

Administration of Undesignated Epinephrine in Schools (2026) Standing Order and Protocol

I. Purpose

Epinephrine may treat potentially serious episodes of anaphylaxis in individuals with known severe allergies as well as those without a prior history.

II. Authority

This standing order and protocol, and the prescription for undesignated epinephrine delivery systems, are being issued pursuant to [105 ILCS 5/22-30](#) (School Code).

III. Scope

Under this standing order and protocol, any school nurse or trained personnel, as defined in the School Code, may administer an epinephrine delivery system without the need for a direct order from a health care practitioner to any person that the school nurse or trained personnel believes in good faith is having an anaphylactic reaction, regardless of whether the individual has a prescription for an epinephrine delivery system or has previously been diagnosed with an allergy.

Prior to January 1, 2027, an epinephrine delivery system for this standing order includes only epinephrine auto-injectors. Effective January 1, 2027, an epinephrine delivery system for this standing order includes epinephrine auto-injectors and epinephrine nasal sprays but does not include intravenous epinephrine.

A school nurse or trained personnel may only administer epinephrine delivery systems for which they have received training. A school nurse or trained personnel may also provide an undesignated epinephrine delivery system to a student for self-administration only or any personnel authorized under a student's Individual Health Care Action Plan, allergy emergency action plan, plan pursuant to Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or individualized education program plan to administer to the student that meets the student's prescription on file. This may occur prior to the arrival of EMS and (i) while in school, (ii) while at a school-sponsored activity, (iii) while under the supervision of school personnel, or (iv) before or after normal school activities, such as while in before-school or after-school care on school-operated property or while being transported on a school bus.

Undesignated epinephrine delivery systems may be stocked at Illinois schools for this purpose. A school nurse or trained personnel may carry undesignated epinephrine delivery systems on their person while in school or at a school-sponsored activity.

IV. Protocol

1. Required Training

- a. Trained personnel, other than a school nurse, must complete the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE)-recommended annual training on recognizing and responding to anaphylaxis prior to administering an undesignated epinephrine delivery system under this standing order

and protocol.

- b. Documentation of completion of this training must be kept on file by the school and available for audit.
- c. Training resources can be found on the [ISBE School Nursing webpage](#).¹

2. Communication to Parents and Guardians

- a. Parents or guardians of all students enrolled in the school must be notified at the start of each school year, or for new students as they enroll, that:
 - i. Their student may receive an epinephrine delivery system according to this standing order;
 - ii. A parent's approval is not required for the epinephrine delivery system to be given; and
 - iii. The physician issuing this standing order and protocol and the school nurse or trained personnel who administers the epinephrine delivery system and their employers will incur no liability or professional discipline, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from the administration of the epinephrine delivery system. See [105 ILCS 5/22-30\(c\) and \(c-5\)](#).
- b. The parent or guardian must acknowledge the notification by signing it and returning it to the school.
- c. A parent's or guardian's failure to sign and return the notification does not preclude a school nurse or trained personnel from administering undesignated epinephrine when indicated.

3. Epinephrine Supply

- a. Each school is responsible for obtaining and maintaining the stock of undesignated epinephrine for the purposes of this standing order, ensuring proper disposal of expired medication, and tailoring its emergency health protocol to include this use.
- b. If a school district, public school, charter school, or nonpublic school maintains or has an independent contractor providing transportation to students who maintains a supply of undesignated epinephrine delivery systems, then the school district, public school, charter school, or nonpublic school must report that information to the Illinois State Board of Education upon adoption or change of the policy of the school district, public school, charter school, nonpublic school, or independent contractor, in a manner as prescribed by the Illinois State Board of Education. The report must include the number of undesignated epinephrine delivery systems in supply.

4. Anaphylaxis Emergency Response Protocol

- a. Identification of Anaphylaxis: Anaphylaxis is a life-threatening allergic reaction that is rapid in onset. Common symptoms associated with anaphylaxis may include:
 - i. Shortness of breath, wheezing, repetitive coughing
 - ii. Swelling of the throat, lips, tongue; tightness or hoarse throat; difficulty swallowing
 - iii. Hives, generalized flushing, itching, or redness of the skin
 - iv. Dizziness or fainting

