chancellor

Legal References

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 116-239.8(b)
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 116-239.8(b)(9)
UNC Policy Manual, The Code, Section 502