¹ <https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Nursing.aspx>

- v. Stomach pain/cramping, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- vi. Feeling something bad is about to happen, agitation, confusion
- b. Epinephrine Administration
 - i. If anaphylaxis is suspected, administer epinephrine following manufacturer instructions for delivery of medication (see Appendix).
 - 1. For auto-injectors: Inject epinephrine intramuscularly into the middle of the outer thigh (through clothing if necessary). Follow manufacturer instructions for delivery of medication.
 - 2. Effective January 1, 2027: For nasal epinephrine: Insert nozzle into nostril until fingers touch nose and press plunger firmly to activate spray. No inhalation required. Ensure the individual does not sniff during or after administration.
 - ii. Dosage: Selection of the appropriate dosage strength is determined according to patient body weight, as discussed in the product labeling (see Appendix).
 - iii. Frequency: Repeat the dose after 5 to 15 minutes if symptoms persist or return. For intranasal epinephrine, deliver the second dose in the same nostril. More than two sequential doses of epinephrine for the same episode should be administered only under direct medical supervision.
- c. Immediately activate emergency medical services (EMS) by calling 911 or local emergency medical services, or if possible, ask another individual to activate EMS while the epinephrine is being administered.
- d. Keep the individual either lying down or seated. Never leave alone. If they lose consciousness, check if they are breathing and have a pulse. If not, begin CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation), call out for help, and continue CPR until the individual regains a pulse and is breathing or until EMS arrives and takes over. Stay with the individual until EMS arrives.
- e. Provide EMS with the epinephrine delivery system labeled with the individual's name, date, and time administered to transport to the ED with the individual. Use caution: Except for Auvi-Q, the auto-injector needle does not retract.

5. Follow Up and Reporting

- a. Notify the student's parent, guardian, or emergency contact, if known.
- b. The district or school must follow up with the school nurse, if available, and may, with the consent of the child's parent or guardian, notify the child's health care provider of record of its use. Request follow up care as well as an allergy action plan and medication for school.
- c. Report the use of undesignated epinephrine using the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) Undesignated Epinephrine Report Form within three days of administration of the medication. This will satisfy the reporting requirement for notice to the prescriber who provided this standing order.
- d. Order replacement epinephrine delivery system.

Prescription:

Dispense to a verified Illinois school district, public school, charter school, or nonpublic school only.

Rx: Epinephrine Delivery System. Dispense any of the following devices as requested by the school. Equivalent substitutions including generic formulations are allowed.

Available Devices as of August 10, 2026	Dose
Auvi-Q auto-injector	0.3 mg
Epinephrine injection, USP auto-injector, authorized generic of EpiPen	0.3 mg
EpiPen auto-injector	0.3 mg
Epinephrine injection, USP auto-injector, authorized generic of Adrenaclick	0.3 mg
Neffy, epinephrine nasal spray (do not dispense before 01/01/2027)	2 mg
Auvi-Q auto-injector	0.15 mg
Epinephrine injection, USP auto-injector, authorized generic of EpiPen Jr	0.15 mg
EpiPen Jr auto-injector	0.15 mg
Epinephrine injection, USP auto-injector, authorized generic of Adrenaclick	0.15 mg
Neffy, epinephrine nasal spray (do not dispense before 01/01/2027)	1 mg
Auvi-Q auto-injector	0.1 mg

Sig: Use per protocol.

To be administered, as needed, to an individual exhibiting signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis in accordance with this standing order and the manufacturer's instructions. The stock epinephrine must be administered by a school nurse or trained personnel.

Dispense: Maximum of 4 devices (or 2 packs of two) of each strength requested by the school.

Refills: Unlimited

Sameer Vohra by
Cynthia Maduka
Physician's Signature

Digitally signed by Sameer
Vohra by Cynthia Maduka
Date: 2026.08.19 13:15:37
05'00'

8/19/26

Date

Sameer Vohra

Physician's Name (Print)

License: 036135164

NPI: 1841585783

Effective Date: August 19, 2026

Expiration Date: August 18, 2027

APPENDIX

Epinephrine Delivery Systems			
Product Name	Dose	Injection Hold Time	Population Authorized for Use
Auvi-Q auto-injector	0.3 mg	2 seconds	Individuals weighing 66 pounds or greater
Epinephrine injection, USP auto-injector, authorized generic of EpiPen	0.3 mg	3 seconds	
EpiPen auto-injector	0.3 mg	3 seconds	
Epinephrine injection, USP auto-injector, authorized generic of Adrenaclick	0.3 mg	10 seconds	
neffy, epinephrine nasal spray (use under this standing order is effective January 1, 2027)	2 mg	N/A: nasal spray	
Auvi-Q auto-injector	0.15 mg	2 seconds	Individuals weighing 33 pounds to less than 66 pounds
Epinephrine injection, USP auto-injector, authorized generic of EpiPen Jr	0.15 mg	3 seconds	
EpiPen Jr auto-injector	0.15 mg	3 seconds	
Epinephrine injection, USP auto-injector, authorized generic of Adrenaclick	0.15 mg	10 seconds	
neffy, epinephrine nasal spray (use under this standing order is effective January 1, 2027)	1 mg	N/A: nasal spray	
Auvi-Q auto-injector	0.1 mg	2 seconds	Individuals weighing between 16.5 pounds to less than 33 pounds

*These are the available products as of the effective date of this standing order and is meant as a guide. Authorized individuals should always follow current product labeling and instructions for use. If a new FDA-approved epinephrine delivery system becomes available, it may be used under this standing order following product labeling if the school nurse or trained personnel has received the required training on its use.